

GROUNDWATER HI - LITES

January 2020

Big Bend Groundwater Management District No. 5

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED

Thursday, Feb 20, 2020
7:00 pm

Stafford County Annex
210 E. Third Ave
St John, KS

Election of Directors
Agency Reports
Annual Report

UPCOMING DATES

Water PACK Annual Meeting
February 17

DWR Water Use Report
March 1

CKWBA Water Use Report
March 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
Kerry Froetschner, Pawnee County
Fred Grunder, Pratt County
Justin Gatz, Reno County
Jerry Cullop, Rice County
Marlyn Spare, Stafford County

DISTRICT STAFF

Orrin Feril, Manager
John Hildebrand, Conservation Spec.
Devan Cooper, Administrative Assistant

Phone: 620-234-5352
Fax: 620-234-5718
<https://gmd5.org>

Twitter: @bigbendgmd5
Facebook: @bigbendgmd5

2020 Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting will be held on February 20, 2020 at the Stafford County Annex located at 210 E. 3rd in St John (just east of the Courthouse). The meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. There will also be an election of directors, a review of the 2019 financial statement, 2021 proposed budget and updates on the various projects and programs of the District. Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Water Resources (KDA-DWR) personnel will be present to update those in attendance of their activities for the past year. The Central Kansas Water Bank Association will also have their annual meeting on the same evening.

Certificates of Incumbency

Certificates of Incumbency must be filed with the District office in order for a representative from a Corporation, LLC, Municipality, Estate, Trustee or a Tenant to vote at the annual meeting. These forms are available on our website at www.gmd5.org as well as in the office and must be notarized. Please feel free to call or stop by the office if you have any questions. These are due in the District office on or before February 1, 2020.

Quivira NWR Impairment

Following the rejection of the District's proposed Quivira NWR LEMA plan and subsequent threat of direct administration by the Chief Engineer in the fall of 2019, the District has been in discussions with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service leadership to determine a reasonable, economically-viable, and sustainable remedy for the Quivira NWR impairment claim.

At this point, these discussions are going very well with both parties in agreement that the District's modeling will play a critical role in determining the proper course of action for the remedy. As the discussions move along, other agencies and stakeholder groups will be brought into the discussions to solidify a long-lasting holistic resolution to the issue that has been looming over this area for several decades. The District maintains a website with further information at <https://gmd5.org/quivira-nwr>.

Water Use Reports

The time has come to file your water use report for the 2019 water use year. As of 2019, KDA-DWR will charge \$20/water right to file this report via paper. Filing the water use report via the online (www.kswaterusereport.org) system is free and user-friendly. To utilize the online system, reference the PIN and PERSON ID found on the water use report form mailed to you by KDA-DWR earlier this month.

It has come to the District's attention that some irrigation reports may have a typographical error on the PIN number. Apparently, extra spaces were inadvertently added in the middle of the four-digit PIN number on these reports. Take note of this if you are filing your report online. If you have questions or need assistance filing your water use report, contact the District office.

NOMINATING PETITION

We, the undersigned three eligible voters within the Big Bend Groundwater Management District # 5 hereby nominate _____ as candidate for Board Position representing _____ County or District at Large.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Important terms and conditions of the elected position shall be:

- a. 3-year term running 3 consecutive annual meeting dates.
- b. representation shall be for all eligible voters within the county.

I understand the above stated conditions of the board position for which I am being nominated and I accept said nomination.

Candidate's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Petitions must be received in the District office no later than 1:00 PM on the day of the annual meeting in order to be placed on the ballot.

Verified Claims

Anyone wishing to verify to the District a lesser amount of water used in 2019 must do so by April 1, 2020. Assessments are based on the authorized water appropriation of a water right unless otherwise verified. The District will accept the following as verified claims: a) metered values, b) enrollment in CRP with an inactive status, or c) verified claims showing that the well has not been installed. Verified claims can be obtained on our web page or at the District office. Please contact our office if you have questions.

<https://gmd5.org/forms>

Board of Director Elections

The board positions for Barton County, Edwards County, and Rice County are up for election this year. Candidates for this annual election include two incumbents; Phillip Martin—Barton County and Darrell Wood—Edwards County. Both are seeking re-election in 2020 for three-year terms. Anyone interested in one of these positions should file using the above petition. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the annual meeting.

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