



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

Date: Thursday, November 18, 2015
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Wimberley Community Center
Located: Wimberley, Tx. 78676

6:00 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-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:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Requested a moment of silence in remembrance of Jack Hollon.
- Jack was instrumental in getting the District going, served as a member of the District Board and afterwards he continued his endeavor to protect groundwater. He was a wonderful person and will be missed by many.

Rick Broun:

- There were 18 Public Water Connections submitted in October, 162 YTD, 85 Budgeted
- There were 9 new well registrations submitted in October, 111 YTD, 85 Budgeted. 19 existing wells have been registered in 2015.
- The District received 2 new TCEQ projects: Lock-Tite Storage and Crescent Belterra Phase I.
- 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.

Al Broun:

- Reported on the status of the Onion Creek Project. The group ran a 2nd synoptic while the creek was high Al spent most of the day in the field with Doug Wierman.

- **Consent Items:**

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations and Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of October 22, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- I have reviewed consent items 1 and 2 which appear to be in order. The financial report shows that there is \$370,321 in savings and \$31,544 in the checking account.
- The October meeting minutes are not yet available.

Motion

Doc Jones: I move that the Board approve the financial report.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #4 – Status of Drought Briefing

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Presented the Status of Drought Briefing and 2015 Monitoring Well Water Level table to the Board.
- The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within None -“No Drought”. The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates “Unusual Moist Spell” conditions.
- There have been no new “Texas Drought Preparedness Council Situation Reports” released or posted.
- Water well averages from October to November were up 9.9’ north of Camp Ben and wells south of Camp Ben are up 8.7’
- As of November 17th the District’s drought trigger, the Pedemales River, indicates 19 days of flow above drought stage Alarm, the Blanco River indicates 60 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.
- The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain within drought stage 1, No Drought Voluntary Conservation.

Item #5 – Needmore Ranch/Saddleridge Update

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Al Broun:

- Presented a map showing the Needmore Ranch wells
- The owners of 600 Mission Trail have agreed to allow the District to use their well as a monitor well.
- Barton Springs is working on getting monitoring wells in their District.
- We have well logs for two of the Needmore Ranch wells, “Top of Hill” & “Catfish”.
- Expects the pump test to be run in early December.

Discussion Only Items:

Item #6 – Rainwater Revival Update

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- On November 7th, District Staff setup and manned a booth at the Rainwater Revival.
- The booth included ideas and samples for conserving, preserving and ways of protecting groundwater.
- There was a display setup of environmentally safe products such as detergents, hand and dish soaps, house hold and auto cleaners and motor oil.
- Al was there presenting and answering questions regarding the Atlas and the District’s surrounding geology.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The booth was very professional and got the message across to the public.

Jimmy Skipton:

- Attended the Revival and feels that staff did a good job.
- Staff was not endorsing the products themselves, but rather the idea of using products that are safe for the environment.

Contested Case Hearing Continuance:

6:21 p.m. Open Contested Case Hearing

Item #9 – Aqua Texas contested case hearing concerning 2014 NOAV. On September 16, 2015 the HTGCD Board of Directors proposed a settlement to Aqua Texas in the amount of \$12,500 to be paid within 30 days.

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

6:21 p.m. Close Contested Case Hearing

6:21 p.m. Adjourn Into Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Government Code chapter 551

6:49 p.m. Reconvened from Executive Session into HTGCD Board Meeting

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o No decisions were made during executive session.

6:51 p.m. Open Final Hearing

Motion

Jimmy Skipton: I move to accept the offer agreement from Aqua Texas in the amount of \$12,500.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Doc Jones: I did not realize that accepting the offer would relieve Aqua Texas of the 88%.

Mark Hastings: The Settlement agreement before us replaces the original NOAV

Linda Kaye Rogers: I am not convinced that work and repairs are being done on Aqua Texas' water system and lines.

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

7:03 p.m. Hearing Closed

Hearing Items:

7:04 p.m. Open Hearing

Item A – GMA 9, Proposed Desired Future Condition (DFC) and Proposed Non-Relevant Aquifer Classifications.

Public Comments:

The following provided public comment(s):

Roberta Shoemaker-Beal:

- o Against the 30' DFC. Property value goes down

Jim McMeans:

- o Against the 30' DFC. The Texas Water Development Board is no longer doing modeling so as a default the GMA 9 adopted the 30' DFC, which is managed depletion of the aquifer.
- o Pumpage should not exceed recharge. Recharge and use must balance in order to be sustainable.

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Matt Heinemann submitted an email which included written comments concerning the DFC. He has requested that his written comment be part of the record.
- o The comment period for the DFC is open until December 31, 2015.

Jimmy Skipton:

- o The "Graham" well, which Matt refers to in his written report, has gone down less than a foot since 2010.

Rick Broun:

- o Comments can be submitted on line by completing the "GMA9 Public Comment Form" located on the District's website under the "Forms" section.
- o Would like to make a call to Ron Fieseler to see if it is necessary for the Board to take another vote regarding the DFC.

7:30 p.m. Break

7:36 p.m. Reconvene

Rick Broun:

- o Ron Fieseler said the official vote from the District's Board was to abstain.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Would like to have a discussion and comment session for the DFC during a Board Meeting in Dripping Springs.

Motion

Doc Jones: To continue discussion at the next meeting to be held in Dripping Springs.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

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

7:45 p.m. Open Hearing

Item B – HTGCD 2016 Rules.

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- o Reviewed with the Board and the public the recommended rule modifications.
- o The one major tweak that has not been decided on is the penalty amount it is currently \$10 per 1000 gallons the Rule Committee has suggested the amount be decreased.

Motion

Jimmy Skipton: To decrease the penalty amount to \$2.00 per 1000 gallons.

No second

Jimmy Skipton: To decrease the penalty amount to \$4.00 per 1000 gallons

No second

Doc Jones: To change the penalty amount to \$5.00 per 1000 gallons

Mark Hastings: Seconded

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

Motion

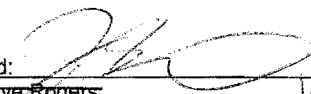
Mark Hastings: To approve District Rules as amended to be affective December 1, 2015 and direct staff to use the new rules for any 2015 violations.

Doc Jones: Seconded

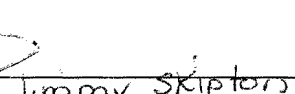
Vote: 5-0 in Favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Jimmy Skipton, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones)


8:16 p.m. Hearing Closed

8:16 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved:  Linda Kaye Rogers

Jimmy Skipton

President:  Vice President 1-21-2016

Approved:  Mark Hastings

Secretary/Treasurer 1-21-2016