

MINUTES – JUNE 11, 2013
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 Tuesday, June 11, 2013. Board members present were Darrell Wood, John Janssen, Curtis Tobias, Tom Taylor, Fred Grunder, Phillip Martin, Justin Gatz and Bob Standish. Board member not present was Kent Lamb. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Cameron Conant and Mark Rude.

The June regular board meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

Manager Feril requested to add agenda item 3a (Change application review for Water Right File No. 28773). In addition, Mark Rude, Executive Director for Southwest Kansas GMD#3, requested a few minutes to discuss some items with the Board.

Justin Gatz moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the May minutes as written. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and Fred Grunder seconded to accept the June treasurer's report. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

Phil Martin arrived at 7:04 pm.

The first item up for discussion was a change application on Water Right No. 28773. The application proposes to move a portion of its appropriated acre-feet from one authorized point of diversion to another within the same water right file number. The proposed move is over the maximum 2640 feet per K.A.R. 5-25-2a. Bob Standish moved and Fred Grunder seconded to waive K.A.R. 5-25-2a to recommend approval of the change application. Motion carried 6-0-1.

John Janssen arrived at 7:15 pm.

In previous board meetings, the board has discussed the topic of temporary permits for over one million gallons be required to secure a corresponding amount of water as offset from prior appropriations within a two-mile area. The board had requested a draft regulation be formed to utilize recent legislative changes by HB2363 (limited transfer permitting) within the boundaries of GMD5. This draft regulation was presented to the board for review. Following discussion, Curtis Tobias moved and Justin Gatz seconded to approve the draft as written and submit it to the Chief Engineer for review. Motion carried 7-0-1.

The District's ten weather stations have sensors that are in need of factory recalibration in order to maintain reliability and accuracy of the data. The board was presented a quotation from Campbell Scientific for this purpose. John Janssen moved, Bob Standish seconded to approve the quotation. Motion carried 7-0-1.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The water quality database is still actively being pursued. The board requested further

information regarding the cost for this type of testing for its own well network to determine the total cost to the District. The board also discussed briefly the recent court case in Haskell County (Garetson v Unruh) and its implications for water law in the State of Kansas. No action was taken.

Cameron Conant, representing the Division of Water Resources, was on hand to update the board on current issues. DWR is beginning its enhanced enforcement and compliance investigations in Southeastern Edwards County.

Curtis Tobias discussed the recent KWA meeting in Newton briefly.

Mark Rude requested a chance to discuss with the board the Kansas Aqueduct and Energy Corridor project. This proposed project revisits the 1982 High Plains Study conducted by the US Army Corps of Engineers to divert 2 to 4 million acre-feet per year (AFY) out of the estimated 29.5 million AFY that passes White Cloud, Kansas. This proposal is for an aqueduct that would travel across approximately two-thirds of the state to Western Kansas. At this point no appropriations have been filed with the division of water resources for this diversion. No action was taken by the board.

Manager Feril mentioned the upcoming annual Governors Water Conference in Manhattan and encouraged the board to attend the conference.\

With no further items to discuss, the board adjourned at 9:25 p.m.