

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 08, 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 September 8, 2016. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Justin Gatz, Phillip Martin, Curtis Tobias, and Kent Lamb. Board members Bob Standish and Tom Taylor were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Patrick Janssen, Calvin Kissick, Tim Boese, Aaron Murphy, Mike Lamb, Berry Bortz, Steve Armstrong, Nancy Armstrong, Dave Barfield, Lane Letourneau and Lynn Preheim.

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

Three items were added to the agenda: Item 7a) a discussion with KDA–DWR staff in regards to the Wet Walnut IGUCA review; Item 15a) executive session for personnel matters; Item 15b) executive session for consultation with an attorney.

Phil Martin moved and John Janssen seconded to accept the August minutes as mailed. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Justin Gatz joined the meeting at approximately 7:05 p.m.

Justin Gatz moved and John Janssen seconded to accept the September treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

Fred Grunder moved and ^{John Janssen}~~Bob Standish~~ seconded to update the access authorization for St John National Bank to remove Jenny Newell and add Regan Harris. Motion carried 6-0-1.

The District received an application to appropriate water for file number 49639 recently. As presented this application does not meet well spacing requirements to nearby domestic wells per K.A.R. 5-25-2. District staff has worked with the nearby landowners to locate their wells and determine the water use history in the Cairo area. Aaron Murphy, representing the applicant, described operational details at the coop. Steve and Nancy Armstrong expressed concerns regarding potential impairment of neighboring domestic wells. Lane Letourneau gave an explanation of how KDA–DWR investigates impairment complaints in groundwater systems. Following discussion, Justin Gatz moved and Fred Grunder seconded to waive K.A.R. 5-25-2 and recommend approval of the application as presented. Motion carried 5-2-0.

Lane Letourneau and David Barfield were in attendance to have a discussion with the board in regards to proposed amendments to the Water Conservation Area statute and Consumptive Use regulations. The board reviewed the proposed language and noted initial concerns with the proposed language. No further action was taken by the board.

Lane Letourneau described the methodology KDA–DWR and Equus Beds GMD2 utilized to conduct the McPherson and Burrton IGUCA reviews. With these two areas, KDA–DWR worked with GMD2 to draft and revise the review reports. Then following the finalization of the report, KDA–DWR will hold a public hearing with GMD2 to gather stakeholder input. No further action was taken by the board.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The upcoming KDA/GMD coordination meeting and the Governor's Conference on Water in Manhattan were noted to board. All board members were encouraged to attend both of these meetings. Mr. Feril noted a recent proposal to the Kansas Oil and Gas Advisory Committee in regards to stormwater disposal from tank battery berms. The proposed regulatory change language was passed out to all in attendance. Following discussion, John Janssen moved and Justin Gatz seconded to work with GMD2 to get the language amended to protect the aquifer. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA-DWR, mentioned new staff in the Stafford field office soon to help water users with filing change applications.

Calvin Kissick, representing KWA, noted the recent KWA meeting in Emporia and gave a brief overview of the topics discussed at that meeting.

Berry Bortz, Great Bend Prairie RAC Chair, stated that the RAC has formed subcommittees to work on each of the goals for the region. These action plans will then be brought back to the full RAC committee for review and approval within the next month.

Patrick Janssen stated that WaterPACK provided a few remarks about the recent technology farm field day. The attendance at that event was better than expected and it was an excellent opportunity for producers to see the implementation of the DragonLine system in this region.

Curtis Tobias moved and Justin Gatz seconded to go into executive session at 9:15 p.m. for 10 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 6-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 9:25 p.m.

Lynn Preheim joined the meeting via phone.

John Janssen moved and Phil Martin seconded to go into executive session at 9:25 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 6-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 9:40 p.m.

Following a brief discussion, Fred Grunder moved and John Janssen seconded to approve and submit the written augmentation proposal as presented to USFWS. Motion carried 6-0-1.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for October 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 10:00 p.m.