

MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 08, 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 September 08, 2022. Board members present were Darrell Wood, Fred Grunder, John Janssen, Marlyn Spare, Kerry Froetschner, Tom Taylor, Phil Martin, Craig Zwick, and Gary Hornbaker. District staffs present were Orrin Feril and Devan Cooper. Guests present were Rex Hildebrand, Robert Howard, and Jeff Lanterman. Guest present via zoom was Jeff Crispin.

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

Kerry Froetschner moved, and Gary Hornbaker seconded to approve the August minutes as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

Phil Martin arrived in the meeting.

Orrin Feril provided the board and public with the September treasurer's report and highlighted the unique items for further board review. Tom Taylor moved, and John Janssen seconded to accept the September treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried 9-0.

In August, the District discussed the possibility to provide opportunities to hunt on lands owned by the District in Stafford county. The request for proposals and maps describing the parcels were published to the District's website for public review. The District received several clarifying calls over the month but received only a few proposals. Robert Howard provided the board with a proposal for hunting primarily on SW¼ of Section 16, and SW¼ of Section 14, and secondarily on the NW¼ of Section 8 and NW¼ of Section 13 for a total offer of \$10,000. Red Cedar submitted a written proposal to lease all of the District's parcels in Stafford county for a total of \$7,500. After hearing both proposals, the board discussed options and concerns regarding current farm tenants and liabilities. Following this discussion, Marlyn Spare moved, and Tom Taylor seconded to approve the hunting lease proposal with Robert Howard for a term to expire at the end of May 2023 for a total fee of \$10,000. Motion carried 9-0.

Orrin Feril discussed staff activities for the past few weeks and upcoming months. The upcoming Governor's conference will be held in Manhattan and if members of the board would like to attend, they need to let Devan know so she can make arrangements. Over the past several weeks, the office has been extremely busy with assisting water users filing withdrawals from the savings accounts. Recently, the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts (KACD) hosted a conservation tour focused on the Rattlesnake Creek region. Several stops were setup on the tour to provide those in attendance with a glimpse of the work being done in the region including Watershed Plan-EA, Quivira NWR, CIG, SF county CD, and CREP. The tour was well attended with beneficial conversation amongst all participants. The Legislative post audit has been initiated recently and will continue through the end of the calendar year.

Jeff Lanterman, KDA-DWR, stated that the field office has been working to process the savings account withdrawal term permits. No other agencies were available to provide reports.

In other business, Phil Martin requested an update on the Walnut Creek model work. Balleau GW has completed the model update work authorized by the board in previous months. It is now ready for further evaluation by KDA-DWR. Orrin Feril noted the amount of work the District staff has been undertaking on behalf of CKWBA. He felt there should be some compensation from

CKWBA for this work specifically as a bonus. In discussing the options with the accountant, this bonus has to be authorized by both the GMD5 board and CKWBA board and run through the District's accounting for payment. A brief discussion was had with the board regarding this item. Phil Martin moved, and Kerry Froetschner seconded to provide a bonus of at least one month's salary for John Hildebrand and Devan Cooper conditional on approval of the CKWBA board to reimburse the District in full. Motion carried 8-1.

The next District board meeting was tentatively set for October 13, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the District office.

With no further items to discuss the board adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Attest by:  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated 10-13-22 \_\_\_\_\_