

2nd Quarter
2021

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EQUUS BEDS GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2

GROUNDWATER NEWS

EQUUS BEDS 46TH ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021

The 46th Annual Meeting of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District will be held Thursday, July 15, 2021, 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, as well as planned activities for 2021. Additionally, newly appointed DWR Chief Engineer, Earl Lewis, will be a special speaker at the meeting.

Mike McGinn, Treasurer, will report on the District's financial status, and the Board of Directors will review a proposed fiscal year 2022 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 David Bogner (Reno County), Vin Kissick (Sedgwick County), and Mike McGinn (Harvey County) are each seeking another three-year term. Don Henry (Sedgwick County) and Kathleen Sexton (Harvey County) have also applied to run for a Board seat.

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 July 14, 2021, 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 and candidate application forms are available and may be obtained by contacting the District office.

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.

2022 FISCAL BUDGET HEARING

A public hearing for the purpose of submitting the proposed 2022 fiscal budget to the eligible voters of the Equus Beds Groundwater Management District #2 will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at the District office, 313 Spruce Street in Halstead, KS.

Following the hearing, the District Board of Directors shall, by resolution, adopt either the proposed budget or a modified budget and determine the amount of land and water assessment rate needed to support the adopted 2022 fiscal budget.

The public is invited to attend. Copies of the proposed FY 2022 budget are available at the District office.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

OFFICE CLOSED

July 5, 2021

In observance of
Independence Day

GMD2 ANNUAL

MEETING

July 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.
Halstead High School
Halstead, KS

2022 BUDGET HEARING

July 20, 2021

10:30 a.m.

GMD2 District Office

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

313 Spruce Street
Halstead, KS 67056-1925

Phone: 316-835-2224
Fax: 316-835-2225
Email: equusbeds@gmd2.org
Website: www.gmd2.org

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

MULTI-YEAR FLEX ACCOUNTS

Most water right holders can apply for a multi-year flex account (MYFA) and obtain a 5-year term permit that temporarily replaces an existing (or base) water right. This term permit allows the water right's annual authorized quantity to be exceeded in any year, but restricts total pumping to a 5 year total allocation over the 5-year period. For older water rights that used water from 2000 to 2009, generally the total amount of the 5-year flex account allocation will be the larger of:

- 5 times the average use of the water right from 2000-2009, or
- 5 times the county's net irrigation requirement for corn times the maximum acres irrigated from 2000-2009 times 110 percent

The MYFA statute was changed during the 2021 Kansas Legislative session to allow newer water rights that did not have water use from 2000 to 2009 to be eligible to enter into a MYFA. For these newer water rights, the 5-year flex account allocation will be based on the net irrigation requirement method described above, but instead of using the years 2000 to 2009, any year during the water right's perfection period can be used to determine the acres irrigated for the calculation. The law change is effective July 1, 2021.

Other key MYFA points:

- The 5 year allocation cannot exceed the base water right's authorized quantity times 5.
- An application for a MYFA must be filed with the Division of Water Resources on or before December 31 of the first year of the multi-year flex account term for which the application is being made.
- Only vested and certified groundwater rights in good standing are eligible for MYFAs.
- A separate MYFA application is required for each point of diversion authorized by the base water right.
- The applicant is required to install and maintain an acceptable water flowmeter that meets all current specifications.
- Although mostly used for irrigation, MYFAs are available for uses other than irrigation.
- Up to one year's worth of unused quantity from a current MYFA may be able to carry over into a subsequent MYFA if the water right is enrolled in a new MYFA during the year that the existing MYFA expires, provided the 5 year allocation plus the carryover quantity does not exceed the base water right's authorized quantity times 5.

The District encourages you to check your water use and file a MYFA application by December 31, 2021, if necessary. Contact the District office for assistance.

BOARD OFFICERS

Jeff Winter President
Vin Kissick Vice President
David Bogner Secretary
Mike McGinn Treasurer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Joe Bergkamp Member
Alan Burghart Member
Dale Schmidt Member
Bob Seiler Member
David Stroberg Member
Tom Adrian Attorney

DISTRICT STAFF

Tim Boese Manager
Rebecca Wilson Admin. Asst.
..... Hydrogeologist
David Randolph Technician

Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except for holidays.

The Board of Directors meets the second Wednesday of each month. All meetings are open to the public. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings.

CORRECTIONS

Mail, fax or e-mail corrections to the District office at: 313 Spruce Street, Halstead, KS 67056 • Phone: 316-835-2224 • Fax: 316-835-2225 • E-mail: equusbeds@gmd2.org
• Website: www.gmd2.org

The Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2 publishes the *Equus Beds Groundwater News* bi-annually. Subscriptions are free of charge.