

MINUTES – JULY 14, 2016
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 July 14, 2016. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Tom Taylor, Phillip Martin, Justin Gatz, and Bob Standish. Board members Curtis Tobias and Kent Lamb were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Patrick Janssen, Berry Bortz, Mike Oldham, Calvin Kissick and Mike Lamb.

The July regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Darrell Wood.

Bob Standish moved and John Janssen seconded to accept the June minutes as mailed. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Bob Standish moved and John Janssen seconded to accept the July treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 4-0-1.

Phil Martin joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The District recently received a change application for Water Right File No. 28,268 in Pawnee County. As presented, the application does not meet the requirements per K.A.R. 5-25-2 in regards to well spacing to prior appropriated water rights within the Dakota aquifer and K.A.R. 5-25-2a in regards to the distance the applicant is proposing to move ID#08. The proposed change will not modify the total acres being irrigated as the water rights within the immediate area are already overlapped on the same acres. The application is to transfer already appropriated diversion rate and quantity from ID#08 to ID#09 under the same water right file. Following a thorough discussion amongst the board, Bob Standish moved and Fred Grunder seconded to waive K.A.R. 5-25-2 and K.A.R. 5-25-2a and to recommend approval of the application as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Justin Gatz joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Manager Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. The District was recently notified by our webhosting provider that they were going out of business. As a result, Mr. Feril has been working with other providers to find the best deal for the District that fits the District's needs. At this point, the email provider has been determined and services have been transferred. The website hosting is still being determined and will hopefully be complete within the next month. Mr. Feril has been assisting other districts with organizing the upcoming Water Congress meeting in Wichita. This meeting will be held at the Wichita State University on July 26 & 27 and the board was encouraged to attend.

Mr. Feril presented potential costs for a project to develop data collection software for the groundwater management districts to use in the field. Mr. Feril further described the intended purpose behind the software and possible avenues for splitting the project cost with the other districts. The board discussed the potential cost benefits to the District through this project. Following discussion Justin Gatz moved and Tom Taylor seconded to authorize the manager to pursue the project conditional on the other 4 districts participate and the maximum project expense to GMD5 does not exceed \$29,000. Motion failed 3-4-0.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA–DWR, explained the new requirements of KDA–DWR per SB 337 in this year’s legislative session. KDA–DWR would like to discuss these matters further with the board in the coming months. Mr. Lanterman noted the final report on the Rattlesnake Creek impairment investigation will be published soon. No further action was taken by the board.

Mike Oldham, representing USFWS, remarked that water control structure A2 has deteriorated to the extent that it is unusable. This structure controls the diversion of water from Little Salt Marsh. The Service is unable to repair this structure at this time due to the high water levels in the Little Salt Marsh. The Service is working to clear salt cedar along Salt Creek on the east side of the refuge.

Calvin Kissick, representing KWA, noted recent proposals of the Blue Ribbon Funding Task Force regarding new funding sources for the Kansas Water Plan. A current proposal is to reduce the fertilizer fees and introduce a new fee on irrigated water use at \$0.005 per 1000 gallons. There will be another KWA meeting at the end of August in Emporia.

Berry Bortz, Great Bend Prairie RAC chairman, discussed the management areas the RAC is considering for their goals. Mr. Bortz noted the next meeting for the RAC will be July 28th at the Stafford field office for KDA–DWR.

President Wood recessed the regular board meeting at 8:00 p.m. and opened the budget hearing to consider the 2017 budget. Manager Feril provided proof of publication for the hearing and provided copies of the proposed budget to all in attendance. Mr. Feril read the proposed budget noting any proposed changes from the adopted 2016 budget. President Wood then asked for any comments and questions from the audience. Following discussion with the audience, President Wood called for the hearing to close and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:05 pm.

EXPENDITURES

PERSONNEL SERVICES

SALARIES	\$	180,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		24,000
PAYROLL TAXES		16,000

ADMINISTRATION

TRAVEL & CONFERENCE	\$	12,000
UTILITIES		8,000
PRINTING & PUBLICATIONS		5,000
OFFICE SUPPLIES		4,500
OFFICE EQUIPMENT		4,000
BUILDING EXPENSE		3,000
FIELD EQUIPMENT		3,000

OTHER EXPENSES

WATER MANAGEMENT	\$	610,000
PROFESSIONAL FEES		100,000
WEATHER STATION EXPENSE		15,000
INSURANCE		11,000
DUES & MEMBERSHIPS		1,500
BUSINESS DINNERS		1,000
OTHER		1,000
POSTAGE		1,000

TOTAL BUDGET \$ 1,000,000

Fred Grunder moved and John Janssen seconded to adopt the 2017 budget as published with the current assessment rate of \$0.05/acre land assessment and \$0.67/acre-foot water use charge for 2017. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Mike Lamb and Patrick Janssen stated that WaterPACK is working to get support from Kansas Farm Bureau's resolution committee on the Hays/R9 ranch proposal. WaterPACK is pushing to get language prohibiting transfer of water through the water transfer act unless the source is in clear excess of water and the destination is in obvious need. No action was taken by the board.

The next District board meeting was set for August 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

John Janssen moved and Fred Grunder seconded to recess the board meeting at 8:20 p.m. and to reconvene the board meeting at 2:00 p.m. on July 18, 2016. Motion carried 6-0-1.

The July regular board meeting was reconvened and called to order at 2:00 p.m. on July 18, 2016 by Darrell Wood.

Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Tom Taylor (by phone), Phillip Martin, Justin Gatz (by phone), and Bob Standish. Board members Curtis Tobias and Kent Lamb were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Lynn Preheim (by phone), Dave Romero (by phone) and Steve Silver (by phone).

Fred Grunder moved and Bob Standish seconded to go into executive session at 2:02 p.m. for one hour for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of the parties involved. Motion carried 5-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 3:02 p.m.

John Janssen joined the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

John Janssen moved and Bob Standish seconded to go into executive session at 3:03 p.m. for one hour for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the body or agency which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of the parties involved. Motion carried 5-0-2. The board came out of executive session at 4:02 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Attest by: Curtis J Tobias Dated 9-8-16