



GMDA Annual Conference and Board Meeting Agenda

Virtual Conference

January 12, 2021

2 pm CST

- 1) Open Meeting and Establish a Quorum – Linda Luebbe
Greeting to GMDA Annual Conference and Board Meeting
- 2) Consideration & Approval of January 2020 Conference Minutes and July 2020 Virtual Meeting Minutes
- 3) Presentations
 - a) COVID and Public Water Supplies - Dr. Belinda Sturm
 - b) Presentation from the Vice President Aron Balok
- 4) Reports from the State Caucuses (5 minutes each)
 - a) California
 - b) Colorado
 - c) Kansas
 - d) Louisiana
 - e) Mississippi
 - f) Nebraska
 - g) New Mexico
 - h) North Dakota
 - i) Texas
 - j) Other States
- 5) Treasurer's & Membership Reports – Steve Walthour
- 6) NWRA Report
- 7) Committee Reports
 - National Water Resources Association Caucus - Groundwater and Federal Issues
 - Water Quality Committee
 - Membership Committee
 - Website
 - Awards
- 8) Consider Policy Priority Recommendations for the NWRA Leadership Forum
- 9) Change of Presidents & Elections of Officers
- 10) Committee Appointments

11) 2021 GMDA Meetings and Summer Conference

12) 2022 Annual Conference Location

13) Other Business as Needed

14) Adjourn

ITEM 1

**Open Meeting and Establish a Quorum – Linda Luebbe
Greetings to GMDA Annual Conference and Board Meeting**

**Board Members Present, January 12, 2021
Underline Members that are present**

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California		John Woodling	James Cioffi	
Colorado	Everett Kissler	Jim Reasoner	Don Rosenbrock	Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Idaho				
Kansas	Jason Norquest	Orrin Feril	Tim Boese	Mark Rude
Louisiana	William Daniel	Mark Frey	J A Rummler	Tony Duplechin
Mississippi	Buck Falls	Don Christy	Daniel Shannon	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Linda Luebbe	Dick Ehrman	Tylr Naprstek	Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico	A.J. Olsen	Aron Balok	Greg Alpers	
North Dakota				
Texas	Steve Walthour	Gene Born	C.E. Williams	Robert Bradley
Washington				

ITEM 2

Board Meeting Minutes
Riverside Hotel, Ft. Lauderdale Florida
4:00 PM January 13, 2020

The Groundwater Management Districts Association (GMDA) meeting was called to order by Vice President Linda Luebbe at 4:10 PM. The Board discussed President Kissler’s absence because of health reasons and Luebbe circulated a card for the board to sign.

The Board Members and Advisors whose names are underlined below were in attendance. This board listing represents the 2020 GMDA board following Caucus actions:

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California		John Woodling	James Cioffi	
Colorado	Everett Kissler	Jim Reasoner	<u>Don Rosenbrock</u>	<u>Randy Ray</u>

Billy Mihelich

Idaho				
Kansas	<u>Jason Norquest</u>	Orrin Feril	<u>Tim Boese</u>	<u>Mark Rude</u>
Louisiana	William Daniel	Mark Frey	J A Rummmler	<u>Tony Duplechin</u>
Mississippi	<u>Buck Falls</u>	<u>Don Christy</u>	<u>Daniel Shannon</u>	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	<u>Linda Luebbe</u>	<u>Dick Ehrman</u>	<u>Tylr Naprstek</u>	<u>Lyndon Vogt</u>
New Mexico	A.J. Olsen	<u>Aron Balok</u>	Greg Alpers	
North Dakota				
Texas	<u>Steve Walthour</u>	<u>Gene Born</u>	<u>C.E. Williams</u>	Robert Bradley
Washington				

Also, in attendance were Kristen Blackwell, Kyle Sprouse and Russ Callan.

Aron Balok moved that the minutes from June 7, 2019 board meeting be approved, Tony Duplechin seconded the motion which passed unanimously via voice vote.

