



## **Board Meeting Agenda and Packet**

St. Simons Island, Georgia

January 25, 2023

1. Open Meeting – Steve Walthour
2. Consideration & Approval of October 17, 2022, Minutes – Dick Ehrman
3. Treasurer's & Membership Reports – Dick Ehrman
4. Reports and Recommendations from State Caucuses
5. Committee Reports
  - National Water Resources Association Caucus/Groundwater and Federal Issues
  - Membership Committee
  - Program
  - Website
  - Awards
6. Review and consider Policy Priority Recommendations for the NWRA Leadership Forum
7. Consider GMDA Constitution
8. Change of Presidents & Elections of Officers
9. Committee Appointments
10. 2023 and 2024 Summer Conference
11. 2024 Annual Conference Location
12. Other Business as Needed
13. Adjourn

**ITEM 1 OPEN MEETING**

**Board Members Present, January 25, 2023  
Underline Members that are present**

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

**ITEM 2 GMDA BOARD MEETING MINUTES, VIDEO CONFERENCE, 3:00 PM CDT, MONDAY OCTOBER 17, 2022**

State	1-Yr Director	2-Yr Director	3-Yr Director	Advisor
California	John Woodling	Trevor Joseph	James Cioffi	
Colorado	Don Rosenbrock	Everett Kissler	Kyle Sprouse	Randy Ray Billy Mihelich Mark Rude
Kansas	Tim Boese	Shannon Kenyon	Jason Norquest	
Louisiana	Mark Frey	J A Rummler	William Daniel	Gary Beard Kelley McNamara (for Beard)
Mississippi	Daniel Shannon	John McKee	Don Christy	Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Dick Ehrman	Tylr Naprstek	Brian Bruckner	Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico	Kelli Goodpasture	Mitchell McCrae	Aron Balok	
Texas	Britney Britten	Steve Walthour	Leah Martinsson	Robert Bradley Also Present: Kristen Blackwell

Also present: Paul Arrington from the Idaho Water Users Association—welcome Paul and glad to have Idaho on the Board!!!

1. Open Meeting and Establish a Quorum – Steve Walthour  
Walthour opened the meeting at 3:07. A quorum was present. The agenda was adopted by unanimous voice vote.

2. **Consideration & Approval of June 21, 2022, Minutes**  
Aron Balok moved, Daniel Shannon seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were adopted by unanimous voice vote.
3. **Treasurer's & Membership Reports – Dick Ehrman**  
Ehrman reviewed the financials as of 9/30/2022; the current bank balance in US Bank is \$89,401.62. GMDA's account balance is down about \$24,000 for the year to the end of September. Everett Kissler moved, Jason Norquest seconded to approve the Treasurer's report; the motion was unanimously approved. Ehrman also reported that the GMDA tax return for 2021 has been successfully filed with E-file; this was a bit of a chore but now that it's done future filings should be much easier. He also noted that 2022 dues statements will be going out in the next few weeks with the new dues schedule adopted at the June meeting in Colorado; hopefully these increases will help with GMDA's declining funding.
4. **Committee Reports**
  - **National Water Resources Association Caucus & Groundwater and Federal Issues**  
Rude reported that there is interest in the one-hour groundwater caucus at the end of NWRA. NWRA would like to increase that meeting in terms of length and visibility. This should enable longer sessions and more communication. Rude also welcomed Paul Arrington from Idaho. Arrington reported that he is on NWRA Board and that Dale Nellor has been hired to replace Ian Lyle at NWRA and will start November 21. Nellor is coming to NWRA from the North American Millers' Association. He is the son of Lloyd Nellor who was active in Nebraska's NRDs for many years. Rude noted that we need to be clear to NWRA as to which GMDA Board members are voting/representing us at any given meeting or time. Walthour will contact NWRA and clarify who our voting membership is.
  - **Membership Committee**  
Tylr Naprstek & Walthour reported on sending out a survey after June meeting. Only two responses were so they will check on why surveys may not be received, and continue to use surveys to improve the quality of GMDA conferences. It was suggested that it might be good to have surveys ready to fill out at the end of a given conference; the Membership Committee will consider this.
  - **Water Quality Committee**  
Balok said there's nothing new to report but reminded everyone that we will have a water quality session at the next meeting for members to report on what they're doing with water quality, and help to improve knowledge and capability of water quality monitoring in the membership.
  - **Website Committee**  
Kristen Blackwell reported that the committee has met to discuss website issues. One problem is that we don't have any dedicated individual for the website. The man who has maintained our website for about \$250/year is no longer available. She has discovered a website maintenance site called Streamline which would be about \$20/month for GMDA with a \$250 setup fee; this works out to about \$15/year more than what we're paying. She doesn't have all the details but recommends that we consider such an arrangement. Leah Martinsson asked if GMDA would qualify as Streamline says it's for government entities; Blackwell responded that in her conversations with Streamline they didn't indicate any problems. Jim Cioffi stated he would be in favor of hiring a consultant; his architecture firm uses such an entity and it is very convenient and could help generate more interest in GMDA. Blackwell then overviewed the Streamline website and their services. Cioffi moved, Naprstek seconded to engage Streamline. Cioffi asked who would be the main contact; Blackwell responded that she would be

