

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 10, 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, September 10, 2020. Board members present were Darrell Wood, John Janssen, Kerry Froetschner, Craig Zwick, Justin Gatz, Tom Taylor, and Marlyn Spare (Zoom). Fred Grunder and Phil Martin were not present. District staffs present were Orrin Feril and Devan Cooper. Guests present were Alan Crane, Jeff Lanterman (Zoom) and Mike Oldham (Zoom).

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

Kerry Froetschner moved, and Craig Zwick seconded to approve the August minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Craig Zwick moved, and John Janssen seconded to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

Recently, the District received a change in point of diversion application for vested file number RN008 / water right file number 19683 in Reno County. In 2017, KDA-DWR approved a change application to move the point of diversion to the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 9. This well was never completed due to poor water quality. The applicant proposes to return to SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 5, but 750 ft further west than previously authorized. This additional distance is beyond the limitation imposed by K.A.R. 5-25-2a. The proposed location meets proper spacing to nearby domestic/non-domestic wells. Following the discussion, John Janssen moved, and Kerry Froetschner seconded to recommend a waiver of K.A.R. 5-25-2a and to recommend approval of this application as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Justin Gatz joined the meeting at approximately 7:10 p.m.

The District received an application for new appropriation (App# 50388) in Stafford County. The applicant is requesting a new water right in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 19-21S-14W. The applicant is requesting to use K.A.R. 5-25-22, but the application does not meet several components of the new regulation. This is the first application to request to use this regulation. The offsetting water right (12313) is not within the 40% response zone (K.A.R. 5-25-22 (a)(1)). The reduction in the impact at the zenith gage is less than 30% (K.A.R. 5-25-22 (a)(4)). The safe yield analysis is greater than the requirements of K.A.R. 5-25-22 (a)(7). The applicant is requesting a model run to satisfy K.A.R. 5-25-22 (a)(7). Following discussion, the Board tabled the issue until further information regarding model run options can be provided.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past few weeks and upcoming months. Devan has discovered a need to update the land assessment records, specifically dealing with parcels that are excluded from the District. Over the past month, significant time has been spent cleaning up CKWBA records and other CKWBA business. We have started receiving requests for savings account withdrawals recently. John is conducting compliance inspections to make sure there will not be a hang up with KDA-DWR. We are still waiting on NRCS-Washington D.C. to complete the review of our proposal for the Watershed Act. It is anticipated that this will take several more weeks before we know any new information.

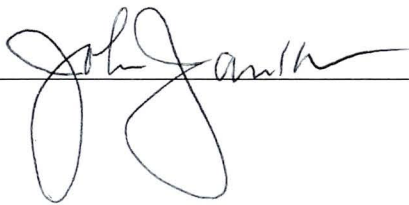
Mike Oldham, US Fish & Wildlife Service, provided an update on the activities at Quivira Refuge. Fall migration is on its way, so currently staff is not moving a lot of water between units in preparation.

Jeff Lanterman, KDA-DWR Stafford field office, provided an update on the activities in their office. Its anticipated that the state offices will continue to work from home for the foreseeable future. Recently KDA-DWR was close to administering MDS on the Little Arkansas. Fortunately, the recent rain has created additional stream flow but, KDA-DWR will continue to keep watch of the situation.

Other business mention of a short discussion regarding the next Chief Engineer and if there is an appropriate way for the GMD's to provide input in the process.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for October 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Attest by:  _____ Dated 10-8-2020