

**Rural Water District #9**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Leavenworth County, Kansas**  
**July 15, 2025**

The monthly meeting of Rural Water District #9 was held on Tuesday July 15, 2025, at the District office located at 20551 Parallel Road, Tonganoxie, Kansas 66086.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Craig Lohman, Kim Buchanan, Jim Armstrong, Don Kirby, Cory Criqui, Byron McFee

Office Manager Karen Armstrong; Operator Wayne Wrosch; Operator Andy Grosko

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Nicole Davis

**PUBLIC PRESENT:** Dennis Workman, LVRWD9 customer

Brant Daniels, LVRWD9 contractor

Raymond Reynolds, LVRWD9 customer, Forever Fencing owner

Cody Reynolds, son of Raymond Reynolds, observer

Louis Funk, LVRWD9's Engineer with Bartlett & West

Grace Funk, daughter of Louis Funk, observer

Janet Manson, LVRWD9 customer

Wendell Espeland, non-district 9 customer, observer

Vanessa Reid, Leavenworth County Commissioner from the 2<sup>nd</sup>

District which encompasses a portion of the city of Leavenworth

And High Prairie Township outside the boundaries of LVRWD9,

Observer.

A quorum was established. The meeting was called to order by Craig Lohman, Chairman at 1830 hours.

## 1. Minutes

A motion was made by Jim Armstrong to approve the minutes from the regular monthly meeting held on June 17, 2025. Motion was seconded by Don Kirby, motion passed unanimously 4-0 with Byron McFee abstaining.

## 2. Public Opportunity

**Louis Funk, district engineer with Bartlett & West-** presented the board with a second invoice from Daniels Excavation, less 5% to be withheld until project completion. Louis asked the board to review and then approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> contract application for payment so he can forward it to the State for disbursement to be given to LVRWD9. Jim Armstrong made a motion to approve and sign the second invoice from Daniels Excavation for disbursement. Kim Buchanan seconded. Motion approved unanimously 5-0.

**Dennis Workman, district 9 customer** voiced his concerns over the district's finish work on his property with regards to the 235<sup>th</sup> Street project. He requested the board to review the water line area within his north pasture and bring a load of dirt to repair the sunken area. Considering this becoming an ongoing concern, board member Byron McFee asked Mr. Workman to please provide the board with a written statement itemizing his issues. After discussion with Mr. Workman, a motion was made by Don Kirby to have Brant Daniels and a couple of board members go out and review the area of concern and to send a letter to Mr. Workman that weather permitting we will attend to this issue by end of October 2025. Motion was seconded by Jim Armstrong. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

**Raymond Reynolds- LVRWD9 customer, owner of Forever Fencing-** Mr. Reynolds wanted to bring to the board's attention his opinions on the new field fence the district had installed around the property south of the office on the West and South property lines. This is where the two new wells are to be drilled. Raymond Reynolds felt it was poor craftsmanship and wanted to point out its deficiencies.

## 3. Board Members items to add to the agenda-

**Byron McFee-** presented a slide show to the board of pictures he took of the newly installed field fence. His opinion on craftsmanship was the same as that from Mr. Reynolds. Mr. McFee stated that he feels the board needs to consider creating a procurement policy. The other board members discussed the possibility of holding a special meeting and invite Elite Landscape and Design to review the fence project with the board and given the chance to correct identified issues. No motion was made to hold a special meeting.

**Craig Lohman, Chairperson-** Read an email from the district's attorney Todd Luckman regarding rules from the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and reminded board members it is their duty to comply with the said rules.

Craig also read an email from Todd Luckman that board member Byron McFee contacted the district's attorney about sending an email to ALL board members about the fence agenda item. Mr. McFee was advised by Manager Armstrong in her email response that she did not want to be in violation of KOMA and was advised by Todd Luckman, district attorney, not to forward emails to Board Members. Todd Luckman advised Manager Armstrong that neither she nor Chairperson Lohman could send the email on Byron McFee's behalf due to KOMA restrictions. Manager Armstrong also advised Byron McFee that his email and pictures would be set on the agenda for discussion. Board member Byron McFee contacted Mr. Luckman personally after receiving the office manager's reply email. After speaking with Todd Luckman, District attorney, Byron McFee chose to send an email himself to all Board Members separately excluding Jim Armstrong, stating that he would be sending his email to all board members not related to the contractor who built the fence.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report-**

Office manager Armstrong reviewed the Accounts receivable and profit/loss report with board members.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report with accounts receivable and profit/loss statement as presented was made by Kim Buchanan, seconded by Jim Armstrong. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

#### **5. Operator's Report- Wayne Wrosch & Andy Grosko**

- a. Wayne and Andy presented the monthly operations spreadsheet.
- b. Reported they replaced the 4" brass body and meter at the wholesale building.
- c. Provided board members with an update of the ongoing 219<sup>th</sup> Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) project.

