

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 14, 2019  
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, November 14, 2019. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Jerry Cullop, Marlyn Spare, Kerry Froetschner, Justin Gatz. Board members not present were Phil Martin and Tom Taylor. District staffs present were Orrin Feril and John Hildebrand. Guests present were Keith Miller, Kent Moore, Tom Turner, Leah Chadd, David Stroberg, Jeff Lanterman, Richael Young, and Alexander Stejskal.

The November regular board meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Darrell Wood.

A discussion regarding the bank authorizations for Prairie Bank and SJN Bank was added to the agenda as item 4a. A presentation from Mammoth Water was added to the agenda as item 4b.

Justin Gatz moved, and Marlyn Spare seconded to approve the October minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0-1.

Kerry Froetschner joined the meeting approximately 8:40 a.m.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the November treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Justin Gatz moved, and Kerry Froetschner seconded to accept the November treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

John Janssen and David Stroberg joined the meeting approximately 8:45 a.m.

The District is in the process of gaining easement access to lands South of Quivira NWR for the purpose of installing monitoring wells for the proposed augmentation project. The board discussed the process with Tom Turner who will be contacting local landowners to begin these discussions. A copy of the easement agreement was presented for the board's approval for use in these discussions. Fred Grunder moved, and John Janssen seconded to have Tom Turner use the easement agreement as presented for discussions with landowners to install monitoring wells throughout the proposed area. Motion carried 6-0-1.

There has been a change in staff in the office recently. Orrin Feril outlined the current entity authorizations and District policies regarding each bank (Prairie Bank of Kansas and St John National Bank). Following discussion, Fred Grunder moved, and Kerry Froetschner seconded to update the entity authorizations to replace Michaela Kirmer with Devan Cooper for Prairie Bank of Kansas. Motion carried 6-0-1. Fred Grunder moved, and Kerry Froetschner seconded to update the entity authorizations to replace Michaela Kirmer with Devan Cooper for SJN Bank. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Richael Young, Mammoth Water, provided an updated of the Tapp H<sub>2</sub>O product. Tapp H<sub>2</sub>O is "the smarter and simpler way to collect and track groundwater data." It is a mobile application for android and apple devices to allow both water users and District staff to enter water meter readings and receive water usage reports with confidence. Following a thorough discussion with the board, Justin Gatz moved, and Marlyn Spare seconded to work with Mammoth Water to use the Tapp H<sub>2</sub>O program for the monitoring program of the District at a cost of approximately \$2000. Motion carried 4-1-2.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past month and upcoming months. Orrin attended and presented at the Governor's Conference in Wichita last week. The conference was well attended and those that were in attendance provided the board with an overview of the meetings. John Donley provided the following written statement and asked Orrin to read it to the board on his behalf:

*As you know, I provide legal representation for Innovative Livestock Services, Inc. as it relates to the Quivira impairment issue. Due to the current nature of the discussions surrounding that issue, I propose that I should not officially representing GMD 5 with monitoring services in the Kansas Statehouse in 2020. However, I will continue to keep you informed of any issues that may influence GMD 5 and am also willing to help coordinate testimony for you in Topeka when necessary.*

Jeff Lanterman, KDA-DWR, outlined concerns that Stafford County Flour Mill has regarding its current water availability. The District's rules regarding movement of water over long distances and well spacing for augmentation have been approved by the Chief Engineer and will be taking effect soon.

David Stroberg, KWA representative, announced the next KWA meeting would be in Salina on December 19. The agenda for this meeting is not yet available and all were encouraged to attend if possible.

Keith Miller, Great Bend Prairie RAC, will be setting up listening tour meetings for the RAC in the coming months but will likely delay them until after the Quivira NWR issue is further developed. These meetings would be a good opportunity to disseminate information to the public regarding the activities of the RAC as well as updates on the important issues in the area.

Kent Moore, WaterPACK, recounted a recent WaterPACK meeting at the Governor's Conference including conversation regarding funding for augmentation and other conservation practices.

In other business, Leah Chadd highlighted the recent motion filed by local landowners regarding the GMD4 LEMA in Northwest Kansas.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for December 12, 2019 at 8:30 a.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Attest by:  Dated 12-12-2019