



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

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2019  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Place: Dripping Springs Ranch Park  
Located: 1042 Event Center Dr. Dripping Springs, TX. 78620

### 6:05 p.m.: Board Meeting Called to Order

**Board Present:** Linda Kaye Rogers - President, Doc Jones – Vice President, John Worrall – Secretary-Treasurer, Holly Fults & Greg Nesbitt  
**Staff Present:** Rick Broun-General Manager, Jeff Watson-Hydrogeologist, P.G. 12995, & Tressy Gumbert-Office Administrator

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Roll call, a quorum of the Board is present.

- **General Comments from Board & Staff**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Recently attended an EAA meeting and the stakeholders meeting for the Special Management area.

John Worrall:

- Met with DSWSC and attended the most recent Hill Country Alliance meeting.

Holly Fults:

- Attended the TCEQ Quarterly Groundwater Protection Committee meeting.
- The December issue of the Texas Water Journal has a good article on surface water and groundwater that may be of interest to the rest of the Board members.

- **General Managers Report**

Rick Broun:

- There were 16 new Public Water Connections submitted in December, 343 YTD, 275 Budgeted for the year.
- There were no RV water connections submitted in 2018
- There were 12 new well registrations submitted in December, 126 YTD, 100 new wells budgeted for 2018.
- There were 67 existing wells registered in 2018.
- There were no geo-thermal wells registered in 2018
- The District received no new TCEQ packets in December.
- 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 four 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 a drought condition "No Drought". The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates "Very Moist Spell" conditions.
- As of January 16, the District's drought trigger, the Pedemales River, indicates 60 plus consecutive days of flow above stage Alarm and the Blanco River indicate 60 plus consecutive days of flow above drought stage Alarm.
- The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain in Drought Stage 1 No Drought..
- Comparing December 2018 to January 2019, water levels north of Camp Ben McCulloch are up 8' and water levels south of Camp Ben McCulloch are up 5'.
- 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 four educational videos which have been made available on the District's website.

- **Science Update**

Jeff Watson:

- I met with the Blanco River modeling group last month along with BPGCD, BSEACD, EAA and the Meadows Center in an effort to create a numerical groundwater model for the Blanco basin.
- Have attended two Jacob Well Technical Committee meetings.

- Next week AI and I are giving a presentation at the Texas Groundwater Association regarding the District's dedicated monitoring well project.

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

- **Consent Items**

John Worrall:

- The 2018 YE Budget Vs. Actual and the December financial reports have been reviewed. As of the end of December there was \$18k in checking and \$752K in savings.

**Motion:**

Doc Jones: Move to accept and approve the financials.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

John Worrall:

- The December 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes were distributed and reviewed by the Board

**Motion:**

John Worrall: Move to accept and approve the December 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

**Discussion Only**

**Item #4 – Presentation: Special Management Area: Brian Smith**

Brian Smith with BSEACD:

- Gave a brief presentation on special management areas within GCDs. There is an allowance written in Chapter 36 for local control of special management zones. BSEACD uses a Conditional Permitting process for their special management zones.

**Discussion And Possible Action**

**Item #5 – Presentation: Natural Gas Pipeline: Larry Becker**

David Baker:

- On behalf of Larry Becker, gave a brief verbal presentation concerning the proposed Kinder Morgan pipeline.
- The pipeline will extend 430 miles from West Texas to Houston and will run through multiple counties throughout the hill country including Hays, Blanco, Gillespie and Caldwell counties.
- There will be a meeting regarding the pipeline on January 29, 2019 at the Wimberley Community Center.
- The placement of the pipeline is what's being opposed not the pipeline itself. Do to the geologic features, much of the area the pipeline will run through is unsuited for this type of project.

**Public Comment(s):** Kurt Sauer, Purly Gates, Melissa Lacke and David Baker

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- BSEACD has moved to work on the science aspect of the effect the pipeline could have in our area. Does this Board want to engage technically in the project?