willing to do so. Ehrman asked if the motion would hold as long as no unexpected costs arose; Blackwell responded that she would let the Board know if any such issues arose. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Awards Committee  
Naprstek reported that he has ordered awards for AJ Olsen and Linda Luebbe. They should be available to be presented in January in Georgia. Walthour said he didn't know if Olsen would be present; Balok responded that Olsen will attend.
- Program Committee  
Walthour noted that the Committee was formed to help set up programs. No members of the Committee were present to report.

5. Consider Policy Priority Recommendations for the NWRA Leadership Forum  
Walthour reported that NWRA wants to make sure we're up to date on our priorities, and asked if the current ones are correct or need modifications/additions. Rude responded that the Committee hadn't met but the priorities are solid. He also noted that the "Aquabus" bill, including WRDA and defense priorities, are being considered in Congress. Rude noted that the presentation of priorities to NWRA at the most recent meeting was efficient (it only required one slide). NWRA recommends we have no more than eight priorities (GMDA currently has five). Rude overviewed the presentation on the five priorities (and examples) at the Groundwater Caucus at the NWRA Leadership Conference, and noted that GMDA should stay on top of these issues to make sure that our priorities don't get too broad. Rude moved, Balok seconded to adopt these five priorities for 2023. Rude discussed Kansas' efforts to revise IRS' code on conservation easements for those areas experiencing groundwater declines. He also mentioned efforts to capture floodwater and move it to areas in need. Walthour asked if GMDA's priorities should be adjusted to encompass some of these specific examples; Rude responded that these are examples but if the Board wants to home in on them they should modify the priorities. Balok asked if the priorities could have some flexibility to respond to legislative activities, and if the delegates to NWRA could modify the priorities throughout the year. Walthour responded that he would prefer not to do that as it might lead to inconsistencies and/or unforeseen consequences. Walthour suggested that "Includes" on the priorities be changed to "Examples". Motion as amended passed unanimously.
6. Consider GMDA constitution.  
Walthour noted that there aren't any specific requirements for adding a state to the Board. Tim Boese moved, Balok seconded to approve Idaho for membership on the Board, and specifically designate Arrington to represent Idaho for the time being, pending Arrington's agreement (Arrington was no longer on the call but will be contacted to see if he's willing).
7. 2023 Annual Conference  
Christy reported on Mississippi's efforts for the Annual Conference. He noted that recent hurricane activity had passed close to the resort; the resort reports that there has been no impact on them and that we'll be beyond the Atlantic hurricane season as of November 1. Mississippi is working on finalizing registration forms hopefully by October 21, and are still working on the agenda. The relative remoteness of the resort is hampering some efforts to fill out the agenda, but they hope to have all information finalized before Thanksgiving.
8. 2023 Summer Conference  
Balok reported that a site had not yet been selected. Discussion is underway; he suggested that South Dakota might be a possibility so as to add them to membership. New Mexico is also still a possibility although Albuquerque probably won't be the location—perhaps Santa Fe.

