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EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

GROUNDWATER NEWS

## EQUUS BEDS ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 10, 2014

The 39th Annual Meeting of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District will be held Monday, March 10, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., in the Halstead High School auditorium, 520 West 6th Street, in Halstead.

District staff will review the District's programs, projects, and activities for the last year. Included in the review will be a report on the status or progress of:

- Aquifer management and protection activities for 2013;
- Update on the Reno County water permit application processing suspension area; and
- Planned activities for 2014.

Mike McGinn, Treasurer, will report on the District's financial status, and the Board of Directors will review a proposed fiscal year 2015 budget for adoption. Other business to be conducted at the meeting will include the election of three director positions to the nine member Board. Board incumbents Fred Seiler (Agriculture - McPherson County) and Joe Pajor (Municipal - Sedgwick County) are seeking another three-year term. Larry Jacob (Municipal - Harvey County) is not seeking re-election.

Representatives from the Kansas Water Vision team will be in attendance and holding a stakeholder outreach meeting. See more information below.

Voter registration will be conducted just outside the auditorium beginning at 6:15 p.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m. The deadline to submit Board of Directors applications and Statement of Eligibility forms is February 28, 2014, in order to appear on the printed ballot. However, persons interested in running for the Equus Beds Board of Directors can seek nomination during the meeting.

Copies of the meeting agenda, candidate application forms, and the proposed FY 2015 budget will soon be available and may be obtained by contacting the District office. A map of the Annual Meeting location can be found on our website at: [www.gmd2.org](http://www.gmd2.org)

## VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF WATER IN KANSAS GMD2 STAKEHOLDER MEETING - MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2014

**TOPEKA** — Governor Brownback charged his administration, including the Kansas Water Office, Kansas Department of Agriculture, and Kansas Water Authority, along with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, to lead the vision and called upon the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors to engage in the planning since water and the economy are closely linked.

### **The Vision**

The Vision will take the *Kansas Water Plan* to a whole new level with more intense work with government, cities and counties, the groundwater management districts, water assurance districts, industry and stakeholders to develop this vision and area specific goals for ensuring a reliable water supply for Kansas citizens.

The Visioning Team will be conducting coordinated outreach with many stakeholders throughout the state representing all uses of water. Feedback gained from these stakeholder meetings will serve the basis of the draft Vision for the Future of Water in Kansas.

The GMD2 Stakeholder meeting will take place in the Halstead High School Auditorium on Monday, March 10, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is highly encouraged.

*Information from the Kansas Water Office: [http://www.kwo.org/50\\_Year\\_Vision/50\\_Year\\_Vision.htm](http://www.kwo.org/50_Year_Vision/50_Year_Vision.htm)*

## AGRICULTURAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (AWEP) APPLICATION DEADLINE - MARCH 21, 2014

**SALINA** — On January 27, 2014, Eric B. Banks, State Conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) in Kansas, announced that irrigators in GMD2 have until March 21, 2014, to apply for the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) at their local NRCS office.

The Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) is a voluntary conservation initiative that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers to implement agricultural water enhancement activities on agricultural land for the purposes of conserving surface and ground water and improving water quality. As part of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), AWEP operates through program contracts with producers to plan and implement conservation practices in project areas established through partnership agreements. Producers must meet EQIP eligibility requirements.

GMD2 was funded for a five-year period, beginning with FY 2010. NRCS and GMD2 will address inefficient water use on irrigated land and aquifer overdraft, through installation of more efficient irrigation systems and irrigation water management. The eligible area includes the entire GMD2.

The AWEP funds available in the District will provide financial assistance for producers to upgrade to more efficient systems (ie. flood irrigation to sub-surface drip irrigation or center pivot, etc.) In addition to system upgrades, producers will be able to receive financial assistance to utilize irrigation water management plans.

Application forms are available at your local NRCS office / USDA Service Center, and producers in the project areas have until **March 21, 2014**, to submit applications for FY 2014 AWEP funding.

