

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

Date: Wednesday, May 16, 2018
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Dripping Springs City Hall
Located: Mercer Street, Dripping Springs, Tx. 78620

6:03 p.m.: Board Meeting Call to Order

Board Present: Linda Kaye Rogers - President, Jimmy Skipton – Vice President, Mark Hastings – Secretary-Treasurer, & Doc Jones

Board Not Present: Greg Nesbitt

Staff Present: Rick Broun-General Manager, Al Broun-District Geologist P.G. 4845, Jeff Watson-Hydrogeologist & Tressy Gumbert-Office Administrator

- **Board Roll Call:**

Rick Broun:

- Called Roll. A quorum is present

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

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- Linda Kaye and I attended the TESP meeting that was held last night regarding the EP wells. There was some discussion of a mitigation fund to help with the cost of lowering wells if they become affected by EPs pumping. Lots of questions and concerns regarding EP's proposal.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- The scientific data related to the EP pumpage shows the cone of depression extending 2 miles out.
- Request that this agenda item be put on next month's agenda for discussion and possible action.

Rick Broun:

- Was informed that BSEACD will be releasing a Draft Permit for EP on Monday, May 21st.
- There were 26 new Public Water Connections submitted in April, 106 YTD, 275 Budgeted for the year.
- There have been no RV water connections submitted in 2018
- There were 11 new well registrations submitted in April, 46 YTD, 100 new wells budgeted for 2018.
- There was 1 existing well registered in April. There have been no geo-exchange wells registered so far in 2018
- The District received 2 new TCEQ packets: Headwaters at Barton Creek Phase 4 Section 1 and Mesa Verde Park improvements. Response letters will be created and submitted to TCEQ.
- 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.
- A third dye trace study video and a fourth DSISD Dedicated Monitoring well video have been completed and will be added to 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 "None". The Palmer Drought Severity Index map indicates "Near Normal" conditions.
- As of May 14th, the District drought trigger, the Pedemales River, indicates 1 day of flow above drought stage Alarm. The second trigger, the Blanco River indicates 49 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 March to April, water level averages were down 1.8' north of Camp Ben McCulloch and up 1' water south of Camp Ben McCulloch.
- Comparing April to May, water level averages were down .9' north and south of Camp Ben McCulloch.

- **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 April 18, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Board & Staff:

Mark Hastings:

- o I have reviewed the minutes and financials, all appear to be in order. The District currently has \$806,594.23 in savings and \$41,847.70 in checking.

Motion:

Mark Hastings: To approve meeting minutes and financials as reported.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 4-0 In favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings, Jimmy Skipton & Doc Jones)

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Discussion Only:

Item #4 – 2017 NOAV Recipient Camp Young Judaea Update

Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:

- o On April 18, 2018 HTGCD Board allowed for a 30-day update.
- o Camp Young Judaea will be on the June's Meeting Agenda as an "Action" item.

Public Comments: Brad Campbell, Facility Manager for Camp Young Judaea – the camp has done some repairs which brought the leak of 600 gallons a day to less than 200 gpd. We have delayed watering the lawn and have hired an Engineering company to survey the camps water demand and system design.

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Discussion and Possible Action:

Item #9 – Consideration to hire a lobbyist

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Would like the Board to consider joining with other groundwater conservation district to hire Greg Ellis for the upcoming Legislative Session.

Public Comments: Ron Fieseler, General Manager for the Blanco-Pedernales GCD – My Board would like to be more involved in legislation decision during the next Legislative Session. Greg Ellis is willing to work as a lobbyist with multiple Districts collectively and has created a Legislative Representation Agreement containing 4 options. My Board voted to approve and authorized me to move forward with option #4 Full Legislative Representation upon the contingency that four other GCDs sign up to participate. Greg Ellis would then have the authority to advocate for or against proposed bills on behalf of the Districts he represents.

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- o Does not support hiring a lobbyist. Greg already represents the District and is already present during the legislative open sessions. If there is an issue specific to HTGCD then we hire Greg to advocate for or against.

Motion:

Linda Kaye Rogers: To engage in the Interlocal agreement, hiring Greg Ellis as lobbyist under option number 4 of the agreement, on the contingency that at least 3 other Ground Water Districts participate.

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 3-1 In favor (Linda Kaye Rogers, Mark Hastings & Doc Jones) Opposed (Jimmy Skipton)

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Item #5 – HTGCD Well Plugging Project

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- o Would like the board to approve \$20,000 to \$25,000 in the budget for a well plugging project.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o A plan of action needs to be developed and reviewed by the board.

Public Comments: None

Item #6 – Review and Amend 2018 Budget

Board & Staff:

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Item to be on next month's meeting agenda.

Item #7 – HTGCD Science Update

Board & Staff:

Jeff Watson:

- o Making progress with dedicated monitoring wells 3 and 4. Locations that meet the District's objectives have been identified. Property owners may be open to property easement or long term access agreement.
- o Staff working with DSISD on an educational program.

Al Broun:

- o The monitoring well project may go a little over the budgeted amount.

Public Comments: None

Item #7 – Update on Contested Case Lawsuit: Reimbursement of funds to HTGCD

Board & Staff:

Jimmy Skipton:

- o The district's lawyer filed a motion with the Court for a judgment. We have not gotten a judgment as of yet.

Public Comments: None

Item #8 – SOAH Hearing – Contested Case for Dripping Springs Waste Water Treatment Plant


Board & Staff:

Rick Broun:


- o State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) is conducting a formal contested case hearing on May 21, 2018 at 10:00 AM. Hearing held at the William P. Clements Bldg: 300 West 15th St. Austin
- o The city of Dripping and the parties which have already been given standing have met but has not yet reached a settlement agreement.

Public Comments: None

7:27 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

Approved: 
Linda Kaye Rogers

President: 6-20-2018

Approved: 
Mark Hastings

Secretary/Treasurer 6-20-2018