

MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2017  
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 April 13, 2017. Board members present were Fred Grunder, Phillip Martin, Jerry Cullop, Kent Lamb, Bob Standish and Tom Taylor. Board Members Darrell Wood, John Janssen and Justin Gatz were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Richard Wenstrom, Jeff Lanterman, Calvin Kissick, Rakesh Pai, Brian Klager, Berry Bortz, and Pat Janssen.

The April regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Fred Grunder.

Mr. Pai requested a discussion regarding the water issues at his mobile home park to be added to the agenda as item 4a.

Tom Taylor moved and Bob Standish seconded to approve the March minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

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

Per the board motion in the March board meeting, Mr. Feril presented the board with a scope of work for updating the District's hydrologic model and running a model scenario to assess aquifer sustainability taking into account water quality. Following discussion, Tom Taylor moved and Phil Martin seconded to table the proposal until the May board meeting to allow for more board to review the proposal. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Mr. Pai came to the board meeting to discuss the troubles he has been having with getting a water right for the mobile home park North of Great Bend. Historically, there were two wells drilled as domestic wells in the mid-1970s. These wells are no longer used as they do not have water rights associated with them and they do not fit the criteria for domestic use. Currently, Mr. Pai is purchasing water from the City of Hoisington. This location is within the Walnut Creek IGUCA as such the appropriations with the area are limited. The board reviewed several possibilities for Mr. Pai to explore, but the board gave no assurances that they would be approved by KDA-DWR. No action was taken by the board.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. District staff has been measuring the water table for the first quarter of the year. Preliminary results indicate water table recovery in the upper zones of the aquifer in the first quarter. The upcoming GMDA summer conference will be held in Albuquerque, NM in May. Bob Standish moved and Jerry Cullop seconded to have the manager attend the conference. Following discussion, Kent Lamb moved and Tom Taylor seconded to amend the motion to include any board members and spouses to attend the conference. Following further discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1. The amended motion also carried 5-0-1.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA-DWR noted the upcoming regulatory hearing on the enforcement matrix authorized in K.A.R. 5-14-10 and K.A.R. 5-14-10 on May 22. The proposed

language in these regulations was provided to the board and public present. No action was taken by the board.

Calvin Kissick, representing KWA, stated the next KWA meeting will be in Garden City on May 18. Additionally, Mr. Kissick provided a status update on SB 194.


Berry Bortz, Great Bend Prairie RAC Chair, provided an update on the RAC's activities. The GBP RAC will be meeting with nearby RACs to discuss common issues regarding lower quality groundwater.

Richard Wenstrom provided an overview of a phreatophyte control workshop he attended in Colorado. WaterPACK is compiling a landowner database for the phreatophyte removal project with The Nature Conservancy in the Rattlesnake Creek watershed.

In other business, the latest draft of the District's revised management program was provided to the board for further review and comment. No action was taken by the board. Fred Grunder requested an investigation on the well installed on the SW corner of Cornwell park in St John.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for May 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Attest by:  Dated 6-8-17