Treasurer and Membership Reports:

Walthour reported that as of December 31, 2019, GMDA's bank balance in First State Bank of Stratford, Texas is \$112,917.02 which reflects a \$102,444.86 for June 1, 2019 beginning balance, \$15,340.08 of income and \$1,669.84 in expenses for the period from June 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. Since June 1, 2019, GMDA has received \$10,800.00 from membership dues and \$4,540.08 in income from the Salt Lake City summer meeting. Expenses include \$792.00 for the balance of 2019 dues to NWRA, \$225.00 in maintenance expenses for the website, \$550 in accounting fees and \$102.84 in awards. There is approximately \$3,225.00 in open invoices for 12 members for 2020 membership. Walthour reported that as of the board meeting GMDA has approximately \$75,000 in the bank because we wrote a check during the conference to cover some of the conference expenses and anticipates that the GMDA will get most of those funds back.

Walthour reported that NWRA dues for the 2020 Groundwater Caucus are \$14,205.00.

As of December 31, 2019, there are 54 paid members and nine honorary lifetime members

According to Article 4.0 of the GMDA Constitution there are four types of membership: District, Organizational, Affiliate and Individual.

- a) District membership is open only to those districts who have major programs and responsibilities for groundwater development, conservation, and management and which are chartered under the laws of their respective states.
- b) The Organizational membership is open to organizations and associations whose major purposes are the development, conservation, and management of groundwater.
- c) The Affiliate membership is open to those organizations, agencies, corporations, businesses, or partnerships affiliated with the interests and purposes of the Association.

d) The Individual membership is open to those individuals interested in the purposes of the Association.

Walthour referred to the board packet describing that Article 6.0 of the GMDA Constitution states the Association shall be governed by a board of directors from each state with representation in the Association by either a District or Organizational membership. Additionally, GMDA has an Affiliate membership. Based on his interpretation of the Constitution Walthour believes that the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District of North Dakota, the Idaho Water Users Association of Idaho, and Seametrics, Inc. of Washington are listed and have paid dues as Organizational Members and therefore a caucus for those states are allowed representation on the board.

James Cioffi moved that the board accept the Secretary/Treasurers report for finances and membership through December 31, 2019. Lyndon Vogt second the motion which passed unanimously via voice vote.

Aron Balok moved that the board approve payment of NWRA Groundwater Caucus dues in the amount of \$14,205.00. James Cioffi second the motion which passed unanimously via voice vote.

Rude discussed that he had a presentation on the agenda the next day that should provide the board can realize the value of being the Groundwater Caucus for NWRA. He discussed that the dues are expensive, but it places GMDA right where the organization wants to be on Capitol Hill.

The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Walthour reported that membership in the organization is static and recommended that GMDA create a committee of the board meet in Colorado Springs before the Summer Conference to plan, review, and map the future direction for GMDA. The board discussed the need to do long term planning that would consider membership, membership dues, and direction of the organization. The president could appoint a committee. Luebbe discussed that she wanted to talk to Everette Kissler first to see what he thinks.

State Caucus Reports – The election results from the state caucuses are captured in the table at the beginning of these minutes. Additionally, the states reported as follows:

California – James Cioffi reported that there is discussion in California regarding tribal water rights issues similar that is going on in other western states. A local tribe won a senior water right through the federal court system. The local tribe is forming its own water authority to probably determine how the tribe will be charging Desert Water and a sister agency to use the water. Additionally, there are taxing issues and water quality issues related to the litigation.

Colorado – Randy Ray reported that there is discussion in Colorado on how upper basin states can meet their obligations to provide water to lower basin states in the face of rising temperatures, changing precipitation pattern etc. There is continual discussion of acquiring more water in the Front Range on the east side from the west side of the Rockies. His district is on the South Platte River on the east side of the Continental Divide, Ray mentioned that there's a lot of interest in developing more storage in the South Platte Basin through potential projects.

Kansas – Rude reported the board members as provided above. The state engineer in particular his legal counsel which abides under the Kansas Department of Agriculture have questioned whether they really even need to pay attention to GCDs. Whether the engineer needs to recognize them or give them time to review applications and whether they are even obligated to consider those reviews. On the federal level, the Kansas Caucus is excited and anxious regarding the possibility of getting congress to put language in WRDA to revisit the WRDA authorization of an old High Plains study to address elements of interstate and interbasin water supply collaborations and coordination. We believe we should take another look at the prospect of interbasin transfers and have authorization and funding WRDA. We have not seen draft language yet, but we want to collaborate with folks like Texas and others in the High Plains.