*We're on the web! Visit us at: [www.gmd2.org](http://www.gmd2.org)*



**EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2**

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Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5

**Please contact us with  
any address changes!**

**OR CURRENT RESIDENT**

**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

**WATER USE REPORTS**

Due to DWR by March 1, 2014

These forms are required by the  
Division of Water Resources.

**GMD2 ANNUAL MEETING**

Monday, March 10, 2014

Three Directors will be elected, the  
Kansas Water Vision team will  
present information, and District staff  
will give an update on the GMD2's  
previous and current activities.

**VERIFIED CLAIMS**

Due to GMD2 by April 1, 2014

These forms are voluntary by  
GMD #2 and are not required  
to be completed.

**ELIGIBLE VOTER QUALIFICATIONS**

Not all persons qualify to vote in the Equus Beds Board of Directors election. The Groundwater Management District Act limits voters to specific landowners and water users. Eligibility is based on a person, trust, estate, municipality, or a private or public corporation which:

- Owns 40 or more contiguous acres of land, or
- Annually withdraws or uses at least one acre-foot (325,851 gallons) of water.

Land comprising of 40 or more contiguous acres must be a single tract, located within the District and outside the corporate limits of a municipality. The size of the tract of land is determined by the calculations of the county appraiser and excludes any public right-of-way located within the tract.

An eligible voter can cast only one vote for any qualified tracts of land and water permits owned by the voter. Persons duly authorized to act in a representative capacity for estates, trusts, municipalities, public or private corporations may also cast one vote for each entity that they represent. The election law prohibits proxy voting.

**VERIFIED CLAIMS FORMS - NOW AVAILABLE**

A water user pumping less water in 2013 than his/her permitted amount may file a verified claim with the District to limit their annual groundwater assessment to the actual amount used instead of the full permitted amount. Filing the claim is voluntary. The deadline for the verified claims forms is by April 1, 2014. No late forms will be accepted.

By law, the District determines the water assessment charge by the amount of water authorized by the water permit unless a verified claim is filed demonstrating actual usage.

Verified claims may be filed if the water well is equipped with a water meter for all of 2013; the metered amount is in units of either gallons, acre-feet, acre-inches, or barrels; the water meter installed on the well is registered with the District; and the water meter is in compliance with State regulations. Verified claims may also be submitted for:

- Wells which were not drilled and completed under the original water permit approval;
- Water permits enrolled in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation Reserve Program; or
- The Division of Water Resources Water Right Conservation Program.

The color-coded forms are available at the District office; at the offices of the county clerks and of the treasurer of Harvey, McPherson, Reno and Sedgwick counties; and at the county conservation district offices.

Forms are required to have both front and back printed. Photocopies will not be accepted.

<p><b><u>BOARD OFFICERS</u></b>          David Stroberg ..... President          Fred Seiler ..... Vice President          Vin Kissick ..... Secretary          Mike McGinn ..... Treasurer</p>	<p><b><u>DISTRICT STAFF</u></b>          Tim Boese ..... Manager          Dorinda Benton ..... Admin.Asst.          David Randolph ..... Technician          Tom Adrian ..... Attorney</p>	<p>Mail, fax or e-mail corrections to the District office at: 313 Spruce Street, Halstead, KS 67056-1924 • Phone: 316-835-2224 • Fax: 316-835-2225 • E-mail: <a href="mailto:equusbeds@gmd2.org">equusbeds@gmd2.org</a> • website: <a href="http://www.gmd2.org">www.gmd2.org</a></p>
<p><b><u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u></b>          Alan Burghart ..... Member          Ray Flickner ..... Member          Larry Jacob ..... Member          Joe Pajor ..... Member          Bob Seiler ..... Member</p>	<p>The Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2 publishes the <i>Equus Beds Groundwater News</i> quarterly. Subscriptions are free of charge.</p> <p><b><i>Address corrections are appreciated and help to reduce publication costs.</i></b></p>	<p>Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except for holidays.</p> <p>The Board of Directors meets the second Tuesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. The public is welcome</p>