

MINUTES – JANUARY 16, 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, January 16, 2014. Board members present were Darrell Wood, John Janssen, Curtis Tobias, Fred Grunder, Phillip Martin, Kent Lamb, Tom Taylor, Justin Gatz and Bob Standish. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Kim Spencer, Lane Letourneau, and Susan Metzger.

The January regular board meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m.

Kent Lamb moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the December 2013 minutes and the April 2012 minutes as written. Motion carried 7-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and Phil Martin seconded to accept the January treasurer's report. Following discussion, the motion carried 7-0-1.

Justin Gatz arrived at 1:07 p.m.

An application for term permit file number 20139060 was presented to the board up for review. Kim Spencer was present to represent the applicant. The application, as presented, is for 25 acre-feet outside Stafford city limits for industrial use. This application does not meet K.A.R. 5-25-2 as the proposed well location is within 660 feet to their own domestic well. Following discussion, Fred Grunder moved and John Janssen seconded to waive K.A.R. 5-25-2 to allow the term permit, provided the maximum authorized allocation be set at 15 acre-feet per year. Motion carried 4-3-2.

The Susan Metzger, Kansas Water Office (KWO), gave the board an update on the progress of the *Vision for the Future of Water in Kansas*. The board discussed the issues they felt were important to the District area that should be included in the 50-yr Vision document. It is important to note that the issues pertaining to the Great Bend Prairie and Equus Beds Aquifers are differentiated from the issues with the Ogallala Aquifer. Ms. Metzger provided a survey for the board to provide feedback to the Vision team. The board tabled the discussion to the February meeting to provide feedback.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. District staff recently completed the annual water level measurements. Preliminary results are positive for the year. In previous meetings, the board questioned the potential water savings in the SD-6 LEMA. Manager Feril presented the board with actual water use savings figures for that area. A recent Court of Appeals decision on a Meade County case was discussed with the board. Manager Feril stated that he was checking to see how this decision might affect the special requirements that the District imposes on certain water right permits within the District. The guest speakers for the upcoming annual meeting were discussed. Following discussion, the board requested that the Secretary of Agriculture, Chief Engineer and Kansas Water Office be special guest speakers at the annual meeting.

Jeff Lanterman, representing the Division of Water Resources, was on hand to update the board on current issues. DWR is testing the online water use reporting system. The field

offices for the Division of Water Resources and the Groundwater Management District offices are the only locations authorized to submit these reports this year. The Division is sending letters to the Multi-Year Flex Account holders that have meters that are not installed according to current regulations, the option to have the meter tested will come to an end at the end of 2014.

Curtis Tobias discussed the upcoming KWA meetings in Topeka briefly and stated that his appointment is coming to an end.

Fred Grunder asked whether the waiver granted by the board for term permit application number 20139060 could have possible legal implications regarding the District recommendation, because the District recommended a reduced quantity of water over the term. Lane Letourneau stated that since the applicant was present at the time of discussion and agreed to the terms that the District recommended, there should be no problem.

Phil Martin asked how the Clawson v. KDA-DWR case would impact the Wet Walnut Intensive Groundwater Use Control Area (IGUCA). The IGUCA procedure is an administrative action therefore would not be the same issue as the Clawson v. KDA-DWR case.

With no further items to discuss, the board adjourned at 3:09 p.m.