

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 10, 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 November 10, 2016. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Justin Gatz, Phillip Martin, Curtis Tobias, Kent Lamb, Bob Standish and Tom Taylor. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Calvin Kissick, Mike Lamb, Berry Bortz, Bernie Spare and Richard Wenstrom.

The November regular board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Darrell Wood.

One item was added to the agenda as Item 4a) Water Right File No. 13812 purchase offer.

Phillip Martin moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the October minutes as mailed. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and Phillip Martin seconded to accept the November treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

Manager Feril provided the following draft policy amendment to the board for consideration:

*L. Health Insurance Benefits*

*The District shall offer to full time employees, health benefits through the State Employee Health Plan. Employer contributions shall be subject to premium requirements as published annually by the State of Kansas.*

This policy amendment is needed to implement the motion passed by the board in the October board meeting to enter into contract with the State Employee Health Plan. Following brief discussion, Tom Taylor moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the policy as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Justin Gatz joined the meeting at approximately 10:05 a.m.

The District reviewed an offer from Double S Farms to sell Water Right File No. 13812. The offer is for 190 acre-feet at \$2,200 per acre-foot for a total purchase price of \$418,000.00. The board discussed the offer thoroughly while considering the other financial obligations of the District. Curtis Tobias moved and Bob Standish seconded to table the discussion to the December meeting. Motion carried 7-0-1.

John Janssen joined the meeting at approximately 10:15 a.m.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The upcoming GMD roundtable event with KDA in Great Bend was noted to board. A quick headcount of the board was taken to estimate attendance at that meeting. The 2017 annual meeting will be held on February 16 in St John. The board members whose terms expire in 2017 were asked if they intended to pursue re-election. Additionally, the board was asked if they had a special speaker they would like to have present at the annual meeting. No action was taken by the board.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA-DWR, presented new information for the proposed consumptive use calculations that was based on data from the District's hydrologic model. The

board discussed these numbers and voiced concerns with the methodology for their implementation. No action was taken by the board.

Calvin Kissick, representing KWA, noted the recent KWA meeting in Milford and gave a brief overview of the topics discussed at that meeting. There was also a brief summary on the latest Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force discussions. These proposals will be presented to the public at the Governor's Conference later this month.

Berry Bortz, Great Bend Prairie RAC Chair, stated that the RAC is looking for funding sources to implement the action plans previously established. The current state budget is primarily focused on surface water issues with a significant need for additional funding for groundwater priorities.

Richard Wenstrom stated that WaterPACK will be holding a special meeting with state and federal legislators at the Governor's Conference to provide local perspective on several issues affecting this area of the state.

In other business, Kent Lamb stated there will likely be legislative activity in Topeka this session that will have an impact on groundwater management in central Kansas. John Janssen moved and Fred Grunder seconded reach out to specific lobbyist firms for a scope of work and price quotation for to represent the District in Topeka. Motion carried 8-0-1.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for December 8, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 11:30 a.m.