Louisiana – Duplechin reported the new directors for the board and then discussed the progress regarding finishing an observation well to monitor saltwater intrusion. However, they have not completed site work. The driller has a different idea what reclamation looks like than do driller have. Drilling spoils are still out there but they are working to get it cleaned up. The agency audit he mentioned at the last meeting did not go as well as it should. The auditor was questioning agency practices from 40 years ago before he started working part time for the agency 9 years ago. Additionally, the state's ethics board had filed complaints against some of the Capital Area commissioners because they work for entities regulated by the commission. The commission has added Ascension Parish. The commission has increased their fees. He reported that he is not sure if this will be my last meeting or not when they hired nine years ago that he could only work part-time based on his retirement from the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, there is a push on at the commission have a full-time manager. He hoped to see us in Colorado Springs.

Mississippi – Don Christy reported Buck Falls went off the Yazoo Mississippi Delta Joint Water Management District board officially back in September, However the YMD board has requested that Buck continue to represent YMD in the GMDA. Buck has graciously agreed to do that, so he's going to go on director. Christy reported the new directors for the board as shown above and then announced that the Mississippi Caucus is organizing the summer conference in Colorado Springs on June 11th and 12th at the Mining Exchange Hotel. They are working on the agenda. The other major water issue in Mississippi right now is that the state dealt with some severe flooding last spring in the Delta. About 500,000 acres were underwater and 226,000 acres of those were arable land where growers did not get to produce some level of crop on those lands. What's affectionately known as the Yazoo pumps project was vetoed by EPA back into 2008. The Army Corps of Engineers has been supplementing the information to EPA to try to get the veto removed and have the project move forward to try to prevent or reduce some of that flooding in the South Delta. So, we will see how that goes. In Mississippi this is the year that statewide elections will take effect. So, tomorrow Mississippi will have a new governor sworn in and then other state officials will be sworn in. Since most of the executive heads who are appointed by the governor have resigned their positions, the state will have some new appointees. One will be the head of the Department of Environmental Quality. At that point Mr. Christy needed to leave the meeting for a conference call.

Nebraska – Tylr Naprstek reported the new directors for the board as reflected in the table at the beginning of the minutes. During the caucus meeting they discussed NWRA. They are working on a summer location for 2021.

New Mexico – Aron Balok reported Mr. Netherland has stepped down as a director. reported the new directors for the board as reflected in the table at the beginning of the minutes. He reported

the current PCAB chairman, Mr. Alpers agreed to take up that other director position. As far as issues in New Mexico. The only thing I'd mention it still ongoing is the lawsuit on the Lower Rio Grande with Texas before the Supreme Court. The Bureau of Reclamation weighed in on behalf of Texas. BOR's position is that groundwater pumping had affected deliveries to Texas for which BOR had an interest because BOR felt that that was their water as Project water, even though it was being pumped out of the ground. So BOR is essentially asserting ownership of the groundwater to meet surface water deliveries. And so regardless how that case comes out. New Mexico hopes that the BOR claim is not factored into the solution. He believes that BOR position can affect every State in GMDA. If New Mexico is in fact under-delivering it is Balok's belief that should be left to the New Mexico State Engineer to figure out how to fix that problem. Not the federal government. He plans to keep GMDA posted if anything develops regarding the BOR issue.

Texas – Walthour reported the directors for the board as reflected in the table at the beginning of the minutes. He reported that Texas Legislature is performing studies to address interim charges by the Speaker of the House and the Lieutenant Governor. A portion of the studies encompass how groundwater is managed in the state and how management could be more efficient to private property owners. Walthour stated he had reviewed an old study that Congress directed the Army Corps of Engineers to work with the six High Plains states to complete a comprehensive water resource study to address the problem of depleting the High Plains Ogallala aquifer. The study included state-level research completed in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Walthour moved that GMDA advocate that Congress fund and direct reassessment of the 1982 Study and seek new opportunities to address water supply needs for the six state High Plains region. Aron Balok seconded the motion.

Rude said that this was the study he was discussing in his report. Kansas is very much in support of the concept. The board positively discussed the motion.

