

MINUTES – DECEMBER 11, 2014
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 December 11, 2014. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, Tom Taylor, Kent Lamb, Justin Gatz, Phillip Martin, and Bob Standish. Board members John Janssen and Curtis Tobias were not present. District staffs present were Orrin Feril and John Hildebrand. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Richard Wenstrom, Mike Oldham, Bryan Meier, Daniel Clement, and Leon Dunn.

The December regular board meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Two agenda items were added. Item 3a – A formal request for the model files and associated documentation by Burns and McDonnell on behalf of the cities of Hays and Russell. Item 10a – An Executive session to discuss the “Confidential data relating to the financial affairs of a partnership.”

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

Phil Martin arrived at 1:04 p.m.

Fred Grunder moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the December treasurer’s report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

The District has recently received a formal request for the model files and associated documentation for the District’s hydrologic model from Burns and McDonnell on behalf of the cities of Hays and Russell. The request letter was presented to the board for discussion. Due to the short notice of the request, Kent Lamb moved and Justin Gatz seconded to table the discussion. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The Central Kansas Water Bank Association has been very active this month as we are approaching the deadline to open a savings account. The majority of the activity in the office has centered on this program. Currently there is no new development in the previously authorized Walnut Creek and Rice county model scenario runs with Balleau, but these reports are anticipated to be produced soon. There has been discussion with Water Pack previously to develop a model scenario that analyzed the effectiveness of the original Rattlesnake Creek Management plan. Kent Lamb moved and Justin Gatz seconded to table this discussion until further information is available to the board. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Jeff Lanterman, representing the Division of Water Resources, was on hand to update the board on current issues. DWR is administering minimum desirable streamflow on streams outside of the District’s boundaries currently. Additionally, the field office is getting ready to start the annual water level measurement campaign throughout the area in cooperation with the Kansas Geological Survey.

Mike Oldham, representing the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, was present to discuss the operations at Quivira National Wildlife Refuge. Currently water is entering the refuge property, but is unable to be spread to many of the water management areas. One of the water control structures is currently in disrepair and with funding support from Ducks Unlimited, it will be rehabilitated this spring.

Ray Flickner provided a written report from the KWA. There is an upcoming meeting in Wichita to set the regional planning groups for the Vision for the future of Kansas Water project. Manager Feril stated that he is planning on being at this meeting to keep the board informed on the development of this process.

Richard Wenstrom, representing Water Pack noted that four names had been submitted to the Kansas Water Office for consideration to the regional planning team.

In other business, Phil Martin moved and Kent Lamb seconded to formally request a review of the Walnut Creek IGUCA in 2016. Following brief discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and Justin Gatz seconded to go into executive session at 1:55 p.m. for 30 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 2:30 p.m.

Kent Lamb excused himself from the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Bob Standish moved and Phil Martin seconded to go into executive session at 2:30 p.m. for 5 minutes for the purpose of discussing confidential data relating to financial affairs of a partnership. Motion carried 5-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 2:35 p.m.

Justin Gatz moved and Tom Taylor seconded to approve the Manager's salary be increased to \$65,000 annually. Motion carried 5-0-1. Phil Martin moved and Bob Standish seconded to approve staff salaries at the discretion of the manager. Motion carried 5-0-1.

With no further items to discuss, the board adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Attest by: _____ Dated _____