



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

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall  
Located: Mercer St., Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

**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-Office Administrator, Al Broun-District Geologist P.G. 4845 & Jeff Watson-Hydrogeologist

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. A quorum is present

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

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Will be providing links to the Texas Capital Round Table Discussions to the members of the HTGCD Board and staff.

Rick Broun:

- There were 28 new Public Water Connections submitted in January, 275 Budgeted for the year.
- There were 7 new well registrations submitted in January, 100 new wells were budgeted for 2018.
- The District received 4 new TCEQ packets: Rutherford West Section 5, Ledgestone Senior Living, Camp Lucy and The Commons Lot 5. Response letters will be created and submitted to TCEQ.
- Attended a meeting, on Thursday, February 15 in Travis County concerning proposed TCEQ permit WQ0015594001for wastewater discharge in the amount of 92,000 gallons per day. Other attendees included 3 Travis Co. residents, Chris Herrington with the City of Austin and Christy Muse the Director for Shield Ranch.
- 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 a drought category intensity of "D1 Moderate Drought".
- As of February 20th, the District drought trigger, the Pedemales River, indicates 35 consecutive days of flow above drought stage Critical, the Blanco River indicates 11 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 District's third trigger, the Palmer Drought Severity Index map, indicates "Near Normal" conditions.
- The drought recommendation for western Hays County is to remain within drought stage 1, No Drought Voluntary Conservation.
- Comparing February to January , water levels north of Camp Ben McCulloch are down 0.9' and water levels south of Camp Ben McCulloch are down 0.4'
- The City of Dripping Springs requested a meeting with District staff to discuss the more technical aspects of the Dye Trace Study. The following were in attendance: Ginger Faught and 2 consultants with the City, Al Broun, Rick Broun and Jeff Watson.

Jeff Watson:

- Invited to speak to Austin Waldorf 9<sup>th</sup> grade class last month.

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

**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 December 20, 2017 and January 17, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

**Board & Staff:**

Mark Hastings:

- I have reviewed all financials which appear to be in order. The District currently has \$761,123.68 in savings and \$103,960.04 in checking.
- The Meeting Minutes for December and January also look to be in order.

**Motion:**

Mark Hastings: To approve consent items 1-3 regarding the financials and meeting minutes.

Doc Jones: Seconded

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

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**Contested Case Hearing:**

**6:16 p.m.: Hearing Opened**

Item #4 – Black Market Wedding Venue Operating Permit Application

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Request: 651,702 gallons per year
- Use: Public Water Supply
- District staff recommendation: 1-year renewable permit to produce 350,000 gallons annually
- Public Comment Deadline Date Expired: November 11, 2017
- Formal Contested Case Letter Deadline Date Expired: January 16, 2018
- Doctor Carlos Torres-Verdin has contested the permit application.

**Public Comments:** The following presented public comment (s): Roger Kew & Andrew Backus

**Applicant & Protestant:**

Carlos Torres-Verdin:

- I am a professor at the University of Texas and have an extensive Geo-hydrology background. Our property is next to the Black's property, we share a common boundary. We do not have a well on our property however there are karsts features, faults and sink holes which exist on our property. Those percolating features allow water into the Edwards Aquifer. The quality of water will be affected by the wedding venue well due to the hydraulic connectivity between zones.

Richard Suttle:

- Representing the Black Market Wedding Venue. According to District rules the protestant does not have standing. He does not meet the first threshold, owning a registered well. The second threshold requires a personal justiciable interest not common to members of the general public.

**Board & Staff:**

Al Broun:

- While Mr. Torres-Verdin has a valid concern, the sink holes and faults that he is speaking of are not unique to his property.
- A best management practice would be the installing silt fences.

**Motion:**

Jimmy Skipton: To Deny standing based on District rules.

Greg Nesbitt: Seconded

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

**7:02 p.m.: Hearing Closed**

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The permit application will now go back to the General Manager. Request that the applicant consider running a geophysical log.

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**Discussion & Possible Action:**

Item #5– Dripping Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant

**Board & Staff:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- No new updates to report.
- There is a meeting on March 7, 2018 with persons involved in contested case.

Mark Hastings:

- The District's intension was to participate give Greg Ellis the authority to attend and present if necessary.

**Public Comments:** None

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Item #6 – Review Contested Case Lawsuit: Reimbursement of funds to HTGCD

**Public Comments:** None

**Board & Staff:**

Jimmy Skipton:

- No updates to report
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Item #7 – HTGCD Science Projects Update

**Board & Staff:**

Jeff Watson:

- Two projects in progress, the Dye Trace Study and the Dedicated DSISD well.
- One DSISD well completed in the Cow Creek and the other in the Lower Glen Rose. A 24 hour pump test was performed and samples were taken from the Cow Creek well.
- BSEACD contributed money for the water samples.
- An Education & Outreach video regarding the dedicated wells is being created.

AL Broun:

- The District and DSISD has formed a special relationship during the dedicated well project. Teachers and students have been visiting the well site.

**Public Comments:** None:

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Item #8 – Amend 2018 HTGCD Budget

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Last month the Board voted to add a line item called Capital Office Project in the amount of \$1000, and to decrease the Directors Insurance line item by \$1000. The 2018 Budget does not have a Directors Insurance line item therefore recommend a decrease in the Science/Engineering Consultant line item.
- Recommends increasing the Software line item from \$1,400 to \$3,000.
- A well plugging project was also discussed last month. Do we want to put anything in the budget for it?

**Public Comments:** None

**Motion:**

Greg Nesbitt: To approve moving the \$1000 from Science/ Engineering Consultant and , increasing software to \$3000.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Mark Hasting: Would like to continue discussion of the well plugging project at a later meeting.

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

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Item #9 – HTGCD Capital Project Update

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- The letter of intent for the property on Fitzhugh has expired.
- Dub Smith has a lot off of 290 for \$250,000 it has an existing septic system and well.
- There are 2 lots on Sportsplex, also \$250,000, city wastewater and water connection with DSWSC.

Greg Nesbitt:

- Suggest getting the cost of constructing a new office building prior to purchase of land.
- Talk with the Fire Department next to the current District office as they are re-locating and their current building may become available.

**Public Comments:** None

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Item #10 – 2017 Annual Report

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- Presented the 2016 Audit results completed by Neffendorf & Knopp.
- Presented the 2017 Annual Report and gave a brief summary.

**Public Comments:** None

**Motion:**

Greg Nesbitt: To accept and approve the Annual Report as presented.

Mark Hastings: Seconded

Vote: 4-0 In favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Greg Nesbitt & Doc Jones) Jimmy Skipton exited the meeting during the presentation.

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**Discussion Only:**

Item #11 – 2017 NOAV Recipients

- Serenity Farmhouse Inn: Exceeded Permit by 1,014,760 gallons (\$5,073.80)
- Camp Young Judaea: Exceeded Permit by 2,123,518 gallons (\$10,617.59)
- Dripping Springs Ranch Park: Exceeded Permit by 18,813 gallons (\$94.07)

**Board & Staff:**

Rick Broun:

- The District has received copies of paid invoices for work done on systems for Dripping Springs Ranch Park and Serenity Farmhouse. Nothing has been submitted by Camp Young Judaea.

Linda Kaye Rogers:


- Would like to review the receipts and get explanations.
- Put on next month's meeting agenda.

**Public Comments:** The following presented comment(s): Roger Kew & Andrew Backus

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8:13 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

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Approved:  President: 3-21- 2018  
Linda Kaye Rogers

Approved:  Secretary/Treasurer March 21 2018  
Mark Hastings