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Groundwater Management Districts Association
c/o Lower Platte South Natural Resources District
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President: Chad Schafer, Colorado

Vice President: Bob McCrae, New Mexico

Secretary-Treasurer: Dick Ehrman, Nebraska

Board Meeting Agenda and Information Packet

Idaho Falls, Idaho

July 22, 2025

- 1) Open Meeting – Chad Schafer, GMDA President
- 2) Consideration and Approval of February 26, 2025 Minutes – Dick Ehrman, GMDA Secretary-Treasurer
- 3) Treasurer’s Report – Ehrman
Discussion/Possible Action: Retention of Accounting/Bookkeeping Services
- 4) Committee Reports/Committee Assignments
 - a) National Water Resources Association Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues-Mark Rude
 - b) Membership-Tylr Naprstek
 - c) Water Quality-Aron Balok
 - d) Website-Kyle Sprouse
 - e) Awards-Tylr Naprstek
- 5) Consideration of GMDA Constitution
- 6) 2026 Annual Conference-New Mexico is in charge as per election of Bob McCrae as Vice President
- 7) 2026 Summer Conference—Texas is in rotation
- 8) Other Business as Needed
- 9) Adjourn

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**GMDA 2025 Summer Conference Board Meeting
July 22, 2025
Idaho Falls, Idaho
Mark Members Present**

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California	John Woodling	Trevor Joseph		Paul Ortega
Colorado		Kyle Sprouse	Tom Sauter	Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Kansas	Shannon Kenyon	Jason Norquest	Tim Boese/Orin Feril	
Idaho			Paul Arrington	
Louisiana	Mark Frey	J A Rummler	William Daniel	Gary Beard
Mississippi	John McKee	Don Christy	Daniel Shannon	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Tylr Naprstek	Brian Bruckner	Dick Ehrman	Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico		Aron Balok	Kelli Goodpasture	Robert McCrea
Texas	Britney Britten	Steve Walthour	Leah Martinsson	Robert Bradley

**ITEM 2 CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF GMDA BOARD MEETING
MINUTES, FEBRUARY 26, 2025**

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present, February 26, 2025

Temecula, California

Board Members Present Highlighted

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California	John Woodling	Trevor Joseph		Paul Ortega
Colorado		Kyle Sprouse	Tom Sauter	Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Kansas	Shannon Kenyon	Jason Norquest	Tim Boese/Orin Feril/Brad Barton	
Idaho			Paul Arrington	
Louisiana	Mark Frey	J A Rummler	William Daniel	Gary Beard
Mississippi	John McKee	Don Christy	Daniel Shannon	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Tylr Naprstek	Brian Bruckner	Dick Ehrman	Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico		Aron Balok	Kelli Goodpasture	Robert McCrea
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- 10) Open Meeting – Jason Norquest, GMDA President
GMDA President Jason Norquest opened the meeting at 4:04 PM. A quorum of 5 out of 9 member states was present.
- 11) Consideration and Approval of July 18, 2024 Minutes – Dick Ehrman, GMDA Secretary-Treasurer
Mark Rude noted a correction to the minutes—the reference to BLM, p. 4 should be BOR. Ehrman will make the correction. Aron Balok moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Don Christy seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report – Ehrman

Discussion/Possible Action: Retention of Accounting/Bookkeeping Services

Ehrman provided the Treasurer’s report:

Finances

As of December 31, 2024, GMDA’s bank balance in US Bank was \$131,358.07 which reflects a beginning balance of \$121,226.21 on July 1, 2024, \$29,403.11 of income, and \$19,271.25 in expenses for the period from July 1-December 31, 2024. Since July 1, 2024, GMDA has received \$13,050.00 from membership dues, \$3.11 in interest, and \$16,350.00 in registrations/sponsorships for the 2024 Summer Conference in Omaha. Expenses include \$19,121.25 in expenses for the 2024 Summer Conference in Omaha, and \$150.00 for website maintenance expenses. (Current balance as of 2/26/25: \$133,483.63)

Membership

Currently, there are 54 paid members (32 District, 5 organizational, 9 affiliate, and 8 individual) and 11 honorary lifetime members in GMDA. Members are from 15 States: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas, and Washington.

As already mentioned, GMDA is considering the possibility of retaining private professional services to maintain the organization’s books. The *ad hoc* committee organized to investigate this possibility has not yet met.

