

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 10, 2017
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 Friday, November 10, 2017. Board members present were Darrell Wood, John Janssen, Fred Grunder, Tom Taylor, Kent Lamb, Bob Standish, Jerry Cullop, and Justin Gatz. Board members Phil Martin was not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Lanterman, Pat Janssen, Berry Bortz, Vin Kissick, Mitch Mulch, Senator Mary Jo Taylor, David Barfield, and Lynn Preheim.

The November regular board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Darrell Wood.

The Chief Engineer will be joining the meeting midway and the agenda will need to be adjusted to accommodate his travel time. Additionally, following that discussion, an executive session for discussion of attorney-client privileged information will be added to the agenda.

John Janssen moved and Bob Standish seconded to approve the October minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Jerry Cullop arrived at the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Kent Lamb moved and Bob Standish seconded to accept the November treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

The District received a recommendation request for change applications to Water Right File No. 37458 recently. The applicant is proposing to add stockwater as an additional use made of water to Water Right File No. 37458. The second portion of the proposal is to move the stockwater portion of the permit to overlap the place of use for the feedlot operation in section 20. The proposal is to then drill a new well per the requirements of K.A.R. 5-5-16. The consumptive use difference between irrigation and stockwater has been handled per K.A.R. 5-5-10. However, the application does not meet required minimum spacing requirements to the other stockwater and industrial wells associated with the feedlot operation (WR# 16878-02, 16878-05, 41588). Following discussion, Fred Grunder moved and John Janssen seconded to recommend a waiver of K.A.R. 5-25-2 and recommend approval of the application as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Justin Gatz arrived at the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. Mr. Feril highlighted the upcoming annual meeting in February. The board members whose terms expire in 2018 were asked if they intended to pursue re-election. Additionally, the board was asked if they had a special speaker they would like to have present at the annual meeting. John Janssen mentioned a speaker at the 3i show in Dodge City that spoke regarding the Kansas v Colorado issue (James Sherow). Mr. Feril and others in attendance provided a brief overview of the Governor's conference. Additionally, the activities at the legislative Special Committee on Natural Resources chaired by Representative Tom Sloan were briefly discussed. It is clear that funding for water resource projects will be a critical issue in the next legislative session. No action was taken by the board.

Jeff Lanterman, representing KDA–DWR, stated that he would be speaking to Walnut Creek Irrigators in the coming week. Specifically, he will be discussing the IGUCA review process. Mr. Lanterman also noted that KDA is working on a results draft they have compiled from their analysis of the current IGUCA status.

Vin Kissick provided an update on the KWA activities to the board. The Cimarron RAC is pursuing discussions with Oklahoma to better understand the aquifer management in their region between the two states. The next KWA meeting will be on December 12 in McPherson.

Berry Bortz, chairman of the Great Bend Prairie RAC, provided an update to the board. Mr. Bortz highlighted the recent RAC chairs meeting in Manhattan. The current draft of the state of the resource document was presented to the committee. Mr. Feril noted that there were several problems with the document as currently drafted and that he was working to provide suggested revisions. No action was taken by the board.

David Barfield arrived the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Lynn Preheim joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m. via telephone.

David Barfield, Chief Engineer for KDA–DWR, attended the meeting to update the board with DWR’s activities regarding the Rattlesnake Creek LEMA. KDA–DWR staff has been looking into greater detail regarding the boundaries of the LEMA. Additionally, the conservation plan at Quivira NWR is being reviewed to determine areas for increased monitoring and efficiency updates. No action was taken by the board.

Justin Gatz moved and Fred Grunder seconded to go into executive session at 12:15 p.m. for forty-five minutes for the purpose of discussion of information deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship. Executive session is required to protect the privacy interests of the parties involved. Motion carried 7-0-1. The board came out of executive session at 1:00 p.m.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for December 14, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Attest by:  Dated 12/14/17