

**Hays Trinity Groundwater  
Conservation District,  
Hays County, Texas**

CenterLake Business Park: 14101 Hwy 290 W. Bldg.100, Ste. #212.  
Austin, Texas 78737  
Mail: P. O. Box 1648; Dripping Springs, TX 78620  
E-mail: [manager@haysgroundwater.com](mailto:manager@haysgroundwater.com)  
Phone: 512-858-9253  
Fax: 512-858-2384 website: [haysgroundwater.com](http://haysgroundwater.com)

**Minutes of Open Meeting of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District**  
Thursday, April 9, 2009 at Dripping Springs City Hall, 511 Mercer St., Dripping Springs, Texas 786206

**Members Present:**

<u>Board Officers</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Present</u>
Andrew H Backus (District 3) President	Yes	Joe C. Day (District 4)	Yes
Douglas A. Wierman, P.G. (District 1) Vice President	Yes	Jack A. Hollon (District 5)	Yes
Mark P Hemingway, P.G. (District 2) Secretary / Treasurer	Yes		

<u>Staff</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Present</u>
Dana R. Carmean General Manager	No	Wesley Schumacher Staff Geologist	Yes
Gregory M. Ellis District Counsel	Yes		

**Attachments:** Agenda, sign-in sheet

**8:35 a.m. Meeting opened:** The roll was taken and all Board members were present. A quorum was declared.

**Consider approval of prior meeting Minutes-**None

**General Manager's Report of Activities-**DRC is on vacation, Wesley Schumacher is handling Manger's admin duties today.

**Announcements:** County Water and Waste Water Planning Meeting to be held evening of April 15 at Wimberley Community Center.

**Public Comments:** County Commissioner Karen Ford thanked the HTGCD for their work and thought that more effort on public education and outreach would be helpful.

**Discussion/ Possible Action:**

1) **Discussion and possible action related to: legislation proposed by Senator Wentworth and Representative Rose, for additional funding to HTGCD, and Board resolution of support for said legislation. The proposed legislation would include the following:**

- i) \$2.00 Per month fee, on each water connection, for water utilities that pump groundwater greater than 25,000 gallons per day.
- ii) Annual revenue capped at \$100,000.
- iii) These fees will sunset in two years.
- iv) This revenue can only be used for scientific research.

Ellis explained to the Board that he thought the tap-fee would be difficult to collect and the opposition would argue that it is a tax that had not received voter approval. Ellis thought the HTGCD would spend two years fighting over the collection of the fee. The board was not happy that only folks that were already receiving a water bill were being asked to financially support the HTGCD. The board recognized that if this legislation was pursued then half the HTGCD constituents would be upset by the action. The Board recognized that they very much need the money but, it is needed for public education, administrative operations and enforcement. No explanation was given as to why the money could only be used for research. The Board felt like they were backed into a corner and not a partner with their legislators in the legislative process. No decision was made, but the board acknowledged it really needed the money. The draft bill and bill number were posted as HB 4796 / SB 2530.

● Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District,  
Board Meeting April 9, 2009 minutes (continued.)

2) Discussion and possible action, short and long-term staffing needs, possible executive session interviews with top candidates. –  
NO DISCUSSION, NO ACTION.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:10 am

Signed,  \_\_\_\_\_, Andrew H. Backus (President)

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_, Douglas A. Wieman (Vice President)

Date, \_\_\_\_\_