

IN THIS ISSUE:

Quivira NWR Impairment

LEMA Proposed by
District Board

FY2018 Budget Set

Annual Meeting Recap

Water Flowmeters

UPCOMING DATES

District Board Meeting
September 14—7:00 pm

Multi-Year Flex Account
Sign-up Deadline
October 1

CKWBA Savings Account
Sign-up Deadline
December 1

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
Tom Taylor, Director at Large
Darrell Wood, Edwards County
John Janssen, Kiowa County
Bob Standish, Pawnee County
Fred Grunder, Pratt County
Justin Gatz, Reno County
Jerry Cullop, Rice County
Kent Lamb, Stafford County

DISTRICT STAFF

Orrin Feril, Manager
John Hildebrand, Conservation Spec.
Regan Harris, Administrative Assistant

Phone: 620-234-5352
Fax: 620-234-5718
www.gmd5.org
Twitter: @bigbendgmd5

GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

August 2017

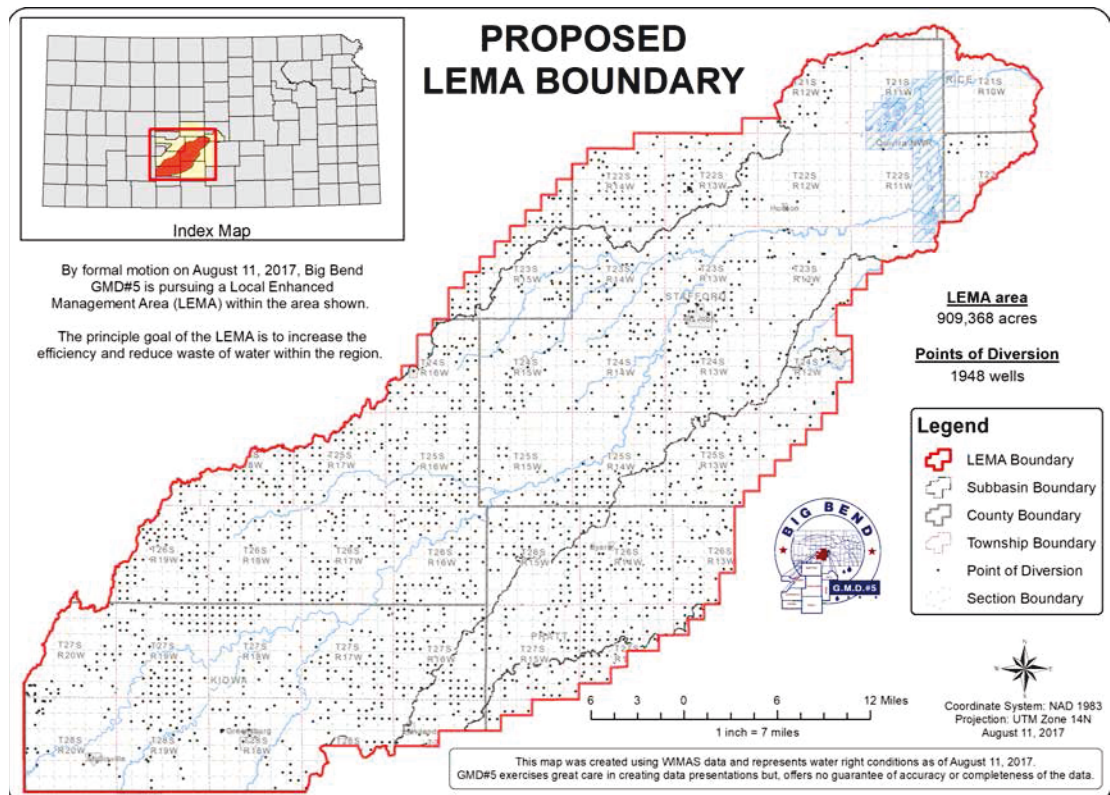
Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5

Quivira NWR Impairment

In July 2016, the Chief Engineer for KDA–DWR filed the final report on the impairment investigation in the Rattlesnake Creek subbasin (<http://agriculture.ks.gov/quivira>). In that report, the Chief Engineer found that the USFWS' water right is being impaired 3,000-5,000 acre-feet per year on a regular basis. Furthermore, the report states that "groundwater reductions and/or augmentation will be needed to increase available streamflow at the Refuge." Over the past 12 months, the District board has submitted two augmentation proposals to the USFWS in order to provide a remedy to the alleged impairment. Unfortunately, the USFWS has declined these proposals. Over the past several months, the District has been working with KDA–DWR to develop strategies that will provide water to Quivira NWR while minimizing the impact to the local economy. The District's hydrologic model has been utilized to evaluate the effect of these strategies on the subbasin into the future.

LEMA Proposed by District Board

On August 11, 2017, the District board introduced a general outline for a potential Local Enhanced Management Area (LEMA) that is intended to increase efficiency and reduce waste of water in the region. The details of this plan are still being crafted and public input will be crucial for success. In general, the current strategies being analyzed include end gun removal, irrigation technology enhancements, streamflow augmentation, and water bank incentives. These strategies will not work if the local water users do not understand them. There will be informational meetings once more of the details are refined by the board.



Budget Hearing

The public hearing to consider the 2018 budget for the District was held on July 13, 2017 at the District office in Stafford. The Board proposed a \$1,110,000 budget that includes funding for groundwater modeling and other hydrologic studies. There are several ongoing projects throughout the District that require extensive study using the District's groundwater model. Following the hearing, the board set the final budget and the assessment rates by formal resolution 2017-2. The adopted budget and assessment rates are shown to the right.

Annual Meeting Recap

The District's annual meeting was held on February 16th in St John. There were approximately 30 in attendance for discussion on the activities of the District and for the election of three board member positions. Here are the election results: Darrell Wood - Edwards County, Phillip Martin - Barton County and Jerry Cullop - Rice County. All were elected to three-year terms. Following the elections, the proposed budget 2018 was presented to the public for review and discussion. Those in attendance were provided project updates on several key issues throughout the District, including the Rattlesnake Creek impairment, Hays/R9 Ranch transfer and the Regional Advisory Committee activities. The annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to get an overview of the various activities of the District and to provide feedback to the board on those management strategies.

At the March board meeting, the District board officers were appointed. Darrell Wood was elected as President. Fred Grunder was elected to Vice-President. John Janssen was elected to Treasurer. Jerry Cullop was elected as Secretary. The Board of Directors for Big Bend GMD5 serve to represent the interests of each county of the District.

Water Flowmeters

Accurate flowmeter records are extremely important for the proper management of the water resources in our area. If you would like the District to test your flowmeter for accuracy, please contact our office to schedule an appointment.

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

Adopted Budget for 2018	
PERSONNEL SERVICES	
SALARIES	\$ 180,000
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	25,000
PAYROLL TAXES	15,000
ADMINISTRATION	
TRAVEL & CONFERENCES	\$ 17,000
UTILITIES	9,000
PRINTING & PUBLICATIONS	7,000
OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,000
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	4,000
BUILDING EXPENSES	3,000
FIELD EQUIPMENT	3,000
OTHER EXPENSES	
WATER MANAGEMENT	\$ 610,000
PROFESSIONAL FEES	200,000
WEATHER STATIONS	15,000
INSURANCE	11,000
DUES & MEMBERSHIPS	1,500
OTHER	1,500
BUSINESS DINNERS	1,500
POSTAGE	1,500
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,110,000
ASSESSMENT RATES (FY2018)	
PER ACRE	\$ 0.05
PER ACRE-FOOT	1.00