The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Williams is concerned that he is hearing Kansas local districts being glossed over at the state level. This is happening to a big extent in Texas as well. And it is not only groundwater districts. Texas' local school districts, cities, counties, and other local entities ability to do their job is being diminished because there are some members of the legislature who think the institutional knowledge is in Austin. Williams sparked a discussion of the entire board relating to the challenges of local management being eroded from local to state level and from state level to federal government. Board members from Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico and California expressed the same concern of losing the ability to manage a local issue to the state or federal levels of government. Williams recommended that someone take a shot at drafting something but not him.

Luebbe created a committee to write a position statement for the GMDA as it applies to local management of the groundwater appears to be common concern between all the board members. Luebbe appointed Mark Rude, Randy Ray and Aron Balok as the committee.

Luebbe noted that Idaho, Washington, and North Dakota are not present at the board meeting. Walthour stated they have membership which gives them an opportunity to be a director and meet as a caucus.

Committee Reports:

NWRA, Groundwater and Federal Issues: Walthour reported that the National Water Resources Association groundwater caucus will have a presentation on the 15th, he said Ian may be here for that may help with the NWRA presentations. Walthour referred to the information regarding NWRA in the board packet is his notes, but he is not one of the representatives. He listed the priority issues and upcoming NWRA conference. Rude reported that the NWRA 2020 punch list could not accomplish the priority list in 10 years much less in three months. Rude passed out information on NWRA and will be speaking on NWRA issues later in the conference. The board discussed the NWRA Leadership Forum that was last week and if GMDA had any priorities other than the five already list.

Water Quality Committee: Balok discussed the issue of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and that committee has had brief teleconferences on the issue. Balok reported that big part of that is nobody really has any clear definition of how bad are PFAS is part of the debate, whether its classified as dangerous or toxin, so the standards are pretty ambiguous on who cleans it up and when they are required to clean it up. None of those issues have been settled. There is hope that the issues with PFAS would be addressed in that to HR 535 but it that has been stripped out of the bill. Aron expressed that he thinks that's something that we need to work on it and but has not yet formulated a proposed policy or priority to recommend to the board. There are multiple variations of PFAS, and it's used for Teflon pans, Scotch Guard, to coating pizza boxes. Rude reported that water suppliers are concerned that regulation of PFAS without knowing to the extent it would need to be treated can create a massive problem. It is not about just replacing one substance but multiple substances. Cioffi reported California is already writing legislation regarding the substance.

Membership Committee: Walthour reported that the membership committee has not met but GMDA has put out a quarterly newsletter and will putting another quarterly letter out at the end of January or the first of February. He asked members to send in information to be published. Walthour recommended that the president fire the committee chair. Vogt said not a chance.

Website: Kristen Blackwell said the Website needs work and asked that the membership send in information quarterly to post on the web. Walthour reported that Krista Markham is now the person that should be receiving any news to go on the website or in the newsletter. Lyndon Vogt complimented the website.

Awards: Tony Duplechin reported that we have an award for Everett Kissler for outgoing president and we will be giving him the award through Randy Ray.

Consider Policy Priority Recommendations for the NWRA Leadership Forum: Walthour reported that there were no new priorities.

Election of Officers: Lyndon Vogt made the motion that Linda Luebbe be president and Aron Balok be vice president. James Cioffi second the motion. Balok said he will accept the position as Vice President subject to approval by his board. Walthour reported that the vice president is responsible for the winter meeting in 2021. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Luebbe appointed chairs and members of committees as follows:

Water Quality – Aron Balok with Mark Rude and Randy Ray as committee persons

Membership – Steve Walthour with Tim Boese and Jim Cioffi as committee persons

Website – Kristen Blackwell

Awards – Tony Duplechin

National Water Resources Association Caucus & Groundwater and Federal Issues – AJ Olsen, Mark Rude, Lyndon Vogt (alternate) and Randy Ray (alternate).

Walthour made a motion that any of our delegates that attend NWRA can vote on behalf of the Groundwater Caucus. Tylr Naprstek second the motion. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

2020 Summer Conference Location: Luebbe commented that Don Christy had already reported that Mississippi is holding the summer conference in Colorado Springs.

2021 Annual Conference: Luebbe commented that New Mexico will be picking the location of the 2021 Annual Conference.

There being no other business Williams moved and Dick Ehrman seconded that the meeting adjourned. The motion passed via voice at 4:51 pm.



