



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

Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2016
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Wimberley Community Center
Located: 14068 RR 12, Wimberley, Tx. 78676

6:05 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

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

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Attended the TAGD summit, it was 3 days packed full of discussions and lectures.
- Water will be a big legislative action item during the next legislative session.
- Attended a Round Table discussion at the TX Capital. It was stated that GCD's are the best way to manage water however they are generally underfunded.
- Pipelines are not the best alternative to long term situations.
- There was also talk regarding the disconnect between legislation and those responsible for managing the groundwater.

Greg Nesbitt:

- Presented an article in the News Dispatch where Linda Kaye Rogers had discussed the DSWSC permit amendment stating "they are wanting more water than we are willing to give".
- Advised that the District attorney had specifically stated during the last Board Meeting to not discuss the permit otherwise it would be necessary to recuse yourself from taking action on the permit.

Rick Broun:

- There were 10 new Public Water Connections submitted in August, 227 YTD, 185 Budgeted for the year
- There were 15 new well registrations submitted in August, 74 YTD, 100 Budgeted for 2016.
- The District received 1 new TCEQ packet: Bunker Ranch Phase I located at US 290 and Tiger Lane.
- The permit renewal process has begun for those permits expiring on December 31, 2016.
- Jeff Watson has accepted the Hydrogeologist position and will begin working for the District on Monday, September 26, 2016. He has already been scheduled to attend the 3rd annual Texas Hydro Geo workshop in Boerne, Texas.
- District staff will be meeting with DSWSC, Aqua Texas and WWSC on September 22nd, to review HTGCD connection fees and the possibility of how fees could be more reasonably calculated using LUEs.
- 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.

- **General Comments from Public:**

The following presented comment(s): Pam Ryan-Tingari Ranch

- The ranch is the family sanctuary and was awarded to Pam in 2011 during divorce proceedings. In order to be able to afford to keep the ranch they made it a short term rental, renting the property out 40 to 50 nights a year. The ranch is not a business and does not fit into any one category for commercial. Requesting that the Board work on regulations similar to TCEQ's regulations regarding what's considered commercial.

6:21 p.m.: Board Member Jimmy Skipton arrives

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Gave history of discussions he has had with Mel Able and Dowe Gullatti, the attorney for Tingari Ranch. No Operating Permit application has been submitted.
- The District considers the Ranch to be commercial therefore an operating permit is required. Following District rules, the next step would be to issue an N.O.A.V.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Follow procedures and put this item as an NOAV on agenda for next Board Meeting

• **Consent Items:**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations and Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of July 20 and August 17, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- The financials have been reviewed everything appears to be in order. Balance for checking: \$17,312.96 and savings: \$ 511,001.91. The meeting minutes for July 20, 2016 look good. The minutes for August 17, 2016 are not yet available for review.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: Motion to approve the financials and the meeting minutes for July 20, 2016.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Seconded

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

Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #4 – Quarterly Status of Drought Briefing

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- 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 "Very Moist Spell" conditions.
- There have been no new "Texas Drought Preparedness Council Situation Reports" released or posted.
- As of September 20th, the District's drought trigger, the Pedemales River, indicates 3 plus days of flow below 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 August to September, water levels north of Camp Ben McCulloch are up 2.6' and water levels south of Camp Ben McCulloch are up 2.9'
- There were no complaints of waste or possible waste was submitted to the District during the 3rd Qtr.
- District staff has no recommendations to the Board to amend rules concerning waste at this time.

Motion:

Mark Hasting: Motion to approve the report as presented.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

Item #5 – Update on Onion Creek Project-Phase II

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Al Broun:

- The project is alive and well. The key element of phase II is a dye trace study. Dye trace studies are intense and difficult. Estimating the cost of a dye trace study to be between \$20 and \$30 thousand. Hoping to get Jeff, the Districts newly hired Hydrogeologist involved in the study. Group is working on getting flow gages installed, they will continue to do flow measurements, geology, geochemistry and monitor wells.

Item #6 – 2016 Election

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Tressy Gumbert

- Presented Order No. 183 – Order to Cancel Election for SM District 4 – Linda Kaye Rogers is running unopposed.
- Presented Joint Election Agreement and Contract of Election Services – District will be joining with Hays County in the 2016 Election and the Hays County Elections office will be conducting the 2016 election.

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: Motion to approve ORDER 183 as written as well the agreement and contract with Hays Co.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

Item #7 – Update on Hays County funding HTGCD \$100K for well monitoring installation

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Al Broun:

- Has met with Commissioners Connelly & Whisenant and the District has their support.
- Met with drilling contractors discussed location, testing and logging.
- Has reviewed with piers and other members of the Onion Creek project.
- Interested in wells west of RR12, looked at Charo Ranch off of FM 150 as well as a few other possible locations.

Jimmy Skipton:

- Own property in the western part of the District and will allow the District to drill a monitoring well on the property.
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Item #8 – Ratify Staff Salaries

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

7:03 p.m.: Adjourn Into Executive Session

7:28 p.m.: Reconvene From Executive Session

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- No action taken during Executive Session

Rick Broun:

- Recommends giving Tressy a promotion to Office Administrator and to reward her for her hard work and years of service.

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: Promote Tressy to Office Administrator with \$1000 raise and \$1000 merit increase to begin January 2017.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Seconded

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

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- During Rick's job review the Board acknowledged that Rick exceeded expectations.

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: Give Rick a 3% salary increase to begin January 2017.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Linda Kaye Rogers: The past year has been very busy with additional challenges Rick has done a great job as General Manager and at meeting those challenges.

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

Discussion Only

Item #10 – Workshop HTGCD 2017 Proposed Budget

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

- o Reviewed and discussed each line item of the proposed HTGCD 2017 Budget.
- o Remove TSU from income.
- o Increase budget for: Aquifer Research, BOD Insurance, Professional Development and Miscellaneous Expense.
- o Increase Transfer of Reserve Funds.

Hearing Items

8:01 p.m. : Hearing Opened

Item #11 – Pre-Hearing Conference: Dripping Springs Water Supply Corp. (DSWSC) Operating Permit Amendment Application

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- o DSWSC requested a continuance to allow more time to negotiate with TESPA

Motion:

Jimmy Skipton: Grant continuance until next month's Board Meeting on DSWSC's Operating Permit Amendment.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

Item #12 – HTGCD Rules Specific to Water Connection fees for RV Slips, ORDER 182

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Modification to HTGCD Rule 3.10.3 changing connection fee for RV slips to \$200 each.

8:04 p.m.: Break

8:06 p.m. Reconvene Hearing

Motion:

Linda Kaye Rogers: Approve Order 182 Accepting and Approving the Updated Edition to the District Rules.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Vote: 4-1 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones) (Jimmy Skipton – against)

Item #13 – HTGCD 2017 Budget, ORDER 181

Public Comments: No public comment(s) provided

Motion:

Mark Hastings: To accept the amended budget and approve Order 181.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

Future Agenda Items:

- o Continuance of DSWSC Operating Permit Amendment
- o Tingari Ranch
- o Next Board Meeting October 19, 2016

8:11 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

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

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