Tylr Naprstek moved to approve the report, Daniel Shannon seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

12) Committee Reports/Committee Assignments

- a) National Water Resources Association Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues-Mark Rude

Action: 2025 NWRA Dues Statement

Rude reported on restructuring of membership w/ Texas and California dropping out of full NWRA participation. They may be able to pay \$3,000 and remain in caucus. Rude noted that he is maintaining activity in NWRA through his membership in GMDA and the Groundwater Caucus. New administration/tax consequences are confusing activities in Washington on conservation easements, tax reform, water transfers, etc., but also present an opportunity for clarification of such issues. He provided an overview of cooperation/conversation w/ Congress, especially Senators Bennett, Moran, etc. GMDA priorities/ideas need to be communicated clearly to and reflected by NWRA, but

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communicated to Congress members by individual/allied Districts.

Rude and Ehrman reviewed the dues statement from NWRA and explanatory notes from Tom Wacker. Given the items noted above, current dues have risen to \$16,000.00. Aron Balok moved, Shannon seconded to pay the NWRA dues in the amount of \$16,000.00. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

b) Membership-Tylr Naprstek

Naprstek is planning to reach out to current member states to encourage additional action and see what can be done if states are backing out, and to reach out to new members. He encouraged all members to think about/reach out to potential new states/members.

c) Water Quality-Aron Balok

Nothing new to report.

d) Website-Kyle Sprouse

Nothing new to report.

e) Awards-Tylr Naprstek

Naprstek reported that awards are current.

13) Consideration of GMDA Constitution-Steve Walthour

Discussion/Possible Action: Split Secretary-Treasurer into two offices

Ehrman reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of splitting the office. He noted that the duties of Secretary are fairly straightforward—sending out Board packets and taking meeting minutes. The duties of Treasurer are more involved—sending out dues statements, collecting and depositing dues, reviewing financial statements, dealing with underage/overage for conferences, etc. If a bookkeeping firm could be retained to handle most of these financial duties, the Treasurer would likely be responsible mainly for reviewing and overseeing the financial records, which would involve considerably less time and effort. After discussion, the group agreed to table this issue until a bookkeeping firm is retained.

14) Change of Presidents/Election of Officers

a) President-Chad Schafer, Colorado, assumed duties as President. However, due to a death in the family, he was unable to attend so Past President Norquest agreed to run the rest of the Board meeting.

b) Vice President-**Nomination/Action**

Norquest reminded the group that the Vice President's state delegation is responsible for the next winter's conference.

Shannon nominated Bob McCrae to be Vice President; Balok seconded. Naprstek moved nominations cease, Christy seconded. McCrae was elected by a unanimous voice vote.

c) Secretary-Treasurer-**Nomination/Action**

Shannon nominated Naprstek, Christy seconded. Balok moved nominations cease, Chrisy seconded. Naprstek was elected by unanimous voice vote. Ehrman will help Naprstek in the transition until his retirement in October.

15) 2025 Summer Conference-California is in rotation

Ehrman reported that California has indicated they cannot organize the Summer 2025 conference. There was considerable discussion on loss of states, how to prevent that loss,

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and how to increase GMDA membership. Mihelich suggested the possibility of hiring a contractor to assist in evaluation and action. Shannon noted that selecting and organizing the conference venue isn't that hard, but recruiting speakers take more time. He suggested the possibility of each state requesting speakers. Rude suggested that someone like Paula, who organizes NWRA meetings might be helpful; she gets paid by additional charges to rooms. Rude will contact her to see about interest. Ehrman will contact Walthour/Blackwell to see what's going on with Texas. Mihelich suggested a standing committee for conference organization. Vogt suggested membership of this committee, to consist of the President, Vice President, Past President, and one member appointed by President or a volunteer. The group agreed this was a good structure. The initial committee will consist of President Schafer, Vice President McCrae, and Past President Norquest. Balok volunteered to serve, and the group approved.

16) 2026 Annual Conference

New Mexico will organize the 2026 Annual Conference in early 2026. The location and date will be determined.

17) Other Business as Needed

Shannon requested that everyone keep Chad and Randy in their thoughts due to the passing of Chad's father/Randy's father-in-law.

18) Adjourn

There being no further business, Balok moved to adjourn; Shannon seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Dick Ehrman, GMDA Secretary-Treasurer

ITEM 3 TREASURER'S REPORT

Finances

As of June 30, 2025, GMDA's bank balance in US Bank was \$111,557.56 which reflects a beginning balance of \$131,358.07 on January 2, 2025, \$2,152.99 of income, and \$21,953.50 in expenses for the period from January 1-June 30, 2025. Since January 1, 2025, GMDA has received \$2,150.00 from membership dues and \$2.99 in interest. Expenses include \$16,000 for NWRA Annual Dues, \$5,803.50 to the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District in reimbursement for 2025 Annual Conference (Temecula, California) expenses, and \$150.00 for website maintenance expenses.