Steve Walthour, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer

**Virtual Board of Directors Meeting
Held Wednesday July 8, 2020 at 1:00 PM CST**

Members in attendance

Linda Luebbe (Nebraska), President
Aron Balok (New Mexico), Vice-President
Steve Walthour (Texas), Secretary

Directors by State

Colorado: Everett Kissler
Kansas: Jason Norquest, Mark Rude, Orrin Feril and Tim Boese
Louisiana: J A Rummler
Mississippi: Ben Griffith and Don Christy
Nebraska: Dick Ehrman, Lyndon Vogt and Tylr Naprstek
New Mexico: A.J. Olsen,
Texas: C.E. Williams

Others in attendance

Kristen Blackwell

The meeting began at 1:00 PM and the major item of discussion was the future and planning of the Winter 2021 meeting. Discussion consisted of what the potential state of Covid 19 in the coming winter months would be. Steve Walthour moved the Winter 2021 board meeting and conference be held virtually. Everett Kissler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Other items discussed were the state of the financials. Secretary Steve Walthour reported GMDA was in fine financial shape without proceeds from a canceled Summer 2020 meeting. Walthour also told the board a financial statement would be sent out to the board by the end of the month for their review.

At 1:33 PM Steve Walthour moved to adjourn the meeting, Aron Balok seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.



Steve Walthour, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer

ITEM 3

Presentations

a) COVID and Public Water Supplies - Dr. Belinda Sturm

Dr. Belinda Sturm (<http://people.ku.edu/~bmcswain/>) who is a Kansas and national leader in Wastewater Epidemiology through the University of Kansas. Dr. Sturm will present on COVID-19 and Public Water Supplies. Dr. Belinda Sturm is an Associate Professor in the Dept of Civil, Environmental & Architectural Engineering at the University of Kansas. Dr. Sturm worked at the Technical University of Munich, Germany, and the University of California, Davis before joining the faculty at KU in 2006. She specializes in biological processes of wastewater treatment and the application of molecular methods in water quality analysis. With KU's Feedstock to Tailpipe Initiative, Dr. Sturm has developed a process to remove nutrients from wastewater while growing algal biomass, which is processed into biocrude oil. In 2012, the American Academy of Environmental Engineers awarded KU an "Excellence in Environmental Engineering" honor award for this work.

Dr. Sturm performs both lab work at KU and pilot scale studies at the City of Lawrence Wastewater Treatment Plant. She is also the Principal Investigator of the Center for Microbial Metagenomic Community Analysis (CMMCA), which uses advanced high-throughput DNA sequencing and high-performance computing to study microbial community dynamics. In 2016 Dr. Sturm was named as the Edward & Thelma Wohlgenuth Faculty Scholar.

b) Presentation from the Vice President Aron Balok

Aron Balok is the Superintendent of the Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District in New Mexico. Mr. Balok studied Agriculture and Extension Education at New Mexico State University. The Pecos Valley Artesian Conservancy District (PVACD) was created by Order of the District Court of Chaves County, New Mexico, on January 11, 1932. The district was created to conserve the waters of the Roswell-Artesian Basin, including the lands within the Basin located in both Chaves and Eddy Counties. Mr. Balok will speak on a topic of his choosing.

ITEM 4 Reports from State Caucuses January 12, 2021

- a) California
- b) Colorado
- c) Kansas
- d) Louisiana
- e) Mississippi
- f) Nebraska
- g) New Mexico
- h) North Dakota
- i) Texas
- j) Other States

Director Election

The GMDA Constitution Article 7.0 (State Caucuses), directs that at each annual meeting a state caucus consisting of the state's entire membership shall meet and by a majority vote of the members in attendance elect directors as follows: Beginning with the 1988 annual meeting three (3) members shall be elected - one for a one-year term, one for a two-year term and one for a three-year term. Thereafter at each annual meeting one director shall be elected for a three-year term. At each annual meeting or any special meeting for the entire membership, each state's directors shall call for a state caucus to present Association matters to their caucus. During caucus deliberation of Association matters, caucus voting shall serve as a guide for the voting of the state directors during subsequent board meetings. The matter of appointing a state advisor shall also be routinely handled during the annual state caucus meeting. The state caucuses should endeavor to appoint an advisor who has statewide experience in all pertinent phases of groundwater management. California has two memberships in GMDA and should select its representatives to the GMDA Board.

