

MINUTES – OCTOBER 08, 2020  
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 08, 2020. Board members present was John Janssen. Board members Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, Kerry Froetschner, Craig Zwick, Phil Martin, and Marlyn Spare were present via Zoom. Tom Taylor and Justin Gatz were not present. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Jeff Crispin, Kent Askren and Steve Frost were present via Zoom.

The October regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by John Janssen and introductions were conducted to assist with maintaining a record of those in attendance.

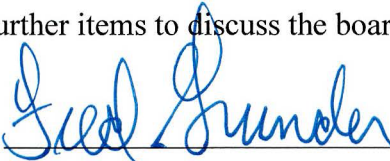
Kerry Froetschner moved, and Fred Grunder seconded to approve the September minutes as presented. Motion carried 6-0-1.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Darrell Wood moved, and Marlyn Spare seconded to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

Recently, KDA-DOC proposed to expand the Upper Arkansas Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) area to include portions of the Rattlesnake Creek region. Currently the CREP area is authorized for the Arkansas River from Barton county to the Colorado state line. This program has been in place for over a decade with minimal signups in this District. The program is a voluntary, incentive-based program allowing producers to enroll eligible irrigated acres in targeted areas for 14-15 year contracts with FSA, permanently retire the associated state water rights on the enrolled acres, and establish an approved land cover on the same acreage. Steve Frost (KDA-DOC) was present to discuss the program with the board and answer questions. Fred Grunder moved and Marlyn Spare seconded to provide a letter of support for the proposed expansion of CREP into Rattlesnake Creek region. Following brief discussion, the motion carried 6-0-1.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for November 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Attest by:  Dated 1-14-21