Holly Fults:

- Encourage the Board and public to take a look at the Longhorn Mitigation Plan.

**Motion:**

John Worrall: To direct staff to work with other Districts on the affects the pipeline could have on the aquifer.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

**Item #6 – District to select 2 representatives for the Utility Commission concerning the Dripping Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant**

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The District has been allowed 2 seats on the Utility Commission. Wes Pitts would like to hold one of those seats and has completed and submitted an Application for Appointment.

**Public Comment(s):** Wes Pitts

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**Item #7 – Legislative Amendments to the District’s Enabling Act, Chapter 8843, Special District Local Law Code**

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Greg Ellis has met with Representative Zwiener and provided her with a copy of the requested amendments to Chapter 8843. Representative Zwiener feels the best approach is the conservative one. She is going to reach out to the stakeholders to get their input and with that there could possibly be some additional changes to the Draft Chapter 8843.
  - After much discussion amongst the board and public, Linda Kaye Directed the General Manager, Rick Broun, to create a fact sheet summarizing the amendments and the reasoning behind the requested changes. Once the Board has come to a consensus regarding the fact sheet it will be provided to the public.
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**Item #8 – Review Legislation to prohibit direct discharge of treated wastewater to surface water in Edwards Aquifer Contributing Zone with the Neuces River Basin and any possible amendment to the Bill to expand and include Hill Country Watersheds**

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Does the Board want Greg Ellis, as our Lobbyist, to support HB817?

**Motion:**

John Worrall: Move to support HB817

No Second

Linda Kaye Rogers: Motion to instruct our lobbyist to support the Bill without amendments.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Holly Fults: I am in support of prohibiting direct discharge of treated wastewater into streams known to have interconnectedness to groundwater; however I have not reviewed this bill and do not feel comfortable voting on it without the details.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Withdraw motion. Request that the board review HB817 and this item be put on next month’s meeting agenda.

Doc Jones: Withdraw second.

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**Item #9 – Permit Applicant, Getaway Austin: Water Connections**

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Getaway Austin is requesting a reduction in water connection fees to \$200 per connection. They are tiny 8’X16’ rental cabins which use 40 gallons or less of water per day, similar to an RV.

**Motion:**

Linda Kaye Rogers: Reduce the connection fees for Getaway Austin to \$200 per connection, same as RV connection.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

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**Item #10 – Review District banking and possible changes.**

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Reviewed banking options per request of the Board. The District currently earns 0.50% on savings with Pioneer Bank.

- If we stay with Pioneer and move savings to a Money Market it will earn 1.5%
- Capital One has an introductory amount of 2% for the 1<sup>st</sup> 12 months then it drops down to 0.40%.
- Telco's Money Market account earns 0.60%
- My recommendation is to remain with Pioneer Bank and change our saving account to a money market account. The interest rate is better on the money market account, the bank is easier to access for staff and the Board Treasurer to conduct District Business.

**Motion:**

John Worrall: To stay with Pioneer Bank per the General Managers recommendation.  
 Greg: Seconded  
 Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

9:09 p.m.: Break

9:20 p.m.: Convene into Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Government Code Chapter 551.074 to discuss personnel matters pertaining to Agenda Item #11 and #12

9:52 p.m.: Reconvene into Regular Session

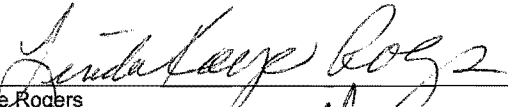
**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:  
 ○ No decisions were made nor votes taken in Executive Session.

**Motion:**

Linda Kaye Rogers: Approve vacation buy-back of 80 hours for Rick and 40 hours for Tressy  
 Greg: Seconded  
 Vote: 5-0 In Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holy Fults & Greg Nesbitt)

9:53 p.m.: Meeting Adjourned

Approved:  President: Feb 20 2019  
 Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved:  Secretary/Treasurer: Feb 20 2019  
 John Worrall