It will be the responsibility of the states to provide for any filling of vacancies which may occur in their respective state representation on the board of directors. GMDA Constitution Article 8.0 (Caucus Voting Rights), directs that all memberships shall be entitled to vote in the state caucuses in accordance with the type of membership (Article 4.0) and as set forth below:

- a) District members shall be entitled to four (4) votes.
- b) Organizational members shall be entitled to three (3) votes.
- c) Affiliate members shall be entitled to two (2) votes.
- d) Individual members shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

The current director roster is as follows:

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California		John Woodling	James Cioffi	
Colorado	Everett Kissler	Jim Reasoner	Don Rosenbrock	Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Kansas	Jason Norquest	Orrin Feril	Tim Boese	Mark Rude
Louisiana	William Daniel	Mark Frey	J A Rummler	Tony Duplechin
Mississippi	Buck Falls	Don Christy	Daniel Shannon	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Linda Luebbe	Dick Ehrman	Tylr Naprstek	Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico	A.J. Olsen	Aron Balok	Greg Alpers	
North Dakota				
Texas	Steve Walthour	Gene Born	C.E. Williams	Robert Bradley
Washington				

Below are the director positions anticipated to be filled based on the rotation.

State	1-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California	John Woodling	James Cioffi		
Colorado	Jim Reasoner	Don Rosenbrock		Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Kansas	Orrin Feril	Tim Boese		Mark Rude
Idaho				
Louisiana	Mark Frey	J A Rummler		Tony Duplechin
Mississippi	Don Christy	Daniel Shannon		Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Dick Ehrman	Tylr Naprstek		Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico	Aron Balok	Greg Alpers		
North Dakota				
Texas	Gene Born	C.E. Williams		Robert Bradley
Washington				

NWRA Groundwater Caucus Priorities

This item is provided for the state caucus to report recommended Groundwater Caucus Priorities for board consideration.

Other State Priorities

This item is provided for the state caucus to report priorities other than Groundwater Caucus Priorities that the State caucuses may wish for the board to consider.

ITEM 5
Secretary / Treasurer's Report
January 12, 2021

Finances

As of December 31, 2020, GMDA's bank balance in First State Bank of Stratford, Texas is \$111,662.54 which reflects a \$112,917.02 for January 1, 2020 beginning balance, \$53,199.67 of income and \$54,454.15 in expenses for the period from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Since January 1, 2020, GMDA has received \$13,100.00 from membership dues, \$650 in donations and \$2,589.50 in income from the Fort Lauderdale winter meeting. Expenses include \$14,205.00 for 2020 dues to NWRA, \$3,071.98 for expenses related to planning and canceling the 2020 summer meeting, \$225.00 in maintenance expenses for the website and \$92.00 in postage.

There is approximately \$1,725.00 in open invoices for 8 members for 2021 membership.

For 2021, NWRA Groundwater Caucus Dues will remain \$14,205.00.

Membership

As of December 31, 2020, there are 40 paid members and nine honorary lifetime members.

Sincerely,



Steve Walthour, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer

Proposed Motions:

- Move the board accept the Secretary Treasurers report for Finances and Membership through December 31, 2020.
- Move the board approve payment of NWRA Groundwater Caucus Dues in the amount of \$14,205.00.

ITEM 6 NWRA Report

This item is provided for a report from the NWRA Representative.

NWRA representatives have been invited to update the membership on NWRA activities and priorities.

ITEM 7 Committee Reports

National Water Resources Association Groundwater Caucus/ Groundwater and Federal Issues

GMDA is the NWRA Groundwater Caucus. Groundwater Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues Representatives include Mark Rude, Randy Ray, AJ Olsen, and Lyndon Vogt. T Members of the Groundwater Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues committee may wish to provide additional information regarding NWRA issues.

Water Quality Committee– Aron Balok with Mark Rude and Randy Ray

The Committee will report at the meeting.

Membership – Steve Walthour with Tim Boese and Jim Cioffi

The Committee will report at the meeting.

Website – Kristen Blackwell

The Committee will report at the meeting

Awards – Tony Duplechin

Linda Luebbe will receive an award for GMDA’s appreciation of her leadership in 2020.

