



GMD3 Board Room, 2009 East Spruce St.
Garden City, KS 67846
Meeting in person and Via Zoom
June 17th, 2025

Meeting Called to Order

President Jones called to order the June 17, 2025, Upper Arkansas River Basin Watershed meeting at 10:00 a.m. in the GMD3 Board Room.

Directors Present in Person or Via Zoom

Bill Simshauser,	President, Conservation Representative
Sam Hands,	Vice President, Stock/Industrial Representative
Hugh Brownlee,	Treasurer, At Large
Gina Gigot,	Secretary, Groundwater Representative
Fred Jones,	Municipal Representative
Abram Lollar,	Recreation/Environment Representative
Troy Dumler,	Surface Water Representative,
Bob Price	At Large

Directors Absent with Notice

Monte Morgan	At Large
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Members and Others Present in Person or Via Zoom

Trevor Ahring	SW KS GMD3
Patty Stapleton	SW KS GMD3
Jason Norquest	SW KS GMD3
Callan Izatt,	DWR, Division of Water Resources
Joscelyn Monarrez	SW KS GMD3
Roy Dixon	Member

Approval of Agenda

President Simshauser requested that the agenda for the June 17th meeting be reviewed. **Hearing no changes, stand as written.**

Approval of Minutes

President Simshauser drew the board's attention to the minutes of May 21, 2025. Fred Jones noted that the date on the heading needs to be corrected. Patty stated that it was corrected on the secretary's copy. **President Simshauser pointed out that the minutes are now corrected, with the date on the heading having been updated, and stand as corrected.**

Financial Report

Treasurer Hugh Brownlee drew the board's attention to the Financial Reports. The balance in the Checking account is \$4,350.42. Patty added that a bill was paid to the State of Kansas for \$80.00, which will be reflected in the following month's financial report. **Hugh Brownlee moved to approve the financials as presented. Fred Jones seconded. The motion passed.**



Upper Arkansas River Basin Watershed Group

Meeting Agenda

GMD3 Board Room, 2009 E. Spruce St. Garden City, 67846

Meeting in person or by Zoom
August 19th, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

I. Call to order

- a) Welcome & introductions
- b) Approval of agenda Action
- c) Review and approval of minutes from June meeting Action
- d) Review of financial report Action

II. Informational Presentation

- a) Opportunities to use easements for water and land conservation – Trevor Ahring

III. Old business

IV. New business

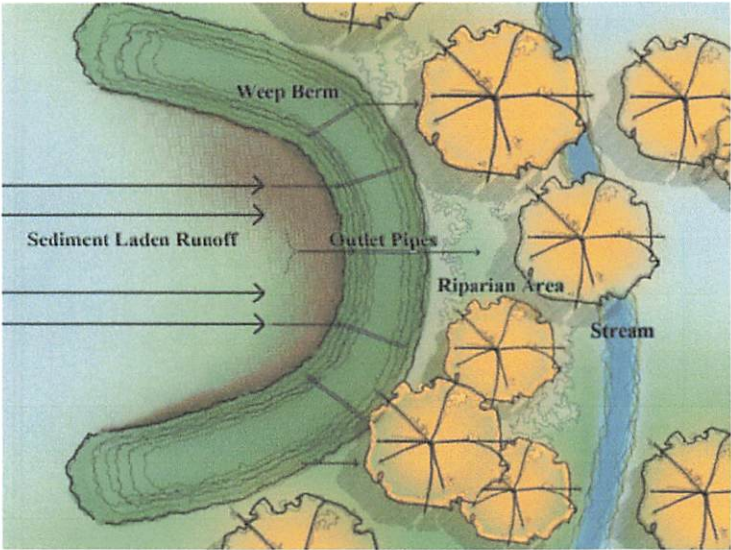
- a) Suggested revisions to Watershed Restoration Plan Action