9. Other Business as Needed

No additional business was presented.

10. Adjourn

Kissler moved, Balok seconded to adjourn; unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dick Ehrman". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Dick Ehrman, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer

### **ITEM 3      SECRETARY / TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### Finances

As of December 31, 2022, GMDA's bank balance in US Bank was \$95,031.17 (see attached financials), which reflects a beginning balance of \$89,401.62 on October 1, 2022, \$5,901.11 of income, and \$271.56 in expenses for the period from October 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Since October 1, 2022, GMDA has received \$5,900.00 from membership dues, \$1.11 in interest, and \$0 in donations (NOTE: as of January 24, 2023, GMDA's bank balance is \$105,511.17 from additional dues received in January 2023). Expenses include \$251.46 for awards and \$20.00 for website maintenance expenses. There is approximately \$3,800.00 in open invoices for 11 members for 2023 membership.

#### Membership

Currently, there are 39 paid members and nine honorary lifetime members; as noted above it is anticipated that several additional memberships will be paid in the near future.

Sincerely,

Dick Ehrman, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer

# Groundwater Management Districts Association

## Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2022

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
GMDA - US Bank	95,031.17
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$95,031.17</b>
Other Current Assets	
Undeposited Funds	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$95,031.17</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$95,031.17</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Nebraska Department of Revenue Payable	0.00
Out Of Scope Agency Payable	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	35,237.49
Unrestricted Net Assets	78,818.90
Net Income	-19,025.22
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$95,031.17</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$95,031.17</b>

# Groundwater Management Districts Association

## Profit and Loss

January - December 2022

	TOTAL
Income	
Program Income	
Membership Dues	19,250.00
Program Service Fees	22,610.00
<b>Total Program Income</b>	<b>41,860.00</b>
Transfer In	80,375.22
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$122,235.22</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$122,235.22</b>
Expenses	
Awards and Grants	251.56
Business Expenses	
Business Registration Fees	14,205.00
<b>Total Business Expenses</b>	<b>14,205.00</b>
Operations	
Supplies	122.69
Website	20.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>142.69</b>
Transfer Out	80,375.22
Travel and Meetings	
Conference, Convention, Meeting	46,439.66
<b>Total Travel and Meetings</b>	<b>46,439.66</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$141,414.13</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$-19,178.91</b>
Other Income	
Checking Interest	3.69
Miscellaneous Revenue	150.00
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>\$153.69</b>
<b>NET OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>\$153.69</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$-19,025.22</b>



**ITEM 4      REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STATE CAUCUSES  
JANUARY 25, 2023**

**State Caucus Recommendations**

This item is provided for the state caucuses to report to the and make recommendations on any issue related to the Groundwater Management Districts Association

**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:

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

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

<b>State</b>	<b>1-Yr Director</b>	<b>2-Yr Director</b>	<b>3-Yr Director</b>	<b>Advisor</b>
California	Trevor Joseph	James Cioffi		
Colorado	Everett Kissler	Kyle Sprouse		Randy Ray Billy Mihelich
Kansas	Shannon Kenyon	Jason Norquest		Mark Rude
Idaho		Paul Arrington		
Louisiana	J A Rummler	William Daniel		Gary Beard
Mississippi	John McKee	Don Christy		Ben Griffith
Nebraska	Tylr Naprstek	Brian Bruckner		Lyndon Vogt
New Mexico	Mitchell McCrae	Aron Balok		
Texas	Steve Walthour	Leah Martinsson		Robert Bradley

**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 COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**National Water Resources Association Caucus & Groundwater and Federal Issues Committee (Mark Rude Co-Chair, Aron Balok Co-Chair, 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.

The committee may report its activities regarding NWRA Caucus, groundwater and federal issues.

**Membership Committee (Tylr Naprstek Chair, Jim Cioffi, Tim Boese)**

The Membership Committee identifies, promotes, and implements membership strategies that will result in membership development and growth, and support of GMDA. The membership committee has not met since the April board meeting; However, the Vice President plans on using the membership lists obtained by the committee to distribute information on GMDA’s annual conference along with the membership application. The Committee may report its activities.

