

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

Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Dripping Springs City Hall

Located: 511 Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

5:30 p.m.: Educational Workshop – Land Management Video – “A Land in Balance”

6:05 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:**
 - Al Broun:
 - Attended a Water Summit meeting held at the LBJ School of Public Affairs
 - Rick Broun:
 - There were 21 Public Water Connections submitted in November, 183 YTD, 85 Budgeted
 - There were 12 new well registrations submitted in November, 122 YTD, 85 Budgeted. 20 existing wells have been registered in 2015.
 - The District received 1 new TCEQ project: Headwaters at Barton Creek.
 - A new transducer well. “Amos” has been added to the District’s website. The well is located in the Saddleridge neighborhood bordering the Needmore Ranch.
 - 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.
- **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

Motion

Mark Hastings: I move that the Board approve the financials and the October Meeting Minutes.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

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Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #4 – Status of Drought Briefing

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Presented to the Board copies of the report which includes the US Drought Monitor map and the Palmer Drought Severity Index map.

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- The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within no drought category-“None”. 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.
- As of December 8th, the District’s drought trigger, the Pedernales River, indicates 12 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.
- The “Table of Water Levels” is updated monthly, a total year’s collection will be provided within the 2015 Annual Report.
- There were no complaints of waste submitted to the District during the 4th quarter.

Motion

Doc Jones: I move that the Board approve the Drought Briefing Report.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

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

Item #5 – Needmore Ranch/Saddleridge Transducer Well Update

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- The District acquired a new monitoring well, the “Amos” well which is located within the Saddleridge subdivision.
 - Thanked the Blanco Pedernales GWD for logging the well for the District, they did a professional job.
 - The owners of the well are pleased to be part of the District’s monitoring program.
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Item #6 – Onion Creek Project Update

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Al Broun:

- Updated the Board stating that two synoptics had been ran, one during high flow and other during low flow.
 - Thanked the various Ranch owners along the creek for allowing access to conduct study and collect samples.
 - Expects to have a report to present in mid 2016.
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Item #7 – Consideration to move Board Meetings to Thursdays

Public Comments:

No public comments provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Would like the Board to consider moving the Board Meetings from the third Wednesday to the third Thursday. The agenda could then be posted on that Monday instead of the week before and would allow the Board the weekend prior to the meeting to review and make changes to the agenda.

Motion

Jimmy Skipton: I make a motion to change Board Meetings to the third Thursday of each month.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

6:38 p.m.: Break

6:45 p.m.: Reconvene

Item #8 – Presentation: Year-End Monitoring Data, Management Plan

Public Comments:

No public comment provided

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- Provided a Power Point Presentation to the Board and public regarding the District and it's well monitoring program

Discussion Only Items:

Item #9 – Staff Salary Increases

Public Comments:

No public comment provided

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Was told by Greg Ellis that the Board has to vote on salaries. Allocating an item in the budget doesn't make it a done deal.
- The District has no policy on wage increases.
- We need to act like other Groundwater Districts and run the District like a business not a popularity contest.

Jimmy Skipton:

- The Board discussed salaries during the budget workshop and the Board voted to approve the budget.
- The General Manager works for the Board as a whole not individually. There is too much micro managing going on.
- Rick does a good job. He got the District in compliance and keeps it that way.

Mark Hastings:

- This should not be an issue. The Board reviewed and discussed the Budget line item by line item, which included wages and voted to approve the Budget.
- I am going to contact the District's attorney to get clarification.

Hearing Items: Continuance

7:22 p.m.: Hearing Open

Item #10 – GMA9 Proposed Desired Future Condition and Non-Relevant Aquifer Classifications

Public Comments:

No public comment provided

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Rene Barker sent a 4 page document regarding the DFC. I would like that to be included in the DFC Comment report that goes to GMA9.

7:25 p.m.: Hearing Closed

Discussion and Possible Action Items:

Item #11 – Board of Directors to Vote on DFC.

Public Comments:

The following provided comment(s): Andrew Backus

Motion

Jimmy Skipton: Give the General Manager direction to vote for a 0-30 feet DFC on behalf of HTGCD.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

Jimmy Skipton: giving Rick the authority to vote includes him in the game.

Doc Jones: A non-vote is a statement that we are against a 30 feet DFC.

Linda Kaye Rogers: This has already been voted on during a previous Board Meeting. The vote was locked, 2 to 2.

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

Future Agenda Items:

Rick Broun

- 2016 Management Plan

Jimmy Skipton

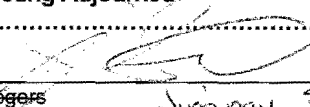
- Vote of Confidence

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7:42 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved:

~~Linda Kaye Rogers~~


Jimmy Skipton

President:

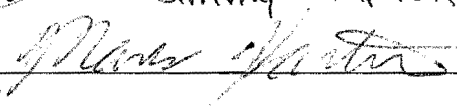
Vice President

1-21-

2016

Approved

Mark Hastings



Secretary/Treasurer

1-21-

2016