#### **6. Manager's Report-**

- a. Manager Armstrong provided her monthly mileage report for May/June 2025 which was tabled until the July meeting for lack of having a quorum due to Jim Armstrong's abstaining from the vote as well as her

June/July 2025 mileage report. Don Kirby made a motion to approve both mileage reports. Kim Buchanan seconded. Motion passed 4-0 with Jim Armstrong abstaining.

- b. Karen presented the board with a proposed Resolution to be approved and signed by the board to be included in Leavenworth County's Comprehensive Hazardous Mitigation Plan. Karen asked board member Kim Buchanan to give some background and insight as to the importance of becoming an active part of this regional plan. After entertaining questions, Kim Buchanan motioned to approve and sign the resolution. Jim Armstrong seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. Karen will send the signed resolution to the Leavenworth County office of Emergency Management.
- c. Manager Armstrong provided an update that M-CON would start CIP project around the last week in July 2025.
- d. Manager Armstrong updated the board that Rieschick will possibly begin drilling in early August 2025.
- e. Office Manager Armstrong handed the chairperson an email and showed it on the slideshow on the TV for Board members to read. The email was from Nicole Davis-Treasurer, LVRWD9 customer, resigning from her position as board effective immediately. Craig asked the office manager if this sudden resignation was due to a recent incident involving Raymond Reynolds showing up at her house without prior notice to discuss the field fence. Manager Armstrong said in her opinion she thought it was. Craig Lohman asked Manager Armstrong to tell the Board about the incident between Nicole Davis and Raymond Reynolds. The incident was discussed. Manager Armstrong reminded the board they would need to officially accept Nicole Davis's resignation. Don Kirby motioned to approve the resignation, seconded by Kim Buchanan. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. In consideration of Nicole's resignation, a new Treasurer would have to be named. Jim Armstrong nominated board member Cory Criqui as the new Treasurer. Don Kirby seconded the motion. Motion approved 4-0 with Cory Criqui abstaining. Chairman Lohman requested that Manager Armstrong send Nicole a card of thanks and a small token of our appreciation for her service on the board.

## **7. Application for transfer of service**

- Chris Carlson to John/Kayla Abney 24897 Hollingsworth Rd, McLouth, KS

Jim Armstrong motioned to approve the application for transfer of service, Byron McFee seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

## **8. New Applications for service**

- John Mollett 19577 Mitchell Rd, Tonganoxie, KS

Jim Armstrong motion to approve the new application for new service, seconded by Kim Buchanan. Motion passed unanimously 5-0

## **9. Authorization of payment of bills**

A motion was made by Kim Buchanan to authorize payment of the current bills; motion was seconded by Jim Armstrong. Motion passed 4-0 with Don Kirby abstaining.

Manager Armstrong presented the board members with an option for payment to Daniels Excavating for the second invoice on the 219<sup>th</sup> Street project, where once the state disbursement is deposited, she will cut a check and have Craig Lohman and Kim Buchanan sign the check for payment to Daniels. A motion was made by Jim Armstrong to approve the cutting of a check once the disbursement from the state is deposited in the districts SRF account. Motion was seconded by Byron McFee. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

## **10. Adjournment**

Prior to adjournment, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Leavenworth County Commissioner Vanessa Reid from the public gallery asked to address the board. Permission was granted. Commissioner Reid proceeded to introduce herself and asked a few questions and made comments. She represented Leavenworth County residents from a portion of the city of Leavenworth and High Prairie Township (not within the boundaries of LVRWD9) she felt compelled to attend after receiving an email to the Board of County Commissioners general inbox regarding the field fence issue. Board members noted the absence of the 5<sup>th</sup> District County Commissioner Mike Steiben.

Motion was made to adjourn meeting by Jim Armstrong, seconded by Cory Criqui. Motion passed unanimously 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 2057 hours.

Respectfully submitted

Kim Buchanan, Secretary