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

This committee was originally set up to address water quality issues such as PFAS. The committee may provide a report.

**Program Committee (Brian Bruckner, Jim Cioffi, Britney Britten)**

Program Committee evaluates existing programs, assist with GMDA training, education, advocacy, and assist with development needs of the organization. The Program Committee provides advice and support for members as they organize meetings and speakers.

**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. The GMDA Website ([gmduasa.org](http://gmduasa.org)) has been worked but needs more attention. North Plains GCD is administering the website and will attempt registration through the site for the Annual Conference in San Antonio.

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

The Awards Committee coordinates awards and recognition for the organization. The committee will make a report.

**ITEM 6      NWRA REPORT AND CONSIDER POLICY PRIORITY  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NWRA LEADERSHIP FORUM**

The purpose of this item is to provide an opportunity for the NWRA representative to speak to the board and for the board to consider the future of water policy and set priorities for the second term of 118th 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 2022, GMDA and the Groundwater Caucus reviewed five issues 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. Develop water resources infrastructure and 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.

Based on State Caucus and NWRA Caucus recommendations The GMDA Board amend the priorities to be considered at the next NWRA Leadership Forum.

**ITEM 7      CONSIDER 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. The Board will entertain discussion and possible proposals regarding amending the Constitution. Attached to this packet is the GMDA Constitution.

**ITEM 8      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.

**ITEM 9 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

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

- National Water Resources Association Caucus & Groundwater and Federal Issues Committee AJ Olsen, Lyndon Vogt, Randy Ray, Mark Rude, Don Christy
- Membership Committee -Steve Walthour, Tylr Naprstek, Jim Cioffi, Tim Boese
- Water Quality Committee -Aron Balok, Dick Ehrman, Billie Mihelich, Tony Duplechin
- Program Committee -Linda Luebbe, Jim Cioffi, CE Williams, Tony Duplechin
- Website Committee - Kristen Blackwell, Orrin Feril
- Awards – Steve Walthour, Tony Duplechin, Linda Luebbe

**ITEM 10 2023 AND 2024 SUMMER CONFERENCES**

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. New Mexico is currently working on GMDA’s 2023 Summer Conference and will report to the board. Idaho has not yet been added to the rotation. The Board of Directors will need to determine where Idaho fits in the rotation and who will organize the 2024 Summer Conference.

Current Order of Rotation:

- Louisiana 2024
- California 2025
- Texas 2026
- Kansas 2027
- Mississippi 2028
- Nebraska 2029
- Colorado 2030
- New Mexico 2031

**ITEM 11 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE LOCATION**

This item is provided to discuss the 2024 Annual Conference. The Vice President is usually responsible for organizing this event.

**ITEM 12 OTHER BUSINESS AS NEEDED**

**ITEM 13 ADJOURN**

# **Groundwater Management Districts Association Constitution**



**Amended  
January 12, 2012**

## **ARTICLE 1.0: NAME**

The name of the Association shall be "Groundwater Management Districts Association" (GMDA).

## **ARTICLE 2.0: PURPOSE**

The Groundwater Management Districts Association is a non-profit organization established to provide groundwater developers, users, owners and other individuals and organizations concerned with the management, development, conservation and protection of groundwater, the opportunity to exchange ideas, develop or influence programs for the development, utilization, conservation, protection and management and control of groundwater; and in furtherance thereof the Association shall endeavor:

- a) To be informed of and exchange ideas on current trends and problems as they affect groundwater, including those which have, or may have, technical, legal, administrative and economic implications.
- b) To review and analyze methods and techniques employed by members and their associates in conducting studies and research on management of groundwater and in designing and obtaining solutions to problems associated therewith.
- c) To review, analyze, propose and influence legislation and policy as they affect groundwater.
- d) To evaluate activities and plans of governmental bodies and other organizations and associations as they relate to groundwater and to take appropriate action.
- e) To develop and propose joint or coordinated plans of action to meet national, interstate and/or regional groundwater problems and needs, including affiliations or memberships in other similar organizations or associations.
- f) To assess and encourage, as appropriate, the conjunctive use and management of both surface water and groundwater supplies with due consideration for the unique and limiting properties of each resource.
- g) To foster the general public's knowledge and appreciation for the economic advantages of private enterprise and development of groundwater.
- h) To promote orderly and equitable development, conservation and management of groundwater through local government.

