

MINUTES
2014 ANNUAL MEETING
BIG BEND GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT #5
AND
CENTRAL KANSAS WATER BANK ASSOCIATION
February 20, 2014 – Stafford County Annex – St. John

The annual meetings for the Big Bend Groundwater Management District #5 (District) and the Central Kansas Water Bank Association (Association) were held February 20, 2014 at 7:00pm at the Stafford County Annex in St. John, Kansas.

District President Darrell Wood called the District meeting to order by introducing board of directors, staff and state agency staff present. Association Chairman John Janssen called the Association annual meeting to order as well. There were approximately 29 eligible voters and 10 visitors in attendance for the meeting.

District Vice-President Fred Grunder presented the minutes of the 2013 District annual meeting. With no corrections or additions, the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote. Association Director Dennis Holl read the minutes of the 2012 Association annual meeting. With no corrections or additions, the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

District Vice-President Fred Grunder, announced the election of directors and presented candidates. Incumbent Phillip Martin was on the ballot for Barton County. Incumbent Curtis Tobias was on the ballot for Rice County and Incumbent Darrell Wood was on the ballot for Edwards County. Nominations were opened to the floor. With no nominations being made, a motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for all three candidates. By a show of hands the motion carried unanimously. Association Director Greg Ebert announced the election of directors for the Association and presented the candidates. Incumbent Vernon Hirt and Incumbent Curtis Tobias were on the ballots for the two director positions. Nominations were opened to the floor. With no nominations being made, a motion was made and seconded that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for all three candidates. By a show of hands the motion carried unanimously.

District Manager Orrin Feril introduced the speakers for the evening. Jackie McClaskey, Acting Secretary for Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA), spoke to the audience briefly to provide an overview on the activities of the state. David Barfield, Chief Engineer, Kansas Department of Agriculture – Division of Water Resources (KDA-DWR), Topeka gave an update on the impairment investigation for Water Right File No. 7571 (US Dept. of Interior –US Fish and Wildlife Service) at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. The investigation has been initiated, but KDA-DWR has requested further details from the Service regarding the impairment claim. No further information was provided to the public at this time. Mr. Barfield proceeded to discuss the recent resolution by the City of Hays to explore the utilization of the water appropriations at the R9 Ranch in Edwards County as a source of supply for the City of Hays. Currently the City of Hays owns 82% of the ranch and the City of Russell owns the remaining 18%. The appropriations at the R9 Ranch account for approximately 8000 acre-feet of water. Mr. Barfield gave an overview of the process that the City of Hays would have to follow to utilize this water. Jackie McClaskey (KDA) and Earl Lewis (Assistant Director for the Kansas Water Office (KWO)), presented an overview of the “Vision for the Future of Water in Kansas” and encouraged the audience to provide insights into the issues that they would like addressed in the Vision for the local region of Kansas.

District Treasurer John Janssen presented the proposed 2015 budget to the public for review. Mr. Janssen told the audience that a hearing would be held in July on the 2015 proposed budget. Following discussion from the floor, it was moved and seconded to review the proposed budget at the upcoming budget hearing in July. By show of hands, the motion passed unanimously.

District Manager, Orrin Feril gave a presentation on District and Association activities for the past year. Additionally, a recent deposit of 326.60 AF at \$75.00/AF was publicly announced as well. Manager Feril then gave information how the deposit/lease and safe deposit account programs worked with the Association. Questions were then taken and answered from the floor.

Jeff Lanterman, Water Commissioner, gave a presentation on the Division of Water Resources activities for the past year and answered questions from the floor.

After further questions and comments from the audience, the joint District and Association annual meetings adjourned at 8:45p.m.