

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 10, 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 November 10, 2022. Board members present were Darrell Wood, John Janssen, Marlyn Spare, Kerry Froetschner, Tom Taylor, Phil Martin, Fred Grunder, Craig Zwick, and Gary Hornbaker. District staffs present were Orrin Feril and John Hildebrand. Guest present was Jeff Lanterman. Guests present via zoom were Jeff Crispin, Toby Dougherty, Collin Belzer, Sara Crawley, and Earl Lewis.

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

Kerry Froetschner moved, and Marlyn Spare seconded to approve the October minutes as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

Gary Hornbaker arrived at the meeting.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the November treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Marlyn Spare moved, and Craig Zwick seconded to accept the November treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 9-0.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past few weeks and upcoming months. The District's annual meeting is coming up in February and Orrin requested suggestions for a featured speaker at the meeting. Following a discussion, Orrin stated he will reach out to the names suggested at the Governor's Water Conference in the following week. A brief update on the status of the Watershed Plan-EA and projected completion timeline was provided to the board and public. Orrin stated that his family is planning a vacation in the spring that would be approximately 3 weeks in duration and requested that time away from the office for that time.

Jeff Lanterman, KDA-DWR, stated that his office has been working internally to input the recent influx of term permits from the CKWBA savings account program into their water right database. This is a critical step in preparation for the water use report generation in the next month. Regarding the MYFA program KDA-DWR is putting together a list of MYFA applications that are utilizing the Big Bend GMD5 specific calculation method for assistance in verifying the removal of the end gun, providing a recommendation, and verifying the affidavit submission. Sara Crawley, KWO, provided an update on KWO activities. Recently the Kansas Water Plan was updated and published. The Great Bend Prairie RAC has been reviewing the goals and action plans recently as well. There is no update at this time on those goals. The next Kansas Water Authority meeting is scheduled for December 14 in Colby. The Governor's Water Conference is next week in Manhattan. Earl Lewis, KDA-DWR, provided a brief update on the proposed Hays water transfer timeline. Matt Spurgin has been designated as hearing officer to conduct the proceedings. The prehearing conference has been set on February 15, 2023. Meanwhile, the Sheridan-6 LEMA was recently extended in Northwest KS. Orrin Feril requested an update on the recently proposed regulation changes. Earl responded that the regulations are being modified further and another call would be scheduled to review those modifications.

In other business, Darrell Wood asked about the status of the change applications for Water Right File Nos. 22164 & 23484. Orrin Feril responded that Balleau GW is in coordination with KDA-DWR staff to answer some hydrologic questions and that should be ready for review at the December board meeting. No action was taken by the board.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for December 08, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at the District office.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Attest by:  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 12-15-22 \_\_\_\_\_