



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

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2017
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall
Located: 511 Mercer St., Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

6:10 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-Office Administrator & Jeff Watson-Hydrogeologist

• **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. All Board members are present

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

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- There were 45 new Public Water Connections submitted in September, 333 YTD, 250 Budgeted for the year.
- 41 RV water Connections YTD.
- There were 9 new well registrations submitted in September, 81 YTD, 100 new wells were budgeted for 2017.
- 301 Geothermal wells registered YTD.
- The District received three new TCEQ packets: D.S Dollar General, Cortaro Subdivision and Harrison Hills Trail Improvements.
- Howard Land & Cattle-Twisted X, PAWS nor Serenity Farmhouse have submitted permit renewal fees.
- Fitzhugh Comers #1, Stripes, Vista Brewing nor Wimberley Oaks WSC have submitted their 3rd quarter pumpage reports.
- Hays County approved funding the District a total of \$100,000 for the Dedicated Monitoring Well project. The Edwards Aquifer Authority is going to contribute \$20,000 to HTGCD for the Dedicated Monitoring Well project.
- A meeting concerning the new Driftwood Valley Subdivision was held Thursday, October 5th at the Hays County Precinct 4 building. The proposed plan includes 24 residential lots and 2 commercial lots.
- The District encourages 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.
- Reminded Board to inform staff of any meetings, tours, events or lectures they attend concerning groundwater.
- The District encourages the public to view the District's two educational videos which have been made available on the District's website.
- Presented to the Board copies of the Status of Drought Briefing report which includes the US Drought Monitor map the Palmer Drought Severity Index map, hydrographs and the Monitoring Well Water Level Table.
- The latest US Drought Monitor map indicates that our District is within Drought Condition "None". The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates "Unusually Moist" Drought Conditions. The maps have been collected and will be part of the District's 2017 Annual Report.
- As of October 17th, the District's drought trigger, the Pedernales River, indicates 4 days of flow within drought stage Alarm, the Blanco River indicates 60 plus days of flow above drought stage Alarm. Both Rivers must have 30 consecutive days of flow within 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.
- Comparing September to October, wells north of Camp Ben McCulloch' nor wells south of Camp Ben McCulloch have had any changes in their average water levels.

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

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Consent Items:

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices
2. Approval of Monthly Financial Report, Balance Sheet and Budget to Actual Report
3. Approval of September, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- o I have reviewed all financials which appear to be in order. The current savings account balance is \$700,295.70 and the checking account balance is \$46,413.61
- o September's meeting minutes also look to be in order.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: To approve the meeting minutes and financials as presented.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

Discussion and Possible Action:

Item #4 – Science Project Updates

Board & Staff:

Jeff Watson:

- o Mark Hastings, Rick, Al and I met with the Superintendent for Dripping Springs ISD regarding the possibility of drilling a "Dedicated DSISD" monitoring well on their property located off of East Mount Gainor. The conversation was positive and DSISD has approved of the well installation. Rick is working on the MOU between the District and DSISD as well as requesting bids from drillers.
- o Progress is being made on the "Dedicated Skipton" well. Construction of the fence has begun. The pump, which has been donated to the District, still needs to be installed.
- o The District has received the test results and geochemical data for the Skipton well, the core analysis is complete and we are in the process of writing up a report.
- o Met with the Burns Brothers yesterday regarding the Dye Trace Study which is tentively scheduled for early to mid November.

Rick Broun:

- o DSISD excited about the educational aspect of the Dedicated DSISD monitoring well.
- o The fence around the Skipton well should be completed this week. The telemetry equipment will be installed after the pump has been installed.

Public Comments: None

Hearing Items:

Item #1 – Continuance of hearing for Atlantis Reality – Easy Mix

6:15 p.m. Hearing Opened

Public Comments: Russell Balcerourcz, Calvin Westendorf, Darrell Anglin & Shelly Martinek

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o The Easy Mix permit application was contested during last month's Board Hearing. The Board directed the protestants, William Wagner and Dustin Lindig to work with the applicant to see if they could reach an agreement. The parties have not reached an agreement therefore the contested case now goes to an Evidentiary Hearing.
- o Both parties have agreed that the HTGCD Board will act as the hearing examiner.

Public Comments: Easy Mix Rep-Ronnie Carlson: We are not requesting an unreasonable amount of water. There are employees who reside in the home located on the property. We are agreeable to having the HTGCD staff come on site to collect meter readings. We are just asking to be treated fairly.

William Wagner: Recommends metering the entire water usage.

Dustin Lindig: Doesn't feel the house on the property should be considered residential as it is being used to house Easy Mix employees. All the water usage on the property should be under the business's permit.

7:00 p.m. Evidentiary Hearing Closed

7:00 p.m. Final Hearing Opened

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Agrees that the house is part of the business and the water usage should be metered.

Rick Broun:

- o The estimated water usage would be 425,000 gallons, 1.3 AF

Motion:

Linda Kaye Rogers: To grant an operating permit in the amount of 1.3 AF for 1 year to include a single meter to meter all pumpage.

Greg Nesbit: Seconded

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

7:12 p.m. Final Hearing Closed

7:12 p.m. Break

7:25 p.m. Reconvene

7:25 p.m. Open Hearing

Item #2 - Continuance for HTGCD Budget

Motion:

Greg Nesbit: To amend the 2017 Budget to increase the budget amount for the dedicated monitoring well project to \$100,000.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- o The Board needs to review and approve the 2018 Budget.
- o AI is requesting approval for the District to hire a full time tech person. If this is approved the 2018 Budget will need some modifications made.
- o Recommend renaming "Onion Creek Project" to "Surface/Groundwater Projects" and renaming "GMA9-DFC Consulting" to "GMA9 Efforts".

Jimmy Skipton:

- o Increase Computer Equipment to \$5000
- o Remove Aquifer Age Dating and Aquifer Modeling.

Mark Hastings:

- o If hiring an additional person the total Personnel budget needs to be increased to \$255,748.
- o Total expenses would be \$471,726.
- o An additional \$51,000 for a total of \$108,096 would need to be transferred from reserve.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: To approve the 2018 Budget as discussed.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

7:52 p.m. Close Hearing

Item #3 – Updates to the HTGCD Rules

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o The District has received several comments concerning the rules. Our attorney has not completed his review.
- o Rules will be on the next Board meeting's agenda as a Hearing Continuance item.

Public Comments: Bill Davis concerning rules: 5.6.1, 5.6.3 and 5.7.9

8:02 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved: Linda Kaye Rogers President: 11-15-17 2017
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved: Mark Hastings Secretary/Treasurer 11-15-2017
Mark Hastings