Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

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

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2012
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Wimberley Community Center
Located: 14068 RR 12, Wimberley, TX. 78676

6:01 pm: Regular Meeting Opens

Board Present: Mark Key-Secretary/Treasurer, Ed Pope & Joan Jernigan
Board Absent: Greg Nesbitt-Vice President
Staff Present: Rick Broun-General Manager, Tressy Gumbert-Administrative Assistant
Late Arrivals: Jimmy Skipton-Board President, arrived at 6:25

The following subjects were considered for discussion and/or action at said meeting:

- **Board Roll Call:**
  Rick Broun:
  - Roll Call was taken, a quorum was present. Jimmy Skipton and Greg Nesbitt not present.
- **Review of Board Meeting Protocol:**
  Mark Key:
  - Explained meeting protocol to audience.
- **Consider approval of prior meeting Minutes:**
  Mark Key:
  - Approved meeting minutes for July 18, 2012
- **Financial Report and Budget:**
  Rick Broun:
  - Financial Report reviewed and approved by Mark Key
- **Acknowledgment of Bank Reconciliations:**
  Rick Broun:
  - Bank reconciliations reviewed and approved by Mark Key
- **General Comments from Board & Staff:**
  Ed Pope:
  - Al Broun is suffering with foot pain and out of commission for a short time. Board needs to consider hiring an assistant to help Al out with District matters.

  Mark Key:
  - The workshop HTGCD hosted on September 7, 2012 was a huge success.

  Rick Broun:
  - 12 Public Water Connections were submitted in August: 40 YTD
  - 9 Well Registrations were submitted in August: all registered as Domestic use : 75 YTD
  - Reminder to the Board to inform staff of any meeting you attend concerning groundwater including tours, events, or lectures.
  - The District always wants to encourage the use of rainwater collection systems and promote artificial recharge of the aquifer though such means as proper brush management and re-establishing deep rooted native grasses.

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

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Agenda Items:
Discuss and Possible Actions on:

1) **Item #3 – District Board Member Elections**.....**Mark Key**
   - Contract between HTGCD and Hays County for election services
   - Joint Election Agreement between HTGCD and Hays County

Board & Staff:

Tressy Gumbert

- The Contract for elections service and the Joint Election Agreement, prepared by Joyce Cowan, needs to be approved.

Public Comments:

The following presented: Roger Kew

Motion:

Ed Pope: Approve the Contract for Election Services and the Joint Election Agreement
Mark Key: Seconded
Vote: 3-0 In favor (Mark Key, Ed Pope & Joan Jernigan)

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2) **Item #11 – Update: HTGCD Workshop September 7, 2012.....Dr. Joan Jernigan**
   - A time frame for Developing Alternative Water Sources for Western Hays County

Board & Staff:

Joan Jernigan:

- The workshop had to be relocated due to an accident with the A/C
- The Presenters and topics were:
  Chris Clary – Water Conservation – A Watershed Approach
  Dr. Sanjeev Kalaswad P.G. – Rainwater Harvesting in Texas
  Dr. Robert Mace P.G. – Is There a Future for Water in Hays County
  Al Broun P.G. – Lower Trinity Project, A Search for an Alternative Aquifer in Western Hays County
  Kirk Holland P.G. – Alternative Groundwater Supplies for Northern Hays County
  David Venhuizen – It's All Water and It's All Good
- Jimmy Skipton provided lunch
- The District has received a lot of positive feedback on the Workshop

Ed Pope:

- The presentations underscored problems with water that Hays County will face going forward
- Hope for the future was provided even though current data and numbers are not uplifting

Public Comments:

The following presented: Linda K. Rogers

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3) **Item #7 - Update: Blue Hole Regional Park Well.....Ed Pope**
   - Well completed and producing groundwater
   - Review water levels

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Most current water level recorded was 357'
- Meter indicates 2.2 million gallons of water has been pumped over the past 2 months.

Public Comments:

The following presented: Garrett Allen and Jon Cobb

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4) **Item #6 – DSWSC to replace public supply Well.....Jimmy Skipton**
   - Replacing existing public supply well

DSWSC:

Jon Cobb:

- The corporation has 5 wells one of which was drilled in the early 60's.
- The well is the deepest of the 5, it is deteriorating and needs to be replaced
- DSWSC is possibly interested in allowing the District to use the old well as a monitoring well.

