

March 2020 Manager's Report: 2020/4/02

March was busy at the HTGCD offices. Of primary concern at the District and Nation-wide is the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The District is complying with state and local authorities in the effort to slow the spread of the virus by “social distancing” and other directives.

- On recommendation of the Governor, the District has closed its offices to visitors.
- The District has an employee work from home option.
- In order to accomplish that we created remote access to the office server via DropBox.
- We continue to work, answer phones, and conduct the business of the District for as long as we are practically able.
- Staff has implemented a remote Board meeting platform that conforms to the Attorney General's temporary relaxation of the Open Meetings Act rules.
- Meeting cancellations are numerous and nearly universal.
- Our NOAV procedures are complicated and are best handled in person. For that reason, Staff recommends postponing that Board Meeting item until the next in-person Board meeting.

Charlie Flatten attended the following meetings on behalf of the District:

- March 2, Rule 15 pre-committee meeting with BSEACD Regulatory personnel
- March 3, Camp Young Judaea permit meeting w/Steve Bond PG
- March 3, Wimberley WSC Board Meeting
- March 4, Hays County Groundwater Modeling Taskforce w/Lon Shell & BSEACD
- March 4, Meadows Center Monitor Well ILA clarification – Nick Dornak
- March 6, Rule 13 meeting w/DSWSC - Kyle and AJ
- March 6, Rule 13 meeting w/WWSC - Garrett
- March 9, Meadows Center Blue Bag Lunch educational meeting
- March 9, Bill Christiansen – Web Site refurbish informational meeting
- March 9, NOAV meeting with HHS rep Kenny King

- March 10, NOAV meeting with Fall Creek Vineyards rep Ed Auler
- March 11, Sw Travis Co. GCD Board meeting
- March 12, Well Intel rep to discuss suitability of product in Districts monitor wells
- March 16, Dripping Springs WSC Board meeting
- March 18, NOAV site visit to Fall Creek Vineyard
- March 19, Rule 3.10 meeting w/DSWSC - Kyle and AJ
- March 20, Rule 3.10 Committee (phone) Meetings

The following meetings have been postponed or canceled:

- GMA -10
- Hill Country Open Spaces Summit
- Texas Water Symposium
- State Climatologist, John Nielson-Gammon presentation at the April 2 Board meeting.
- Rainwater Revival
- SwTCGCD Board meeting

Project progress report:

- **Preparing the District to function in pandemic** circumstances has been a major project. It has entailed research and implementation of a host of procedures including:
 - Notifying the public, our NOAV permittees and &tc. of new office and Board meeting situations
 - Securing remote office phone access
 - Securing remote office file server access (DropBox)
 - Securing our bookkeeper remote access to QuickBooks and our ability to pay invoices and payroll
 - Securing direct deposit for payroll
- **Rule 13 re-write** for possible Board action
- **JWGMZ - Rule 15 roll out** background work
 - Press Release to news outlets and local newsletters announcing passage
 - Webpage updates
 - FAQ Sheet
 - Drought Stage info on Website

- *Management Zone Drought Implementation Procedure* document creation
- Rule 15 Drought Management Committee meetings (BSEACD, WWSC, AQUA)
- **2019 Annual Report** is nearing completion and will be available for Board review in April
- Many **on-line forms** are very old, and inconsistent with our rules. We continue to work on the *“Reconciling on-line forms with current rules”* project.

2020 Well Registration & Water Connections:

- 8 New Well Registrations in March 2020 (all Domestic/Residential)
- 3 PWS Connections added in March 2020 (Aqua TX – 2; WWSC – 1). Note the lack of PWS Connections from DSWSC since December.

Well Tech staff Report: Keaton

Science Report: Philip

The District always wants to encourage the use of rainwater collection systems on all new homes, businesses, and on existing buildings. The District promotes proper brush management and re-establishing deep-rooted native grasses as a means of promoting infiltration into the aquifer. The District further promotes the use of surface water or other alternatives to groundwater in and around western Hays County.

We have expanded our educational materials on native plants, water conservation tips, and rainwater harvesting information for members of the public at the sign in sheet table.

The District encourages the public to view the District’s educational videos available on the District’s website.

Thank you!

Charlie Flatten, General Manager

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