

MINUTES – AUGUST 11, 2016
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 August 11, 2016. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Tom Taylor, Phillip Martin, and Kent Lamb. Board members Curtis Tobias, Bob Standish and Justin Gatz were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Patrick Janssen, Mike Oldham, Calvin Kissick, Matt Unruh, Tracy Streeter, and Ken Peterson.

The August regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Darrell Wood.

An executive session for personnel matters was added to the agenda as item 11a.

Fred Grunder moved and John Janssen seconded to accept the July minutes as mailed. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Tom Taylor moved and Fred Grunder seconded to accept the August treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

Manager Feril presented potential costs for a project to develop data collection software for the groundwater management districts to use in the field. Mr. Feril further described the intended purpose behind the software and potential benefits it might bring to the District. Ken Peterson, GIS workshop, was on hand to provide additional details on the project and answer any questions from the board. Following discussion John Janssen moved and Fred Grunder seconded to authorize the manager to enter into the contract with GIS workshop as presented conditional on the other 4 districts' participation. Motion passed 5-0-1.

Manager Feril noted that the District is organizing a meeting with USFWS, KDA–DWR and WaterPACK in the coming weeks to discuss various aspects of a remedy solution for the Rattlesnake Creek impairment investigation. There will be additional public meetings to gather further public input in the future.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. Staff is finalizing the updates to the landowner database in preparation of submitting the annual assessments within the next week. Mr. Feril spoke at the Kansas Water Congress summer meeting in Wichita recently. This meeting was well attended with several interesting discussion topics, including water right enforcement challenges, water conservation areas, and water transfer act procedures.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA–DWR, remarked that headquarters has finalized the list of water users that have “overpumped” their appropriated water allocation in 2015. The Stafford field office is now processing this list for their region. There will be new staff in the field office soon to help water users with filing change applications.

Mike Oldham, representing USFWS, did not have a report for the board this month.

Calvin Kissick, representing KWA, noted the upcoming KWA meeting in Emporia and encouraged the board to attend if time allowed. Tracy Streeter gave the board a brief update on the potential funding sources the Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force is considering. Several

questions were asked regarding where the funds are used throughout the state and whether local funds should stay local or be used statewide. No action was taken by the board.

Matt Unruh, Great Bend Prairie RAC facilitator, and Mr. Feril discussed the maps that were presented to the RAC in July. Mr. Kissick noted that this RAC did not have the District represented on the committee unlike the other RAC's that overlay the groundwater management districts. Following a brief discussion regarding the process for nomination, John Janssen moved and Fred Grunder seconded to nominate Mr. Feril to represent the District on the Great Bend Prairie RAC. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Patrick Janssen stated that WaterPACK is holding a field day at the technology farm south of Larned in the coming weeks. The board was encouraged to attend to see the implementation of the DragonLine system in this region. The board is continuing the effort to get support from Kansas Farm Bureau's resolution committee on the Hays/R9 ranch proposal. WaterPACK is pushing to get language prohibiting transfer of water through the water transfer act unless the source is in clear excess of water and the destination is in obvious need. No action was taken by the board.

In other business, Mr. Feril noted the proposed revisions to K.S.A. 82a-745 (Water Conservation Areas). The proposed modifications were reviewed with the board as well as the potential implications of those changes. No action was taken by the board.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for September 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Darrell Wood recessed the board meeting for 5 minutes at 8:18 p.m.

The board meeting reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

John Janssen moved and Fred Grunder seconded to go into executive session at 8:23 p.m. 20 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel. Executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of the parties involved. Motion carried 5-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 8:45 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Attest by: Curtis J. Tabors Dated 9-8-2016