V. Public comment and announcements

- VI. Adjournment** Action

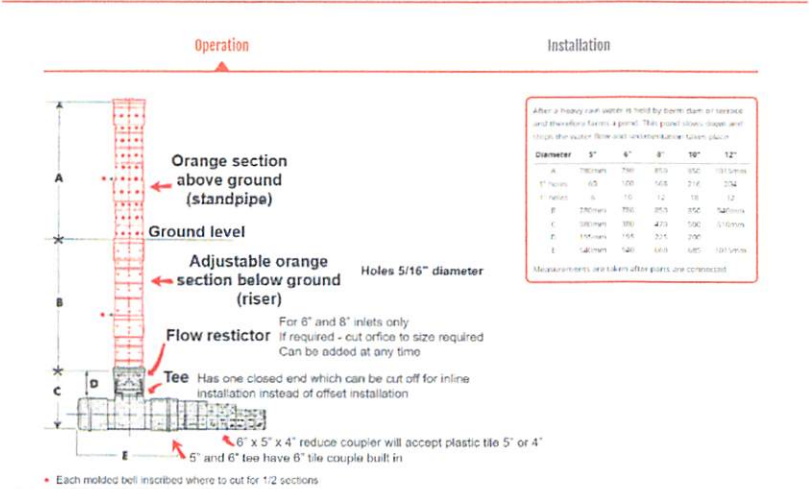


\$500,000. Infiltration Catchments. Hamilton and Kearny counties. Upper Arkansas River. Infiltration catchments will capture runoff water from ag lands before flowing into the Upper Arkansas River allowing it to infiltrate into the groundwater to combat the outward spread of saline water in the Arkansas River. At the same time, encouraging healthy soils can also increase infiltration with soil biology and structure before running off. One option, miles of vegetative berms maybe necessary to counter the salinity migration



Not to scale. Dependent upon catchment size

Another option, to counter the loss to evaporation, Hickenbottom drains to move water from the surface past the less permeable layers of soil and root zone into the more permeable zones below. This will be a pilot and will require monitoring to measure the amounts of pollutants both in the caught water and in the groundwater nearby. Potentially, catchment basins in pivot corners, 20 feet deep, 3-4 surface acres, every 160 acres or 640 acres, Hickenbottom drains in catchments and groundwater monitoring wells. Illustration below.



Geotechnical and engineering study would be necessary to determine the feasibility and estimated cost of such a project. Pilot projects would support proof of concept.



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Information Presentation

Internship Opportunities at GMD3 – Joscelyn Monarrez

Trevor Ahring noted that GMD3 is anticipating the budget for an intern next summer, which will be opened to applicants soon. He introduced Joscelyn Monarrez, who has been an intern with GMD3. Joscelyn reflected on her three-year internship, sharing how she started with little knowledge of water management but gained experience and confidence over time. She worked on many projects, including water use analysis, GIS mapping, conservation planning and grant proposals. The internship has helped her grow in technical skills and communication through public speaking. The three years have been instrumental in building her resume and professional network, which she believes will help her when applying for future jobs. She has grown in confidence, willingness to learn and gained more ease in stepping out of her comfort zone.

Old Business

Status of Tamarisk Removal Grant

The Tamarisk Removal Grant is being reviewed this afternoon by Build Kansas. However, the grant being reviewed to match it is still frozen. Abe Lollar added that the removal is at a standstill currently, due to mechanical issues. However, projects are being lined up for 2026, including approximately 100–150 acres near the Colorado line. Seeding is underway on Midwest farms, and a meeting has been scheduled with Cimarron National Grasslands to address a severely infested area.

General Update on WaterSMART

Conservation Initiative. GMD3

Trevor Ahring spoke on the Conservation Initiative for GMD 3. He stated that goals will be presented at the next meeting. While specific goals for each region have not been finalized, they are expected to be aggressive. The legislative deadline is July 1st, 2026.

New Business

None.

Public Comments and Announcements

Bill attended the WISE Tour. He asked Trevor if there was a possibility for evaluations on wells.

Trevor added that we do have funding available for two systems per producer through the Irrigation Technology Initiative (ITI). The details are listed on the GMD3 website.

Adjournment

At 11:11 a.m., President Simshauser adjourned the meeting.


Secretary


Recording Secretary