ITEM 8
Consider Policy Priority Recommendations
for the NWRA Leadership Forum

The purpose of this item is to consider the future of water policy and set priorities for the first term of 116th Congress. GMDA is the NWRA Groundwater Caucus. The Caucus continues to monitor federal and state groundwater issues, including state primacy, federal administration of groundwater, environment and endangered species, drought planning and water conservation.

In 2019, GMDA and the Groundwater Caucus has identified 5 issues in to be part of the topics of discussion at the conference. They are:

1. State primacy, including protection of State and private property rights related to federal claims to groundwater ownership and administration under EPA regulations, WOTUS, U.S. Forest service, BOR, ESA litigation, and other federal agencies intrusion.
2. Groundwater conservation measures, including irrigation, industrial and municipal use.
3. Storage and groundwater recharge with attention to conjunctive management for the benefit of groundwater and surface water.
4. Drought planning due to the increased demands on groundwater.
5. Water supply and the fallowing of farm ground with special attention to the individual financial and public welfare costs.

Since the Leadership Forum has already met before the GMDA Annual Conference, the GMDA Board will be setting recommended priorities to be considered at the Leadership Forum.

ITEM 9
Change of Presidents & Elections of Officers

ARTICLE 9.0: OFFICERS

The activities of the Association shall be set and maintained by the Officers who, except for the GMDA Secretary/Treasurer (who may or may not be an elected director), shall be current board members. The officers shall consist of the President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. The Vice-President shall also serve as President elect and shall assume the office of President whenever vacated.

All officers shall serve for one year, except for the provisions for the accession of the Vice-President to the Presidency, and all officers shall be elected at each annual meeting by majority vote of the directors in attendance. In the event the in-coming President had been elected Vice-President with only one year remaining on his or her term and is not re-elected to the three-year position when ready to automatically assume the Presidency, the new board shall elect both a President and a Vice-President from its members.

The officers of the Association shall, until the employment or appointment of a manager, perform all the routine functions of the Association as follows:

- a) President shall preside over all meetings of the board of directors and shall generally be the spokesperson for the Association in matters of public affairs. He or she shall ultimately assume all responsibility for the Association and its efforts and shall be allowed to appoint committees as deemed necessary, including representatives to other organizations and committees of similar interest or nature.
- b) Vice-President shall preside and assume the duties of the President in his or her absence. He or she shall also be responsible for the upcoming annual meeting preparations.
- c) Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Association and shall record the proceedings of the board of director's meetings and other special meetings.
- d) GMDA director to NWRA shall represent 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.
- e) Advisors shall assist the board by attending board meetings and providing advice and assistance to the directors of the state they represent, providing the board a state overview report during each annual meeting which covers groundwater topics of interest to the Association and by providing support in the development and conduct of the annual conference and other general meetings, seminars, field trips and activities.

Note- Steve Walthour has served as Secretary/Treasurer since 2012. He is asking that the organization begin the transition to a new Secretary/Treasurer. Mr. Walthour will work with the new Secretary Treasurer to ensure a smooth transition. He recommends that the GMDA consider amending its constitution to separate responsibilities for a secretary and treasurer.

ITEM 10

Committee Appointments

The President appoints various committees of the organization. Current committees and chairpersons are as follows:

National Water Resources Association Groundwater Caucus/ Groundwater and Federal Issues Committee Mark Rude, Randy Ray, AJ Olsen, and Lyndon Vogt. T

Members of the Groundwater Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues committee may wish to provide additional information regarding NWRA issues.

Water Quality Committee– Aron Balok with Mark Rude and Randy Ray

Membership – Steve Walthour with Tim Boese and Jim Cioffi

Website – Kristen Blackwell

Awards – Tony Duplechin

After review of the current committee list the Secretary/Treasurer recommends that a Program Committee be established

ITEM 11
2021 GMDA Meetings and 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. 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.

Mississippi 2020
Nebraska 2021
Colorado 2022
New Mexico 2023
Louisiana 2024
California 2025
Texas 2026
Kansas 2027

Additionally, North Plains GCD has recommended that GMDA consider adding two meetings a year via virtual conference to address organization business.

ITEM 12
2022 Annual Conference Location

This item is provided to discuss the 2022 Annual Conference. The Vice President is usually responsible for organizing this event.

ITEM 13
Other Business as Needed

ITEM 14 – Adjourn