

**ANNUAL MEETING
SCHEDULED**

*Thursday, Feb 15, 2018
7:00 pm*

**Stafford County Annex
310 W 3rd St
St. John, KS**

**Election of Directors
Agency Reports
Annual Report**

**UPCOMING
DATES**

Water PACK Annual Meeting
February 12

DWR Water Use Report
March 1

CKWBA Water Use Report
March 1

**GMD # 5 WEATHER
STATIONS**

1	GREENSBURG	(620) 723-2193
2	LEWIS	(620) 324-5866
3	ROZEL	(620) 527-4531
4	CULLISON	(620) 895-6505
5	MACKSVILLE	(620) 348-2238
6	RADIUM	(620) 285-2796
7	GREAT BEND	(620) 793-5798
8	STERLING	(620) 278-2632
9	CAIRO	(620) 672-3359
10	STAFFORD	(620) 234-5667

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phillip Martin, Barton County
Tom Taylor, Director at Large
Darrell Wood, Edwards County
John Janssen, Kiowa County
Bob Standish, Pawnee County
Fred Grunder, Pratt County
Justin Gatz, Reno County
Jerry Cullop, Rice County
Kent Lamb, Stafford County

DISTRICT STAFF

Orrin Feril, Manager
John Hildebrand, Conservation Spec.
Regan Harris, Administrative Assistant

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Twitter: @bigbendgmd5

GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

January 2018

Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5

2018 Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be held on February 15, 2018 at the Stafford County Annex located at 310 W. 3rd in St. John (just east of the Courthouse). The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. There will also be an election of directors, a review of the 2017 financial statement, 2019 proposed budget and updates on the various projects and programs of the District. Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources (KDA-DWR) personnel will be present to update those in attendance of their activities for the past year. The Central Kansas Water Bank Association will also have their annual meeting on the same evening.

Certificates of Incumbency

Certificates of Incumbency must be filed with the District office in order for a representative from a Corporation, LLC, Municipality, Estate, Trustee or a Tenant to vote at the annual meeting. These forms are available on our website at www.gmd5.org as well as in the office and must be notarized. Please feel free to call or stop by the office if you have any questions. These are due in the District office on or before February 1, 2018.

Quivira NWR Impairment

In July 2016, the Chief Engineer for KDA-DWR filed the final report on the impairment investigation in the Rattlesnake Creek subbasin (<http://agriculture.ks.gov/quivira>). In that report, the Chief Engineer found that the USFWS' water right is being impaired 3,000-5,000 acre-feet per year on a regular basis. Furthermore, the report states that "groundwater reductions and/or augmentation will be needed to increase available streamflow at the Refuge." Over the past 12 months, the District board has submitted two augmentation proposals to the USFWS in order to provide a remedy to the alleged impairment. Unfortunately, the USFWS has declined these proposals. Over the past several months, the District has been working with KDA-DWR to develop strategies that will provide water to Quivira NWR while minimizing the impact to the local economy. The District's hydrologic model has been utilized to evaluate the effect of these strategies on the region into the future.

LEMA Proposed by District Board

On August 11, 2017, the District board introduced a general outline for a potential Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) that is intended to increase efficiency and reduce waste of water in the region. The details of this plan are still being crafted and public input will be crucial for success. In general, the current strategies being analyzed include end gun removal, irrigation technology enhancements, streamflow augmentation, and water bank incentives. These strategies will not work if the local water users do not understand them. The LEMA committee and the District board of directors are working closely with KDA-DWR staff to get these details finalized for public review and comment. There will be informational meetings once more of the details are refined by the board.

NOMINATING PETITION

We, the undersigned three eligible voters within the Big Bend Groundwater Management District # 5 hereby nominate _____ as candidate for Board Position representing _____ County or District at Large.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Important terms and conditions of the elected position shall be:

- a. 3-year term running 3 consecutive annual meeting dates.
- b. representation shall be for all eligible voters within the county.

I understand the above stated conditions of the board position for which I am being nominated and I accept said nomination.

Candidate's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Petitions must be received in the District office no later than 1:00 PM on the day of the annual meeting in order to be placed on the ballot.

Verified Claims

Anyone wishing to verify to the District a lesser amount of water used in 2017 must do so by April 1, 2018. Assessments are based on the authorized water appropriation of a water right unless otherwise verified. The District will accept the following as verified claims: a) metered values, b) enrollment in CRP with an inactive status, or c) verified claims showing that the well has not been installed. Verified claims can be obtained on our web page or at the District office. Please contact our office if you have questions.

www.gmd5.org/forms.htm

Board of Director Elections

The board positions for Pawnee County, Kiowa County, and At-Large are up for election this year. Candidates for this annual election include two incumbents; John Janssen—Kiowa County and Tom Taylor—At-Large. Both are seeking re-election in 2018 for three-year terms. Anyone interested in one of these positions should file using the above petition. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the annual meeting.

**Do we have your correct mailing address?
Let us know at 125 S. Main St., Stafford, Kansas 67578 or call 620-234-5352.**