

MINUTES – AUGUST 11, 2022  
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 August 11, 2022. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Marlyn Spare, Kerry Froetschner, Tom Taylor, Craig Zwick, and Gary Hornbaker. Board member Phil Martin was absent. District staff present was Orrin Feril. Guests present were Steve Frost, David Stroberg, Leah Chadd, and Jeff Lanterman. Guest presents via zoom were Aaron Koehn, Jeff Crispin, and Earl Lewis.

The August regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Darrell Wood.

A discussion regarding the hunting leases on GMD land and MYFAs were added to the agenda as item 7a.

John Janssen moved, and Marlyn Spare seconded to approve the July minutes as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the August treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Tom Taylor moved, and Craig Zwick seconded to accept the August treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

In July, the board had a brief overview of the CREP in the Arkansas River and Rattlesnake Creek regions. Steve Frost, KDA–DOC, provided additional details and answered several questions from the board. There is general interest in providing an incentive payment for qualifying water rights within the Rattlesnake Creek region, but no decision was made by the board. Aaron Koehn, VonFeldt, Bauer & VonFeldt, Chtd., provided information regarding the accounting to the board should they decide to offer such a payment. It was the consensus of the board to gather information regarding eligible water right owners in the Rattlesnake Creek region and have a meeting in November to promote the program.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past few weeks and upcoming months. The CIG field day was held earlier in the month with limited attendance. However, there was good information provided to those in attendance regarding the project and the region-wide projects. A brief update on the Watershed Plan-EA was provided to all in attendance.

Orrin Feril read a written report from USFWS regarding their water control structure rehabilitation project. Jeff Lanterman, KDA–DWR, stated that the field office has been working to process the savings account withdrawal term permits. The Multi-Year Flex Account website was promoted for those requesting additional information on how that program works.

David Stroberg, KWA, stated that the KWA met on the previous day and highlighted to the board that the concepts in HB2686 from the previous legislative session are not dead and are being discussed statewide.

In other business, the District has been approached to provide opportunities to hunt on lands owned by the District in Stafford county. Gary Hornbaker stated concerns regarding existing tenants on those lands and nearby houses hit by stray rounds. It was the consensus of the board to publish a request for proposals to lease the ground for hunting on the website and review those proposals at the September board meeting. Darrell Wood requested that a publication be sent out detailing the process for enrolling in the Multi-Year Flex Account program and how the program works. District

staff will attempt to put something together but with the current workload, it would be difficult to have a timely publication.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for September 8, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the District office.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Attest by: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 9-8-22