Membership

Currently, there are 53 members (32 District, 5 organizational, 7 affiliate, and 9 individual) and 11 honorary lifetime members in GMDA. Members are from 14 States: Alabama, Arizona,

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California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas, and Washington.

As already mentioned, GMDA is considering the possibility of retaining private professional services to maintain the organization's books. The *ad hoc* committee organized to investigate this possibility has not yet met.

ITEM 4 COMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

National Water Resources Association Caucus & Groundwater and Federal Issues Committee (Mark Rude/Aron Balok Co-Chairs, Randy Ray, Don Christy, Lyndon Vogt)

The NWRA Caucus/ Groundwater and Federal Issues Committee consists of GMDA Directors to the NWRA, representing GMDA at NWRA meetings and shall report to the GMDA board all appropriate NWRA actions and activity, specifically including matters pertaining to voting procedures, dues, legal actions, the legislature and other NWRA affiliations. GMDA is the NWRA Groundwater Caucus. The Committee advises GMDA regarding any other federal or multistate matters that may that are not the focus of the NWRA but may affect GMDA members.

Mark Rude will provide an update on NWRA activities.

Membership Committee (Tylr Naprstek Chair, Tim Boese)

The Membership Committee identifies, promotes, and implements membership strategies that will result in membership development and growth, and support of GMDA. The Committee and officers will use the membership lists obtained by the Committee to distribute information on GMDA's annual conference along with the membership application.

Tylr Naprstek will provide an update on Membership Committed activities.

Water Quality Committee (Aron Balok Chair, Dick Ehrman, Billie Mihelich)

This committee was originally set up to address water quality issues such as PFAS, nitrate, pesticides, etc.

Aron Balok will provide an update on Water Quality Committee activities

Website Committee (Kyle Sprouse Chair, Tammy Rush, Kristen Blackwell, Orrin Feril)

The GMDA Website Committee maintains content, ensure the quality of the content, and administer the system and features of the website. The Committee troubleshoots issues and assists members to update content. In 2022, GMDA retained Streamline as a service provider to maintain the website at a cost of \$20/month; that cost increased to \$25/month as of July 1, 2024 and this price increase was approved by the Board at their July 2024 meeting.

Kristen Blackwell has recently notified GMDA that she will no longer be able to maintain the website and email. The Board and membership will need to discuss replacing her.

Awards Committee (Steve Walthour Chair, Brian Bruckner, Tylr Naprstek)

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The Awards Committee coordinates awards and recognition for the organization.

Steve Walthour or Tylr Naprstek will provide an update on Awards Committee activities.

ITEM 5 CONSIDERATION OF GMDA CONSTITUTION

GMDA operates under its constitution. Periodically, the board should review GMDA's Constitution and propose changes if necessary. Attached to this Board Packet is a copy of the GMDA Constitution for your review. As has been the case for the past few meetings, the Board will entertain discussion and possible proposals regarding amending the Constitution. The group will consider any suggestions or possibilities.

ITEM 6 2026 ANNUAL (WINTER) CONFERENCE

At the February 2025 meeting in Temecula, California, the Board elected Bob McCrae from New Mexico as the GMDA Vice President. New Mexico will therefore be responsible for organizing the 2026 Annual (Winter) Conference, and this item will be discussed.

ITEM 7 2026 SUMMER CONFERENCE

In January 2016, the GMDA Board assigned the Summer Conference to each State on a rotating basis. If the President or Vice President is from a state that is scheduled in the rotation to hold the summer conference the summer conference organizational responsibilities pass to the next State in the rotation. For 2026, Texas is in rotation. A GMDA member can volunteer at any time to organize the Summer Conference. If the volunteer request is accepted by the Board, the rotation is postponed for that year. Idaho has not yet been added to the rotation, but was instrumental in helping Mississippi organize the 2025 Summer Conference. Recent conferences have been organized on short notice due to irregularities in the rotation, and ideas as to how to avoid such situations will be discussed.

Current Order of Rotation:

2026: Texas

2027: Kansas

2028: Mississippi

2029: Nebraska

2030: Colorado

2031: New Mexico

2032: Louisiana

2033: California

ITEM 8 OTHER BUSINESS AS NEEDED

ITEM 9 ADJOURN