

MINUTES – OCTOBER 30, 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 October 30, 2014. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Tom Taylor, Kent Lamb, and Bob Standish. Board members Curtis Tobias, Justin Gatz, and Phillip Martin were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Ray Flickner, Pat Janssen, and Berry Bortz.

The October regular board meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Manager Feril requested that a discussion of the NRCS EQIP program be added to the agenda as item 5a.

Fred Grunder moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the September minutes. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Kent Lamb moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the October treasurer's report. Following discussion, the motion carried 4-0-1.

The District has been approached by Golden Belt Telephone (GBT) to obtain a portion of the ground that the District is currently leasing from the City of Stafford. To eliminate potential liability for the District, a Lease Addendum (see attached) has been drafted. This addendum will remove fifty (50) linear feet from the western portions of Lots 22 & 24 of the District's property lease. Following discussion, Bob Standish moved and Tom Taylor seconded to approve the addendum per the Manager's recommendation. Motion carried 4-0-1.

The board next reviewed draft District policy regarding the District's groundwater model. The board discussed the draft language and requested further revisions be made to the policy for discussion at the November board meeting. No action was taken by the board at this time.

The EQIP program with NRCS is undergoing some administrative changes with the funding codes. One of these changes could be important for the District. The Quick Response Areas (QRA) in the District had their own funding code associated with them. NRCS is proposing to combine this funding code with the general Water Quantity funding code and add ranking questions that would address the importance of the quick response areas. Manager Feril presented the board with the current QRA map for the District and asked if the board would like any modifications. Following discussion, Kent Lamb moved and Fred Grunder seconded to keep the Quick Response Areas the same at this time and to submit them to NRCS for review. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The Governor's conference in Manhattan was noted as approaching quickly. Each board member was encouraged to attend as the Vision for Future of Kansas Water will be presented again including the feedback the Vision team has received throughout the year. The District has recently submitted proposed regulation to the Chief Engineer regarding the Multi-Year Flex Account program. A stakeholder meeting with KDA-DWR, Water

Pack and USFWS in regards to the Rattlesnake Creek impairment investigation will be held soon in St John. The board was encouraged to attend this meeting as well.

Jeff Lanterman, representing the Division of Water Resources, was on hand to update the board on current issues. KDA-DWR is going to be presenting the progress in the Rattlesnake Creek impairment investigation at a meeting in St John on Tuesday. The Stafford field office has completed their internal training for online water use submission by area water users. This is the second year this program has been in place and the participation numbers are anticipated to increase this year.

No representation was present for the USFWS to give a report.

Ray Flickner discussed the a letter sent out to the Kansas Water Authority members discussing some of the highlights in the upcoming draft of the Kansas water vision document. This correspondence was provided to the board for discussion purposes. The Kansas Aqueduct Advisory committee recently met in Ulysses.

With no further items to discuss, the board adjourned at 8:09 p.m.