



Minutes for Meeting/Hearing of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Date: Wednesday, July 20, 2016
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall
Located: 511 Mercer St. Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

6:00 p.m.: Board Meeting Call to Order

Board Present: Linda Kaye Rogers-President, Jimmy Skipton-Vice President, Mark Hastings-Secretary Treasurer, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones
Staff Present: Rick Broun-General Manager, Tressy Gumbert-Administrative Assistant & Alex Broun-District Geologist, P.G. 4845

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. All five Board Members are present

- **General Comments from Board & Staff:**

Greg Nesbitt:

- The current District work truck is almost five years old. Recommends investigating the possibility of trading it in on a new work truck.

Tressy Gumbert:

- Update regarding the November 2016 Board Member Election.

Rick Broun:

- There were 7 Public Water Connections submitted in June, 202 YTD, 185 Budgeted for the year
- There were 13 new well registrations submitted in June, 51 YTD, 100 Budgeted for 2016.
- The District did not receive any new TCEQ packets over the past month.
- The District will celebrate 15 years of service this September. The District's website will be updated with this achievement. Also a new map reflecting permit holders will be put on the District's website.
- The District encourages the use of rainwater collection systems on all new homes, businesses and on existing buildings. We further promote artificial recharge of the aquifer through such means as proper brush management and re-establishing deep rooted native grasses. The District further promotes the use of surface water or other alternatives to groundwater in and around western Hays County.
- Reminded Board to inform staff of any meetings, tours, events or lectures they attend concerning groundwater.
- The District encourages the public to view the District's two educational videos which have been made available on the District's website.
- Presented to the Board copies of the Drought Briefing report which includes the US Drought Monitor map the Palmer Drought Severity Index map, hydrographs and the Monitoring Well Water Level Table.
- The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within no drought category "None". The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates "Near Normal" conditions.
- There have been no new "Texas Drought Preparedness Council Situation Reports" released or posted.
- As of July 19th, the District's drought trigger, the Pedernales River, indicates 60 plus days of flow above drought stage Alarm, the Blanco River indicates 60 plus days of flow above drought stage Alarm. Both Rivers must have 30 consecutive days of flow below drought stage Alarm in order to move the District into Stage 2 Alarm.
- The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain within drought stage 1, No Drought Voluntary Conservation.
- Comparing June to July, water levels are down 10.9' north of Camp Ben McCulloch and down 4.5' south of Camp Ben McCulloch.
- The "Table of Water Levels" is updated monthly, a total year's collection will be provided within the Annual Report.

- **General Comments from Public:**

Susan Cook, Terry Tull, Rich Beggs & Michael Aulick

- **Consent Items:**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations and Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of May 18 and June 15, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- Reviewed the financials including the bank reconciliations and monthly invoices. Everything appears to be in order. Would like to pull the June meeting minutes at this time as I was not present during that meeting.

Motion

Mark Hastings: I make a motion that the Board approves the Financial Reports and the May 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes as presented.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Jimmy Skipton, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Linda Kaye Rogers: The June Meeting Minutes will be voted on during next month's Board Meeting.

Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #4 – Update on the July 19th meeting with the City of Dripping Springs

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- The meeting went well. The City of DS is perusing a draft discharge permit from TCEQ. Concerns from BSEACD and HTGCD were discussed and ideals expressed. The suggestion of moving the discharge point downstream was made.

Rick Broun:

- The meeting outcome was positive. The city is willing to discuss options once the draft permit has been issued.

Jimmy Skipton:

- Let's work together and spend money on making the system better instead of spending money on lawyers.

Doc Jones:

- Concerned about the condition of groundwater. Members of the general public need to pay close attention to this matter. Advised public to attend city meetings and make public comments.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- HTGCD needs to work with BSEACD in a more transparent and open manner. Do not reject any assistance and stay open to shared information.

Item #5 – MAG Report: Actual vs. Permitted January – June 2016

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- The MAG = 9100
- As of June: Exempt use plus permitted plus non-exempt no permit amounts = 6,986
- Available MAG = 2114 or 3746 if using actual usage instead of permitted.

Item #6 – Future HTGCD Monitoring Wells

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Al Broun:

- Would like to have non-pumping observation wells to use as monitoring wells for the District. Wells that the District would have more control over the well completion and well logs.
- The cost would depend on the depth of the well. Estimates between \$20,000 and \$25,000, for drilling, equipping, sample collection and well logs.
- The monitor well could possibly be used as a drought trigger in the future.

Greg Nesbitt:

- Suggests treating the project as a capital expense over the next 5 to 10 years.

Jimmy Skipton:

- BSEACD is requesting \$100K from Hays County for a monitoring well project, suggests that HTGCD request the same.

Motion:

Linda Kaye Rogers: Direct Rick Broun to put together a proposal requesting \$100K from Hays County for District Monitoring Wells Project.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Jimmy Skipton, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #7 – Review Travis County meeting from June 7, 2016

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- A video of the meetings can be reviewed by going to the Travis County website.
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Item #8 – Meadows Center: Letter of Support: Funding appeal to the TWDB

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- The Meadows Center is working towards the installation of a "Gauge Station" along Onion Creek at RR12 and FM 150. They are seeking funding from TWDB and would like a letter of support from the District.

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: To support the Meadows Center request for funding from TWDB for the installation of a Gauge Station.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Jimmy Skipton, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #9 – BSEACD: Letter of Support: Funding from Hays County Commissioner's Court

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- BSEACD is going to request \$100,000 from Hays County to fund hydrogeological data collection and the installation of a WestBay Multiport Well and would like to have a letter of support from the District.

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: To support funding BSEACD for a monitor well project contingent upon the County also funding HTGCD for monitoring wells.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Linda Kaye Rogers: Will not support the motion currently on the table. Funding for BSEACD and funding for HTGCD are two separate issues.

Mark Hastings: Suggested a friendly amendment to the motion: asking the County to strongly consider funding HTGCD

Motion Amendment:

Jimmy Skipton: Submit a letter of support funding BSEACD for a monitor well project and request that the County strongly consider funding for HTGCD up to \$100,000 for monitoring wells.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Vote: 3-2 In Favor (Jimmy Skipton, Mark Hastings & Greg Nesbitt) Against (Linda Kaye Rogers & Doc Jones)

Item #10 – Cottonwood Creek RV Park – RV Connections

Public Comments:

None

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- The owner of the Cottonwood Creek RV Park wants to add new RV slips but has an issue with the District's connection fee of \$800 per slip.

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- o An RV uses much less water than a home therefore recommends four slips be considered one \$800 connection which would equal \$200 per slip.

Greg Nesbitt:

- o That ends up being a lot of money for a small business that doesn't use a lot of water.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Like the way Rick broke the numbers down using probable use and is good with his recommendation.

Doc Jones:

- o The owner should be here to present his case before the Board makes any decisions.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Carry this item over to the next Board Meeting.

Future Agenda Items:

Next Board Meeting: August 17, 2016 in Wimberley.
Workshop on Watersheds

7:55 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved: *Linda Kaye Rogers* , President: *9-21* ,2016
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved: *Mark Hastings* , Secretary/Treasurer *9-21-* ,2016
Mark Hastings