



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

Date: Wednesday, August 17, 2016
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Wimberley Community Center
Located: 14068 RR 12, Wimberley, Tx. 78676

5:20 p.m.: Board Meeting Call to Order

Board Present: Linda Kaye Rogers-President, Mark Hastings-Secretary Treasurer, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones

Board Not Present: Jimmy Skipton-Vice President,

Staff Present: Rick Broun-General Manager, Tressy Gumbert-Administrative Assistant & Alex Broun-District Geologist, P.G. 4845

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. A quorum is present

5:20 p.m.: Educational Presentation – “What is a Watershed” Presented by Meredith Miller

6:00 p.m.: Break

6:20 p.m.: Reconvene regularly scheduled Board Meeting

- **General Comments from Public:**

The following presented comment(s): Susan Cook & Richard Beggs

- **General Comments from Board & Staff, General Managers Report & Drought Briefing:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Attended a Round Table Discussion held at the Capital. Discussion on the interchange between groundwater and surface water.

Rick Broun:

- There were 15 new Public Water Connections submitted in July, 217 YTD, 185 Budgeted for the year
- There were 10 new well registrations submitted in July, 59 YTD, 100 Budgeted for 2016.
- The District received 1 new TCEQ packet: Belterra Commercial located at US 290 and Belterra.
- Hays Trinity will celebrate 15 years of service in September 2016. The website homepage has a new logo recognizing the 15 year anniversary.
- 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 Status of 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 August 16th, the District’s drought trigger, the Pedernales River, indicates 3 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.

• **Consent Items:**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations and Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of June 15 and July 7, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- The financials have been reviewed everything appears to be in order. The meeting minutes for July 7th look good. I was not present at the June 15th Board Meeting someone else will need to approve those minutes.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: Motion to approve the financials and the July 7th meeting minutes.
 Greg Nesbitt: Amended motion to include approval of the June 15th meeting minutes.
 Doc Jones: Seconded
 Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #4 – Review and Approve ORDER 180: Order of Election

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Motion:

Greg Nesbitt: Motion to approve Order 180 as written.
 Doc Jones: Seconded
 Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #5 – Request reimbursement of registration cost to attend 3-Day TAGD conference.

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Motion:

Greg Nesbitt: Motion to approve reimbursement of registration fee.
 Doc Jones: Seconded
 Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #6 – Review and Approve Board ORDER 179: Approval of Update to the District Bylaws

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- During the June 15, 2016 Board Meeting the board approved the revision of the District Bylaws to reflect that the District will hold an officer election annually.
- A change to the Bylaws requires approval and signature of order.

Motion:

Greg Nesbitt: Motion to approve ORDER 179 as written.
 Mark Hastings: Seconded
 Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #7 – Review HTGCD vehicle trade-in and purchase options

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Toyota will give the District \$23,000 trade in for Tacoma.
- The total cost after trade in and any rebate will be approximately \$13,099

Motion:

Mark Hastings: Motion to authorize the General Manager to trade old truck in for new truck not to exceed \$14,000
Doc Jones: Seconded
Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

Item #8 – Hydrogeologist Technician Position

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

- Rick Broun:
- Scott Carter has resigned from the District.
 - Recommend hiring a full-time Hydrogeologist Technician

Motion:

Mark Hastings: Motion to authorize the General Manager to proceed in hiring a full-time Hydrogeologist at an annual salary ranging between \$35,000 and \$60,000
Greg Nesbitt: Seconded
Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)

7:10 p.m.: Jimmy Skipton arrives.

Item #9 – Update on Hays County funding HTGCD \$100K for well monitoring installation

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

- Rick Broun:
- Met with Commissioners Will Connelly and Ray Whisenant to discuss the possible funding of monitoring wells within the District. They gave positive feedback and are interested in getting more information.
- Al Broun:
- More research is required. District needs to talk with drillers as well as locate sites for these non-producing wells.
 - Would like to move forward with first well.
- Linda Kaye Rogers:
- Look at what the District could contribute in the way of funds.
 - Put item on next month's meeting agenda for discussion and possible action..
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Item #10 – Review HTGCD Rules regarding RV Slip connections

- Cottonwood Creek RV Park

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

- Rick Broun:
- The owner of Cottonwood Creek RV Park, Roger Moore, wants to add additional RV slips.
 - HTGCD Rules state that the District charges a connection fee for each slip and the current connection fee is \$800.
 - An RV slip uses much less water than a home therefore recommends charging only \$200 per slip.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: Motion to proceed in drafting rule changes specific to connection fees for RV slips and schedule a hearing to change the rules during the next Board Meeting.
Greg Nesbitt: Seconded
Vote: 4-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones) (Jimmy Skipton abstains)

Discussion Only

Item #11A – Update: 2017 Internal Budget Review meeting

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- Summarized the preliminary Budget review.
- There will be a hearing on the Budget during next month's Board Meeting.

Hearing Items

7:15 p.m. : Hearing Opened

Item #11B - Permit Hearing

- Dripping Springs Water Supply Corp. (DSWSC) Operating Permit Amendment Application
- Current operating permit allows a maximum of 625 acre feet annually
- Amendment Application requests an additional 825 acre feet for a total of 1450 acre feet

Public Comments: The following provided public comment(s): David Baker & David Crowell

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Recommends: an additional 133 acre feet per year for the next 3 years for a total of 399 acre feet. At the end of the third year the operating permit amount would be 1024 acre feet.
- DSWSC pumped 70,732,600 gallons (217 acre feet) in 2015.

DSWSC:

Mark Key:

- In 1995 DSWSC pumped 95 million gallons of water they anticipate pumping 23 million gallons less this year.
- They have authorized 9 million dollars for repairs.
- Must plan at least 10 years ahead.

Russ Johnson: Attorney for DSWSC

- DSWSC had four well installed prior to the creation of the District. They are being good stewards of the water and want to use their existing infrastructure.
- They will be requesting that all matters of the permit be referred to SOAH

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The Amendment Application has been contested. Recommends the parties try mediation to save on costs.

Jimmy Skipton:

- Does not support the concept of turning on wells just to prove that the water is needed.
- Would rather see the money that's being spent on lawyers be spent on conservation efforts.

7:55 p.m. Hearing Closed

7:55 p.m. Contested Case Pre- Hearing Opened

Item #12 -- Pre-Hearing Conference

Vanessa Puig-Williams:

- TESPAs has filed a contested case request.
- They do not believe the application meets the requirements of Chapter 36.
- A well owner within a ½ mile of the DSWSC wells with property on Onion Creek is protesting the application under justiciable interest.

8:15 p.m.: Break

8:35 p.m. Reconvene Pre-Hearing

Motion:

Mark Hastings: To continue this matter to the next Board Meeting in order for the parties to try and reach an agreement.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Seconded

Greg Ellis: The protest period has expired there is no opportunity for a new protest.

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

8:42 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

August 17, 2016, Board Minutes continued

Approved: Linda Kaye Rogers President: 10-19- 2016
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved Mark Hastings Secretary/Treasurer 10-19 2016
Mark Hastings