



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

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2015  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall  
Located: 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Texas 78676

**6:03 pm: 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-Administrative Assistant & Alex Broun-District Geologist, P.G. 4845

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

• **Board Roll Call:**

- Rick Broun:
- Called Roll. A quorum is present

• **General Comments from Board & Staff:**

- Rick Broun:
- There were 26 Public Water Connections submitted in July, 101 YTD, 85 Budgeted
  - There were 12 new well registrations submitted in July 68 YTD, 85 Budgeted
  - The District has received 1 new TCEQ project: Cresnet Belterra Phase I.
  - Greg Perrin the General Manager for Dripping Springs Water Supply Corp. responded to a request for donations regarding the installation of a telemetry system within the Downing well. The equipment has been delivered and will be installed on Monday, August 31.
  - Request that the Board please inform staff of any meetings, tours, events or lectures you attend concerning groundwater.
  - The District always wants to encourage 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.
  - The District encourages the public to view the District's two educational videos which have been made available on the District's website.
- Jimmy Skipton:
- Received an invitation from the City of Austin to attend a "Waste Water Management" meeting being held from 2:00 to 4:00p.m. August 31, 2015.

• **Public Comments concerning non-agenda items:**

The following provided comment(s): Mary Gilroy

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**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 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

**Board & Staff:**

- Mark Hastings:
- Has reviewed the financials for June and July everything appears to be in order. The meeting minutes for July are not yet available.

**Motion**

Mark Hastings: I move to approve the financial reports as presented for June and July.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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**6:15 pm: Open Contested Case Hearing: Continuance**

Item #18 – On April 15, 2015, the HTGCD Board of Directors approved to grant a Contested Case Hearing to Aqua Texas concerning 2014 NOAV letters. On July 15, the HTGCD Board of Directors approved to postpone the matter until August's Board meeting to allow attorneys from both parties to reach a settlement agreement and respond back to the HTGCD Board of Directors.

**Public Comments:**

No public comment(s) provided:

6:16 p.m. Hearing Closed

6:16 p.m. Into Executive Session

6:30 p.m. Reconvene from Executive Session

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o No action taken during Executive Session
- o Aqua Texas not ready case being postponed. Will continue at September Board Meeting.

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**Discussion and Possible Action Agenda Items**

Item #4 – Status of Drought Briefing.

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- o Presented the Status of Drought Briefing to the Board
- o The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within DO "Abnormally Dry". The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates "Near Normal" conditions.
- o The District's drought trigger the Pedemales River, indicates 30 days of flow below drought stage Alarm. The Blanco River indicates 60 days of flow above drought stage Alarm. To move into drought stage Alarm both rivers must have 30 consecutive days of flow below stage Alarm,
- o Comparing July to August water levels, wells north of Camp Ben were down an average of 12' wells south of Camp Ben were down an average of 6'
- o The "Table of Water Levels Measured" is updated monthly by staff. The total year's collection will be included in the 2015 Annual Report.

**Public Comments:**

The following provided comment(s): Jack Holland

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Item #5 – Onion Creek Project Update.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments provided

**Board & Staff:**

Al Broun:

- o Presented map of Onion Creek area a brief summary of the project status and several hydrographs of wells within HTGCD.
  - o Crews completed a synoptic run on July 23.
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Item #6 – Educational Rain Barrel Project

**Public Comments:**

No public comments were provided.

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- o Would like to raise awareness of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District by installing rain water collection barrels at various business locations throughout the District.
- o Compared rain barrel quality of material and pricing.
- o Recommends going with an 800 to 1000 gallon metal tank, approximate cost of \$1000.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Would like to start out with something smaller. Poly tank would be more affordable and could be dressed up with paint or surrounding it with wood.
- Consider purchasing a few smaller rainwater barrels to raffle off at the Rainwater Revival.

Mark Hastings:

- Commended Rick for the work he has done regarding the project.
- The District needs to do a better job at reaching out and making the public aware of the District.

Jimmy Skipton:

- The rainwater barrel must look pleasing in order for a business to be interested in displaying it.

Greg Nesbitt:

- Have concerns with District pushing a certain type of barrel and choosing a place of business where it would be displayed.

