

December 2010

GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5

Ph: 620-234-5352 Fax: 620-234-5718 www.gmd5.org

District Vehicle for sale

The district will be selling the dark green 2003 Ford Super Crew cab 4x4 Pickup that was used for field inspections. The truck has 84,500 miles and runs great. It has a 4.6L V-8 with Automatic transmission, power locks and windows with remote keyless entry, AM/FM radio with six disc CD changer, air conditioning, cloth seats, running boards and General Grabber AT2 tires that have 10,000 miles on them. If interested please mail a sealed bid to the district office. We will be accepting bids until March 9th, 2011.

GMD # 5 WEATHER STATIONS

- 1 GREENSBURG (620) 723-2193
- 2 LEWIS (620) 324-5866
- 3 ROZEL (620) 527-4531
- 4 CULLISON (620) 895-6505
- 5 MACKSVILLE (620) 348-2238
- 6 RADIUM (620) 285-2796
- 7 GREAT BEND (620) 793-5798
- 8 STERLING (620) 278-2632
- 9 CAIRO (620) 672-3359
- 10 STAFFORD (620) 234-5667

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Phillip Martin, Barton County
- Kevin Schultz, Director at Large
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- Kent Lamb, Stafford County

DISTRICT STAFF

- Wes Essmiller, Manager
- Orrin Feril, Data Mgr/GIS
- Jenny Kisner, Office Manager

Annual Meeting Voter Registration

The Annual Meeting is fast approaching and the Staff at the District office is going to be trying something a little different this year. To help ease the strain of registering voters at the door for the annual meeting and its elections we will be requiring individuals to pre-register at the office. This will apply to everyone but landowners. Located on the website www.gmd5.org or at the district office are Certificate of Incumbency forms which will need to be filled out, notarized then returned to the District office with proper documentation by February 1st, 2011. These forms are for Corporations, Municipalities, Estates, Trust, and Tenants who don't currently own land. For landowners who purchased land within the last year, you too will need to register because County Assessments haven't been updated and sent to us yet. Also after speaking with the Attorney General, Limited Liability Companies or LLC's will not be allowed to vote this year since they are not recognized in the GMD Act as a legal entity. We are in the process of clearing this up and will update you in the future of any changes. If you have any questions on this matter please feel free to give us a call.

District Regulation Approval

Appeared in the October 27, 2010 DWR Currents

Public Hearing on Irrigation, Well Equipment Rules in GMD 5

Chief Engineer David Barfield conducted a public hearing October 25 on proposed amendments to two regulations under the Kansas Water Appropriation Act:

** K.A.R. 5-3-23 specifies the maximum reasonable annual quantity approvable for irrigation use for an application for change in place of use and a request to reduce a water right. The amendment will establish an exception to allow the currently authorized quantity of water to remain unchanged on water rights for which a reduction of the authorized place of use is requested pursuant to the requirements of the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program in the Rattlesnake Creek subbasin within Big Bend Groundwater management District No. 5. The exception is conditional on an Agricultural Water Enhancement Program (AWEP) that achieves overall reductions in water consumption in the area.*

** K.A.R. 5-25-5 requires nondomestic wells in GMD 5 to be equipped with a water flowmeter and check valve. The amendment would remove check valve requirements.*

GMD 5 requested these amendments to the regulations to encourage participation in the Agricultural Water Enhancement Program and to reduce costs for water users. Check valves for irrigation systems used to spray pesticides or fertilizer, a practice called chemigation, are covered in separate regulations.

Pending the chief engineer's final approval, the regulatory amendments will become effective 15 days after publication in the Kansas Register. We will notify Currents readers when this occurs.

Chief Engineer Adopts GMD 5 Rules

Appeared in November 4th, 2010 DWR Currents

Chief Engineer David Barfield has approved regulation changes to accommodate Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5's removal of end guns from participating center pivot irrigation systems in the Rattlesnake Creek subbasin and to delete the check valve requirement for certain wells in the district.

The amended regulations will be published in the Kansas Register on November 4 and go into effect on November 19.

Central Kansas Water Bank Update The Central Kansas Water Bank has been undergoing its five year review for the past few months and the committee is nearing completion of its proposal to the Chief Engineer. They are asking for some moderate changes to the rules and fees associated with the bank. There will be more to come when the report is released in January.

Big Bend Groundwater Management

District No. 5

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Registration is **NOW OPEN** for the **February Kansas Water Issues Forum**. There is an excellent line up of speakers this year. The theme is: *Kansas in Transition: Forecasting Our Future Water Needs*. The forums will present the latest census data and its implications to water demand and political representation, an update on invasive species and author Richard Wood on “Can Rural Kansas Survive the 21st Century?” The day includes a debate on whether “first in time, first in right” is still the best allocation approach to meet Kansas’ future water needs, in which the audience decides which side wins.

To see the full agenda and to register, please go to the website: www.kwo.org and click on the Kansas Water Issues Forum button on the right hand side of the screen. This year we offer and encourage you to **REGISTER ONLINE** OR you can print out and complete the **MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM**.

The forum will be held in two locations to make it easier for you to attend: **Tuesday, February 22nd, in Wichita, and Wednesday, February 23rd, in Hays**. The basic agenda is the same at each meeting, but the breakout sessions differ with more emphasis on municipal and urban issues at the Wichita meeting, and more focus on agricultural issues at the Hays meeting.

The meetings are open to the first 150 members of the public to preregister for each location, with a registration fee of \$15. Late Registration after Monday, January 31st is \$20, and will be accepted as space is available. Registration fees cover a buffet style lunch, refreshments and meeting materials.

The Kansas Water Issues Forum is co-hosted by the Kansas Water Office and the Kansas State University KCARE (Kansas Center for Agriculture Resources and Environment). If you have any questions, please contact: susan.stover@kwo.ks.gov or anna.powell@kwo.ks.gov. Or please call our office at **785-296-3185, or toll-free 1-800- KAN-WATE(R)**.

Weather Stations

The District suffered a loss a few months back. The weather station at Lewis was involved in a vehicle accident and was destroyed. Since then the Board of Directors elected to replace it and the other nine weather stations with new units from Campbell Scientific out of Logan, Utah. The new units have been ordered and should be at the office in the coming weeks. Staff will be out in the field installing them throughout the rest of the winter and into the spring. The new units have all the same features as the old ones but now calculate dew point, wind chill and heat index. All ten systems should be up and operational by the middle of spring 2011.