## **ARTICLE 3.0: MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Association shall be open to all individuals, organizations, corporations, districts, agencies, authorities, cities, towns, firms, educational institutions and other entities



interested in furthering the purposes of the Association.

#### **ARTICLE 4.0: TYPES OF MEMBERSHIPS**

There shall be four (4) 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.

#### **ARTICLE 5.0: DUES**

The membership dues for each type of membership of the Association shall be set annually by the board of directors and are payable on October 1 of each year.

#### **ARTICLE 6.0: BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND VOTING**

The Association shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of three (3) members from each state with representation in the Association by either a District or Organizational membership. The board of directors shall be elected by their state caucuses in accordance with Article 7.0, except for the provision that the immediate past President shall serve as a member of the board for one (1) additional year with full voting privileges. The GMDA director to NWRA, the GMDA Secretary/Treasurer and all GMDA members maintaining positions on NWRA committees shall be considered as non-voting, ex-officio GMDA board members, unless they have been elected to the board via the state caucus procedure. All voting on Association matters before the board of directors shall be determined by the majority vote of the directors present. Any proposition adopted by majority vote of the board can be vetoed by a two-thirds vote of the District membership in attendance at an annual or special meeting; and a call for such a veto referendum can be made by any District member. Each District member shall have one (1) vote in such a veto referendum.

#### **ARTICLE 7.0: STATE CAUCUSES**

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.

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.

#### **ARTICLE 8.0: CAUCUS VOTING RIGHTS**

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.

#### **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.

#### **ARTICLE 10.0: TERMS OF OFFICE**

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.

#### **ARTICLE 11.0: DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND ADVISORS**

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.

#### **ARTICLE 12.0: MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

There shall be an annual meeting of the entire membership to carry out the purpose of the Association and to present matters before the Association and state caucuses. The date for such annual meeting shall be set by the board of directors with a minimum of 30-day notice to the membership. The President or Vice-President can call for a meeting of the board of directors upon 15-day written notice to all directors, advisors and the GMDA director to NWRA. Special meetings of the entire membership may be called as deemed necessary by the board of directors with a 15-day notice of such meeting provided to the membership.

#### **ARTICLE 13.0: AMENDMENTS**

These articles of the Association may be amended or repealed in whole or part upon the two-thirds vote of the board of directors, and suggested amendments or repeal, may be made by a majority vote of the membership of the Association in accordance with articles 7.0 and 8.0.

**ARTICLE 13.0: AMENDMENTS**

These articles of the Association may be amended or repealed in whole or part upon the two-thirds vote of the board of directors, and suggested amendments or repeal, may be made by a majority vote of the membership of the Association in accordance with articles 7.0 and 8.0.

  
Anthony Duplechin, President

  
Steven D. Walthour, Secretary/Treasurer

State of Louisiana

Parish of East Baton Rouge

I, Anthony Duplechin, GMDA President, do certify that on this 30 day of Sept, 2014, this is a correct and true copy of the Groundwater Management Districts Association Constitution.



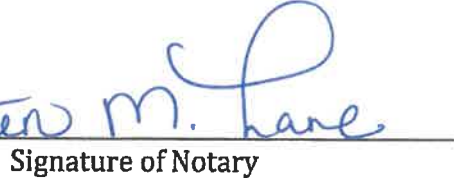
  
Signature of Notary

State of Texas

County of Moore

I, Steven D. Walthour, GMDA Secretary/Treasurer, do certify that on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014, this is a correct and true copy of the Groundwater Management Districts Association Constitution.



  
Signature of Notary