Doc Jones:

- Rick is on the correct path by looking at more attractive barrels.

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Item #7 – Setting a date for 2016 Budget Workshop

**Public Comments:**

No public comments were provided.

**Motion**

Greg Nesbitt: Move to hold the 2016 Budget Workshop on September 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Dripping Springs if the meeting room in the City Hall is available.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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Item #8 – Watering Moratorium for City of Woodcreek – Mayor Steinert

- Aqua Texas says that the City of Woodcreek needs to get permission from the District to adopt a moratorium allowing only two days once a year for power washing.

**Public Comments:**

The following provided comment(s): Garrett Allen

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Permission from the District is not necessary it isn't in our parameter of authority.
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Item #9 – Selection of Board delegates to Hays County meeting to discuss funding.

**Public Comments:**

No public comments provided

**Board & Staff:**

Mark Hastings:

- As Treasurer of the Board I should attend.

Doc Jones:

- Linda Kaye should attend as she is the President of the Board

**Motion**

Doc Jones: Make a motion that Linda Kaye Rogers and Mark Hastings go to the county with Rick Broun to discuss funding.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

Jimmy Skipton: For multiple reasons believe it is a mistake to approach the county for funding.

Vote: 3 to 2 in favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Doc Jones & Mark Hastings) (Jimmy Skipton & Greg Nesbitt, against)

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Item #10 – Increase HTGCD fees

**Public Comments:**

The following provided comment(s): Ashley Whittenbuger

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Currently the fee for a new well or new water connection is \$600. The District has the authority to raise fee up to \$1000.
- Representative Isaac strongly stressed that the District consider raising the fees as allowed by legislation.

Greg Nesbitt:

- Would like to go through the budget workshop before making a decision on increasing the fees.
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Item #11 – Consideration to purchase public relations booth materials

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Is proposing that the District consider the purchase of signage and banners.

Rick Broun:

- The District has been doing a good job of making do with what we have.

**Motion**

Jimmy Skipton: Would like to make a motion to spend up to \$150 on banners

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Mark Hastings: A motion is not necessary; we have the funds already designated in the budget.

Linda Kaye Rogers: A \$150 is an inadequate amount.

Jimmy Skipton: I resend motion. There is no need to micro manage, Mark is correct the money is already designated in the budget.

Greg Nesbitt: Resends his second.

Linda Kaye Rogers: Directed the General Manage to look into costs to purchase PR materials.

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**Discussion Only Items:**

Item #12 – Provide Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance book to Board

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Mark Hastings:

- Requested that Rick Broun purchase a copy for each Board Member.
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Item #13 – Management Plan update

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Continuing to work on Management Plan with Al Broun.
  - Will conduct a public workshop.
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Item #14 – Review possible new Drought Triggers

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Would like the District to explore additional drought triggers.
- The aquifer is diverse, what works for one area may not work for a different area.

Jimmy Skipton:

- There was a rhyme and reason the previous Board chose the triggers we have. The Drought Triggers are consistent and have worked for years.

Item #15 – Code of Conduct and Training

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Would like to Board to conduct themselves in a more professional manner.
- There needs to be some changes in the way the Board represents the District.
- The Board needs to respect each other and earn the trust of their constituents.
- The State may have some free training.

Jimmy Skipton:

- A person must give respect to get respect.
  - There is nothing wrong with a debate but I will not tolerate abuse.
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Item #16 – Rules Committee update

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- The committee has met three times.
- Sent out Draft Rule updates to the Board for review last week.

Mark Hastings:

- There is a meeting tomorrow at 11:30 a.m.
  - The committee will be looking more closely at the penalty structure.
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Item #17 – Review dollar amount to calculate penalties concerning the following:

- Exceeding total annual permitted amount
- Exceeding drought cutback curtailments

**Public Comments:**

No public comment provided:

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The current penalty amount is \$10/1000 gallons.
  - The current rules are what the District will be working with for 2015 penalties. But possible change for 2016.
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Future Agenda Items:

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8:37 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

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Approved: Linda Kaye Rogers President: Oct 22 2015  
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved: Mark Hastings Secretary/Treasurer 10-22 2015  
Mark Hastings