



Western Kansas Groundwater Management District #1

Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Directors

January 15th, 2025

8:00 am. CST

The meeting will be made available in person at 906 W. 5th St. Scott City, KS or by posted zoom meeting link.

I. Call Meeting to Order		Action
a. Review & Approve Agenda	Pg. 1	Action
b. Review & Approved Minutes of the December 20 th Board Meeting	Pg. 2-4	Action
c. Review & Approve December 2024 Financials	Pg. 5-13	Action
d. Cost Share Reconciliation through December 31st	Pg. 14-16	Action
e. Re-approve 2024 Mileage Report	Pg. 17	Action
II. Correspondence		
a. Staff Report: Board Calendar & General Updates	Pg. 18	
b. Weskan Grant Work & Office Hours		
c. Conservation District Annual Meetings		
III. Old Business		
a. Wichita County LEMA Renewal – Review of Handout/Discussion -WCA Discussion & Annual Meetings for Steering Committee	Supplement	
b. RCPP Update & Discussion	Pg.19-29	
c. EPA MAR Workshop Presentation Discussion		
d. Annual Presentation to Legislature	Supplement	
e. Bill Golden Study – Review & Comments		
IV. New Business		
a. WTAP Application Review & Recommendations	Pg. 30-44	
b. GMD1 Vehicle Discussion		Action
V. Legislative Update – Vijay Ramasamy		
VI. DWR Report – Mike Meyer		
VII. KWO Report – Keadron Pearson		
VIII. Public Comment		
IX. Meeting Adjourn		Action

Mark Callender Pres.
1/15/25



Western Kansas Groundwater Management District #1

December 20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

President – Mark Callender – Lane County
Treasurer – Steve Compton – Scott County
Member – Brian Bauck – Wichita County
Member – Ray Smith – Wallace County

AGENCIES PRESENT

Adrian Law, LLC – Tom Adrian*
Division of Water Resources – Mike Meyer*
KWR Consulting – David Barfield*
Kansas Water Office – Keadron Pearson
Capital Strategies – Sean Miller*

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Manager – Katie Durham
Office Administrator – Toni Palen
BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT
Vice President – Travis Weaver

GUEST PRESENT

Don Smith
Jamie Kratzor
David Jones*

* Virtual Attendees

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** – The Board President, Mark Callender, called the December 20th, 2024, Board of Directors meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. at the District Office at 906 W. 5th St., Scott City, Kansas.
 - **Noted Changes to the Agenda** – Katie Durham requested to add High Choice Feeders cost-share application to the Agenda under Cost Share reconciliation. Also, under I.e), the Cost Share Reconciliation through October 31, 2024, should be read through November 30, 2024, instead of October 31, 2024.
 - **Noted Changes to the November 6, 2024, Minutes** – A correction was noted that the “special meeting dated in September” at the top of the Minutes was deleted after the Board packet was emailed. David Barfield requested to correct IV.a) to say “Some WCA participants currently do not have full access to carryover quantities due to the restrictions of the LEMA.” instead of “Some WCA participants currently do not have access to carryover due to the restrictions of the LEMA”.
- a) **Review & Approve December 20, 2024, Agenda** – Ray Smith motioned to approve the December 20, 2024, Agenda with noted changes. Brian Bauck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- b) **Review and Approve Minutes of the November 6, 2024, Board Meeting** – The Board reviewed the November 6, 2024, Minutes. Brian Bauck motioned to approve the November 6th, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes with noted changes. Steve Compton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- c) **Review & Approve October 2024 Financials** – Katie Durham drew the board's attention to two supplemental sheets that show the comparisons from 2023 to 2024 on the balance sheet and the profit and loss for the date ending December 19, 2024, for the Board to review. These sheets are not part of the monthly financials. Ray Smith questioned why the *total equity* amount from the supplemental balance sheet comparison differed from the *net income* on the general fund profit and loss budget report ending November 30, 2024, from the board packet. Toni Palen noted that the balance sheet includes the Water Conservation Fund, which the General Fund Budget does not. Also, the Balance sheet date is through December 19th, whereas the general fund profit and loss budget is only through November 30th. Katie Durham suggested having Renee Cure CPA. come to the next Board meeting to explain the differences and answer any other questions the Board might have. The Board reviewed the October 2024 financials. Steve Compton motioned to approve the October and November financials contingent on an explanation of the amounts

questioned by Ray Smith. Ray Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Discussion was had on the rate decreases on the CDs. Staff will contact First National Bank to see if we can possibly get a better rate than what we are currently at. Lastly, Katie Durham mentioned that Pat Ryan is back part-time to help with compliance checks and maintenance.

