

MINUTES – JULY 16, 2015
BIG BEND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT #5
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The monthly board meeting of the Big Bend Groundwater Management District #5 was held at the District office in Stafford on Thursday July 16, 2015. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Curtis Tobias, Tom Taylor, Kent Lamb, Justin Gatz, and Bob Standish. Board member Phillip Martin was not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Greg Ebert, Ralph Ebert, Cameron Conant, Jerry Belton, David Stroberg and Berry Bortz.

The July regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

An executive session for Attorney-Client privileged information was added to the agenda.

Fred Grunder moved and Justin Gatz seconded to accept the May & June minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and Kent Lamb seconded to accept the July treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

The term permit application number 20159028 was presented to the board by Manager Feril. This application proposes to divert 500 barrels per day of fresh groundwater to blend with 500 barrels per day of produced water in order to inject 1000 barrel into the Mississippi formation at approximately 4200 feet below land surface. Following discussion, Justin Gatz moved and Fred Grunder seconded to recommend denial of the application with the suggestion that the applicant exhaust all other possibilities for using lower quality water from existing sources in the immediate area. Motion carried 5-0-1.

John Janssen arrived at 7:05 p.m.

A change in place of use application for Water Right File No. 32958 was presented to the board by Manager Feril. This water right is currently authorized 80 acres and the applicant has requested this be increased to 160 acres. This request would require additional monitoring by the District in order to be approved by KDA-DWR. The change is requested in order to more efficiently irrigate the acreage using subsurface drip irrigation. The authorized quantity of water diverted would be limited in order to not increase the consumptive use of the water right. Following discussion with the applicant, Justin Gatz moved and Bob Standish seconded to recommend approval of the application provided the applicant abide by the terms of the monitoring agreement and the change approval. Motion carried 6-0-1. Cameron Conant noted that change applications are now required to update the flowmeter installations to abide by current regulations including anti-reverse gears.

Manager Feril presented a recent request the District received from the Stafford Oktoberfest Committee for sponsorship of this event. As the District is funded by the public, Bob Standish moved and John Janssen seconded to decline sponsorship. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The annual assessments are being processed currently by staff with good progress. Mr. Feril recently spoke at the GMDA conference in Idaho on behalf of both the District and the Central Kansas Water Bank Association. The District will be hosting the flowmeter summit for KDA-DWR field

offices and the other groundwater management districts in the coming week. Mr. Feril gave a brief update on all of the pending projects across the District. It was also noted that the Cities of Hays and Russell have filed the change applications for the R9 Ranch. These applications are currently being processed by KDA–DWR in Manhattan and it is too early in the process to discuss them further by the board. No action was taken by the board.

Tom Taylor and Berry Bortz arrived at 7:25 pm.

Cameron Conant, representing KDA–DWR, stated there was no additional report from the agency this month.

Manager Feril read a written report provided by Mike Oldham of the USFWS.

David Stroberg provided a report on the activities of the Kansas Water Authority. Recently Ray Flickner resigned his position representing GMD2 and GMD5 on the KWA. Mr. Stroberg's name, along with two other GMD2 board members, has been submitted to the Governor's office for appointment. No additional information is available at this time.

Berry Bortz stated that Water Pack did not have a report this month.

In other business, Jerry Belton discussed his concerns with the reasonable quantity of water in southern Reno County. The board along with Cameron Conant discussed several flexibility options Mr. Belton could explore including the Multi-Year Flex Account and the Central Kansas Water Bank Association. No action was taken by the board.

Bob Standish moved and John Janssen seconded to go into executive session at 7:40 p.m. for 15 minutes for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of the parties involved. Motion carried 7-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 7:55 p.m.

President Wood recessed the regular board meeting at 7:58 p.m. and opened the budget hearing to consider the 2016 budget. President Wood provided proof of publication for the hearing and Manager Feril provided copies of the proposed budget to all in attendance. Manager Feril read the proposed budget noting any proposed changes from the adopted 2015 budget. President Wood then asked for any comments and questions from the audience. Following discussion with the audience, President Wood called for the hearing to close and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:03 pm.

John Janssen moved and Bob Standish seconded to adopt the 2016 budget as published with the current assessment rate of \$0.05/acre land assessment and \$0.67/acre-foot water use charge for 2016. Motion carried 7-0-1.

