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Budget Hearing

50-Year Vision Meeting

Meter Compliance

Central Kansas Water  
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## UPCOMING DATES

50-year Vision Meeting  
July 7 at 4:30pm

GMD5 Board Meeting  
July 17 at 7:00pm

Budget Hearing  
July 17 at 8:00pm

MYFA Enrollment  
October 1

CKWBA Savings Account  
December 31

## 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

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Kent Lamb, Stafford County

## DISTRICT STAFF

Orrin Feril, Manager  
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# GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

July 2014

## *Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5*

### **Budget Hearing**

The public hearing to consider the 2015 budget for the District will be held July 17, 2014. The hearing will be held at the District office in Stafford beginning at 8:00 p.m. The Board has proposed a \$1,000,000 budget that includes funding for groundwater modeling and other hydrologic studies. Following the hearing the board will decide on the final budget and the assessment rates to fund the budget. Currently, the rates are at \$0.05/ acre land assessment and \$0.67 / acre-foot water use charge.

### **50-year Vision for the Future of Kansas Water**

The Kansas Water Office and Department of Agriculture's Water Vision Team has released the Preliminary Discussion Draft of the 50-year Vision for the Future of Kansas Water. The draft can be found on Kansas Water Office's website at [www.kwo.org/50\\_Year\\_Vision/50\\_Year\\_Vision.htm](http://www.kwo.org/50_Year_Vision/50_Year_Vision.htm).

The Water Vision Team will be holding a Public Input Tour in the coming week. There is a meeting scheduled in our District on July 7 at 4:30 pm. The meeting will be held at the Stafford County Annex in St John. Further meetings will be held throughout the state later in the week. The dates and locations are listed on the Kansas Water Office's website.

### **Meters ... Keep them in Compliance!**

Regulations adopted by the District require accurate water flowmeters to be installed on every non-domestic well. It is the responsibility of the water right owner to maintain the water flowmeter in compliance whenever diversion of water occurs. If at any time the water flowmeter fails to function properly, the water right owner is to initiate action to repair or replace the meter within 30 days per K.A.R. 5-1-1 *et. seq.* Following the repair or replacement of the water flowmeter, a Water Flowmeter Repair/ Replacement Report must be filed with the Kansas Department of Agriculture—Division of Water Resources (KDA-DWR).

In some cases, water flowmeters are sealed to the measurement chamber with sash chain and a plastic padlock seal. This chain and seal are present to help preserve the integrity of the meter throughout the year. Tampering or removal of these seals will likely result in penalties levied against the water right owner. If a water user needs to repair or replace a water flowmeter that has been sealed, authorization must be obtained from the KDA-DWR prior to breaking the seal. Further information can be obtained at the District's meter page [www.gmd5.org/meters.htm](http://www.gmd5.org/meters.htm).

### **Central Kansas Water Bank Association**

Do you have water remaining in your water appropriation following the irrigation season? If so, it may be possible to save a portion of the unused water for use in future years. The Central Kansas Water Bank Association (Bank) allows water

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

users to open Savings Accounts that allow a water user to save that water into their account. This water cannot be transferred to other accounts or water rights however. If a water user opens the account prior to December 31, 2014, a portion of the unused water from 2014 may be preserved.

The Bank has another program that allows water to be deposited from one location and leased to another within the same hydrologic unit through the Deposit program. This program uses the actual water use for the ten years between 1987 and 1996. This is the maximum amount of water considered bankable with the CKWBA for use at another location. The Deposit program does have a term limitation of five years. Following the expiration of that term, the full water right is available to be used by the original water user or be re-deposited into CKWBA. The deadline for deposit in this program is April 1 of each year. If you have any questions about how any part of the Bank programs work, please contact the District office or consult the Bank's website at [http://www.gmd5.org/Water\\_Bank/index.htm](http://www.gmd5.org/Water_Bank/index.htm).

### **Index Well**

The District utilizes a broad network of 245 observation wells to monitor water level changes from year to year as well as throughout the year. The water level within these wells are measured manually throughout the year. Currently the District owns and maintains nine water level transducers that record the water level activity within the Rattlesnake Creek subbasin and the Pawnee River subbasin. These transducers record the data to internal data loggers in the transducer and then on a routine schedule District staff manually download the data from the loggers.

The District has recently partnered with the Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) to install equipment into an existing observation well within the District to create what is called an Index Well. The Index well program is a study to improve our understanding of the hydrologic changes the local aquifer undergoes throughout the year. Currently there are seven Index Wells installed throughout the Ogallala aquifer in western Kansas. With the installation of this equipment, the District along with KGS will be able to better monitor how the Great Bend Prairie aquifer responds throughout the year in real-time. The water level recorder will be linked to telemetry equipment to upload the data automatically to remote databases for further analysis. This data will also be made available to the public on the KGS website as well as the District's website.

**Do we have your correct mailing address?  
Let us know at 125 S. Main St., Stafford, Kansas 67578 or call 620-234-5352.**