- d) **Review and Approve November 2024 Financials** – This was approved, see above.
- e) **Cost Share Reconciliation through October 31, 2024** – Katie Durham explained the cost share application request received from High Choice Feeders. After Board discussion, Ray Smith motioned to approve 50% of the invoice to be covered by cost share. Brian Bauck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board reviewed the cost share reconciliation report through November 30, 2024. Brian Bauck motioned to approve the Cost Share reconciliation report. Steve Compton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- f) **Board Travel Reconciliation for 2024** - The Board members reviewed their travel mileage reports. Ray Smith motioned to approve the Mileage Report for 2024. Brian Bauck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. **CORRESPONDENCES:**

- a) **Staff Report: Board Calendar & General Updates/Title Discussion** – Katie Durham reviewed the Board calendar and upcoming dates, noting that the office will be closed from Tuesday, December 24th through January 2, 2025, for the holidays. The Board discussed moving the 2025 annual meeting to the first week of March after water use reporting is completed. The Board agreed to move the annual meeting to March 5th as long as there is no legal conflict, which Tom Adrian said he would check into. The board will have its March regular meeting at 8:00 a.m., lunch at noon, and the annual meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Child Advocacy Center with possible door prizes. Toni Palen shared her experiences from the KMAAG (Kansas Municipal Audit and Account Guide) seminar that she attended on December 10th in Wichita.
- b) **EPA MAR Workshop Attendance** – Katie Durham presented expenses for the proposed trip to Washington for the EPA MAR Workshop, where she will give a one-hour presentation. Brian Bauck motioned to approve the expenses for Katie and Colby Durham. Ray Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- c) **Recap of December 18, 2024, Outreach Meeting** – Katie Durham stated that she, Brownie Wilson, and Lee Wheeler presented Wallace County producers with educational materials, resources, and new technologies for conserving the Ogallala Aquifer. Katie Durham noted that attendance and the discussions were very productive.
- d) **Recap of Municipal Outreach Meeting** – Katie Durham provided an update on the Municipal Outreach meeting held on December 3, 2024, and stated that she would follow up on a few concerns.

III. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a) **Wichita County LEMA Renewal – Review of November Outreach** – The Board discussed the carryover and feedback from the November outreach meeting. The plan is to have a proposal on paper for the Board to review by the next meeting. If the Board agrees to a proposal, the preliminary plan will be submitted to WC County producers in March for review and discussion by the public; then, the Board will plan meet in April for final review before submitting it to the Chief Engineer in May/June. Mark Callender and Katie Durham gave an update on the GMD3 outreach meeting they attended. Katie also mentioned that WCA producers have a "steering committee" that needs to meet annually but hasn't in a long time. She would like to get this going again to provide a continuous opportunity for producers to provide feedback and ask questions regarding the WCA.
- b) **RCCP Update & Discussion** – David Jones with the Division of Water Conservation gave an update on the RCCP Grant Funding, including a possible launch date, how state funds will support federal funds, and the proposals received.

IV. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a) **WTAP Application Review & Recommendations** – Tabled for the next board meeting.
- b) **Bill Golden Study – Review & Comments** – Katie Durham shared Bill Golden's report on the Potential Economic Impact of the Wichita County LEMA for 2021-2022 in the board packet. Katie Durham stated that he would like input on specific elements to give feedback on and would like to focus on the GMD1 area.
- c) **Western Field of Dreams – Annual Home Run Derby** – Katie Durham handed out a supplemental sheet regarding the Western Field of Dreams. Steve Compton described his intentions: to have an educational center with research and education in one place and to bring attention to water conservation. Steve Compton requested that he have the Board's approval and involvement with his project. Ray Smith motioned to approve support and participation in the Western Field of Dreams. Brian Bauck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Steve Compton abstained from voting.
- d) **GMD1 Vehicle Discussion** – Tabled for next meeting.
- e) **Kansas Water Resources Consulting, LLC** – David Barfield submitted his annual contract with no changes to his rate. Ray Smith motioned to approve David Barfield's contract. Brian Bauck seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

V. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

- a) **Vijay Ramasamy @ 9:00 a.m.**: No update at this time.
- b) **Sean Miller** – Sean Miller gave an overview of the upcoming legislative session, stating that education will be key to reorganizing the House and Senate under new leadership.

VI. **DWR REPORT** – Mike Meyer stated that KGS spent three weeks in January measuring water levels and that changes of correspondence or landowners will not be updated before water use reports go out.

VII. **KWO REPORT**—Keadron Pearson reported that GMD4 is having an irrigation water day on January 9th and that Lee Wheeler will give a presentation there.

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Jamie Kraztor and Cobalt Cattle discussed their current work with WKI on water reclamation technologies and how the District could support these efforts.

IX. **MEETING ADJOURN** – Brian Bauck motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:01 p.m. Ray Smith seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

Date:


Toni Palen – Office Administrator

 1/15/25
Mark Callender – President