

MINUTES – MARCH 11, 2021  
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, Kansas on Thursday, March 11, 2021. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Tom Taylor, Marlyn Spare, Craig Zwick, and Phil Martin. Board members Kerry Froetschner and Justin Gatz were absent. District staffs present were Orrin Feril, and Devan Cooper. Guests present were Lu Ann Brister and Richard Wenstrom. Guests present via Zoom video conferencing were Jeff Lanterman, Toby Dougherty, Keadron Pearson, Micah Schwalb, and Sara McGuire.

The March regular board meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Darrell Wood.

Fred Grunder moved, and Craig Zwick seconded to approve the February minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Craig Zwick moved, and Tom Taylor seconded to approve the annual meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried 5-0-1.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the March treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Tom Taylor moved, and Phil Martin seconded to accept the March treasurer's report as presented. Following discussion, the motion carried 5-0-1.

The board conducted an election of officers for the upcoming year. Following a brief discussion regarding the current officers, Phil Martin moved, and Craig Zwick seconded to nominate to re-elect the officers for another one-year term. Motion carried 5-0-1. The District board officers are Darrell Wood as President, Fred Grunder as Vice-President, Justin Gatz as Secretary, and John Janssen as Treasurer.

John Janssen arrived to the meeting approximately 9:05 a.m.

Lu Ann Brister, Stafford County Register of Deeds, administered the affirmation as required by K.S.A. 54-106 to all present board members. All board members raised their right hand and affirmed the following statement:

*"I do solemnly affirm that I will support the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the state of Kansas, and faithfully discharge the duties of the board of directors of the Big Bend Groundwater Management District Number Five. So help me God."*

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past few weeks and upcoming months. The District's field truck is overdue for replacement. Following brief discussion Craig Zwick moved, and Phil Martin seconded to have the manager gather prices for a new truck for the board's consideration. Motion carried 6-0-1. The annual board appreciation dinner will be scheduled soon. In follow up to the board's action in the February meeting regarding the Audubon suit, legal counsel has filed the motion to intervene in the suit.

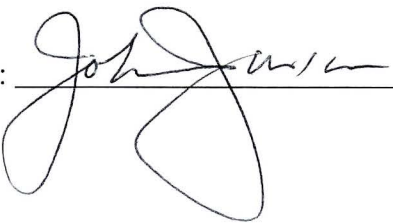
Jeff Lanterman, KDA-DWR, stated that the K-14/K-96 bypass project is proceeding forward, and the field office has been working with the contractor to ensure that the groundwater pits are in compliance with applicable rules. Keadron Pearson, KWO, noted that the governor has appointed a new chair of the Kansas Water Authority (Dawn Buehler). The KWA will be holding their next

meeting in the coming week. Richard Wenstrom, WaterPACK, provided an update on their annual meeting and highlighted an upcoming presentation to the KS House Water Committee. Micah Schwalb, ACRES Initiative, stated that the board will be having their first board meeting toward the end of the month.

In other business, Darrell Wood outlined recent conversations with cheese and dairy companies. Those industries are interested in establishing in Central Kansas due to the stable water supplies in the area. Jeff Lanterman noted that KDA-DWR estimates they would need 30 gallons of water/head/day for the dairy operation. No action was taken by the board.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for April 8, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. the District office.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Attest by:  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 4-8-2021