Board & Staff:

Ed Pope:

- The District would be very appreciative of any data that DSWSC can assist with.

Public Comments:

None provided

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5) **Item #2 – Update: Drought Stage Status**.....**Rick Broun**
   - Review Drought Trigger Stages
   - Monitoring Well Levels
   - Determine Drought Stage Status

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- The District collected water levels in our southern region in September. Staff will be in the field this Friday collecting the northern region water levels. The delay was due to heavy rains.
- Water levels from August to September were up in the South by 6 inches
- Trigger Reviews: Both Rivers are up from last month. The Pedernales is on day 6 and the Blanco is on day 5 of continuous flow over the Alarm Stage Trigger.
- It takes 60 consecutive days to move out of this drought stage and back into Voluntary Conservation.
- Drought Status will remain as Alarm until further notice

Public Comments:

None Provided

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6) **Item #5 – Evaluate possible payoff of District Truck**.....**Rick Broun**
   - $15,165.25 owed on District truck
   - Interest saved will be $1782.33

Board & Staff:

Mark Key:

- The amount of truck has already been approved a vote to pay it off is not necessary.

Public Comments:

None provided

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6:25 Break – Jimmy Skipton arrives
6:30 Reconvene

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7) **Revisit Item #7 - Update: Blue Hole Regional Park Well**.....**Ed Pope**
   - Well completed and producing groundwater
   - Review water levels

City of Wimberley:

Don Ferguson:

- Well currently shutdown due to non-irrigation season.
- Surpassing the permit amount is a result of the startup process.
- Well producing strongly regardless of current water levels
- Data on the well is still being reviewed not sure of the well's actual total depth.
- The waste water that will be used for irrigating the soccer fields comes from down town, the Deer Creek area and the park.
- City is currently working through a public process in regards to the concept of discharge as a last resort.
- Unsuccessful 3 years ago at getting a loan from TWDB as the city did not have property taxes.
- Down town property owners have put together an organization and have petitioned the city to create an MMD (Municipal Management District) which will be a taxing vehicle to tax downtown property owners.
- City has put in another loan application to the TWDB.

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8) **Item #1 – Update: Dripping Springs Water Supply Corp (DSWSC)**.....**Rick Broun**
   - Compromise and Settlement Agreement
   - Collected Connection fees in the amount of $42,500

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- The DSWSC Board and District Board did a good job at working together.
- Thanks to DSWSC for suggesting the idea of having a joint Board Meeting.

Public Comments:

None Provided

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9) **Item #4 – Drought Cutbacks**.....**Rick Broun**

- Review comments from permit holders

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Presented an example Drought Cutback Chart and explained how it worked.
- The chart is very similar to the one BSEACD uses.
- Not a new concept just an updated version.

Mark Key:

- Agrees with Garrett Allen in regards to the District implementing a well or wells into the triggers.

Public Comments:

The following presented: Garrett Allen, Don Ferguson, Jon Cobb, Roger Kew and Andrew Backus

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10) **Update: Lawsuit-Plaintiffs vs. HTGCD**.....**Jimmy Skipton**

- Wimberley Valley Water Shed Association
- Johanna L. Smith, H.K. and Janet Acord, James R. McMeans and David Glenn
- Pending traveling Judge setting hearing date

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- Nothing scheduled still waiting on traveling Judge
- Legal fees are up to $29,430

Public Comments:

None provided

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11) **Item #9 – Update: HTGCD Rules** .....**Jimmy Skipton**

- Pending legal review

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Greg Ellis has reviewed the rules.
- There is one major and a couple of minor changes that he will be making.

Public Comments:

None provided

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7:26 Break
7:34 Reconvene

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12) **Item #8 – Review HTGCD 2013 Budget**.....**Jimmy Skipton**

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Presented the 2013 Budget and answered Board questions pertaining to the budget.

Jimmy Skipton:

- There will be a Hearing on the Budget during the next Board Meeting

Ed Pope:

- Inquired as to why the previous years' budgeted amounts for an audit were not included.
- Suggested the District become current on its audits.

Public Comments:

The following presented: Susan Cook

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7:38 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved: _____ Date: 10-17 ,2012
Jimmy Skipton, President

Approved _____ Date: 10-17 ,2012
Mark Key, Secretary/Treasurer