



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

Date: Wednesday, June 21, 2017  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall  
Located: 511 Mercer, Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

### 6:01 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-Office Administrator & Jeff Watson-Hydrogeologist

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. A quorum is present

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

**Board & Staff:**

Jeff Watson:

- The District is adding a new monitoring well which is located off of Deer Lake

Rick Broun:

- There were 26 new Public Water Connections submitted in May, 178 YTD, 250 Budgeted for the year. 41 RV water Connections YTD and 301 Geothermal wells YTD.
- There were 9 new well registrations submitted in May, 35 YTD, 100 new wells were budgeted for 2017.
- The District received 1 new TCEQ packets: Hill Country Rim Rock Estates.
- 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.

- **Public Comments Non-Agenda Items:** None

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**Consent Items:**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report, Balance Sheet and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of April 19 and May 17, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

**Board & Staff:**

Mark Hastings:

- I have reviewed all financials which appear to be in order. Checking account balance: \$70,891.44 and savings account balance \$589,928.30
- The meeting minutes look good as well.

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: To approve financials and meeting minutes.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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**Discussion Only**

Item #4 – Report on 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o The 3 new MUD's were approved. The Governor chose not to endorse HB#4301.
- o Representative Isaac's Bill creating the Hill Country Trinity Groundwater Conservation District did not make it to committee.

**Public Comments:** The following provided comment(s): Louie Bond

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Instructed the General Manager to add "Role of HTGCD during next Legislative Session" to next month's meeting agenda.

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**Discussion and Possible Action**

Item #5 – Quarterly Status of Drought Briefing

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- o 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.
- o The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within "DO Abnormally Dry ". As of June 20<sup>th</sup> , the District's drought trigger, the Pedernales River, indicates 5 consecutive 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.
- o The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain within drought stage 1, No Drought Voluntary Conservation. Citizens are advised to conserve as summer has officially began. I have written an advisory article to publish in the local newspaper.
- o There were no formal complaints of waste or possible wasted submitted to the District during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr.
- o Comparing May to June, water levels north of Camp Ben McCulloch are down 3.5' and water levels south of Camp Ben McCulloch are down 0.9'

**Public Comments:** None:

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: To approve the Quarterly Drought Briefing.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

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Item #6 – Order 185

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- o A previous HTGCD Board adopted Order 127 which authorized, Elaine Wilson or Beckie Morris, the General Manager at that time, to sign District related disbursements.
- o Order 185 would be authorizing Rick Broun, the current GM to sign District related disbursements that were for amounts less than \$5,000.

**Public Comments:** None

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: To approve Order 185 authorizing the GM to sign for disbursements in the amount of \$5,000 or less.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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Item #7 – Permit Holder Water Connection Audit Update.

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- o The water connection audit has been completed. Since the previous Board meeting staff has collected missed connection fees for, 4 new connections in Heatherwood and 1 new connection in La Ventana. There has been no growth in Goldenwood.

- The connection audit produced a total of \$8,400 missed connection fees for the past 3 years.

**Public Comments:** None

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Item #8 – Dedicated Monitoring Well Project

**Public Comments:** No public comment(s) provided

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Submitted packet to the Board which included cost information related to the drilling of the first dedicated monitoring well (Skipton Well) and a draft letter to the Hays County Commissioners requesting \$100,000 to help fund a total of four dedicated monitoring wells within HTGCD.
- Staff did their due diligence in getting the cost reduced from the original quoted amount.
- Requests that the Board approve spending up to \$50,000 to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> of the 4 dedicated monitoring wells.

Jeff Watson:

- One of the things we did to help reduce the cost is instead of drilling two wells, we will drill one deep well into the Lower Trinity and do an analysis. Then we will back-fill to the middle Trinity for continued monitoring.

**Motion:**

Doc Jones: To approve moving forward with the 1<sup>st</sup> dedicated monitoring well, the Skipton Well, spending up to \$50,000.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

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

**Motion:**

Linda Kaye Rogers: To approve the letter to the Hays County Commissioners, requesting \$100,000 from the County to help with the dedicated monitoring wells.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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Item #9 – Amendment to the 2017 Budget

**Public Comments:** No public comment(s) provided

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Suggests adding a line item within Expenses / Field & Research titled "Dedicated Monitoring Well Project" to account for costs associated with the monitoring well project.
- The estimated cost to complete the four well projects is \$180,000 with an additional \$5,000 per year for continued water analyses, site maintenance and repair. The District has a line item in the budget for "Aquifer Sampling" that could be increased.

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: Amend the 2017 Budget to add "Dedicated Skipton Monitoring Well Project" in the Expense category within Field & Research.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: Amend the Budget to increase "Aquifer Sampling" from \$1500 to \$6500 for this fiscal year.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

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Item #9 – Center Lake Business Park

**Public Comments:** No public comment(s) provided

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Received notification from the management company for Center Lake Business Park, stating that overnight parking of company trucks is prohibited.
- I will continue to explore other parking options and report back to the Board.

Jimmy Skipton:

- Will call the owner of Center Lake Business Park to discuss parking situation.

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Item #11 – HTGCD Onion Creek Dye Trace Study

**Public Comments:** No public comment(s) provided

**Board & Staff:**

Jeff Watson:

- Presented an "Onion Creek Phase II: Dye Trace Study Summary and Estimate" to the Board.
- The cost to analyze samples has increased.
- BSEACD and The City of Austin have verbally committed to cover \$15,000 of the cost if HTGCD covers the remaining \$10,000.

**Motion:**

Greg Nesbitt: Approve allocation of \$5,000 from the "Onion Creek Project" budget item and \$5,000 from the "Aquifer Research" budget item to fund the Dye Trace Study.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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Item #12 – District 3<sup>rd</sup> Court of Appeals: Judgment Rendered May 19, 2017

**Public Comments:** The following presented comment(s): Bill Davis & Susan Cook


**Board & Staff:**

Jimmy Skipton:

- Regarding the judgment signed by the district court on June 19, 2013. The Third Court of Appeals, after reviewing the court records, reversed the district court's judgment affirming Hays Trinity's order and directed the appellee to pay all court costs.
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7:22 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

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Approved:  \_\_\_\_\_, President: 7-19 \_\_\_\_\_, 2017  
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved:  \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary/Treasurer: 7-19- \_\_\_\_\_, 2017  
Mark Hastings