

# Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District:

## July 2, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

### 6:01 p.m.: Board Meeting Called to Order

**Board Present:** Linda Kaye Rogers - President, Holly Fults – Vice President, John Worrall – Secretary/Treasurer, Doc Jones, and Jeff Shaw

**Board Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Charlie Flatten – General Manager, Philip Webster - Hydrogeologist, Keaton Hoelscher – Geo-Technician

**Legal Counsel Present:** Greg Ellis

- **Board Roll Call:**
  - Charlie Flatten:
    - Roll call, a quorum of the Board is present.
- **General Public Comment(s):** None
- **General Comments and Announcements from Board & Staff:** None

### **General Manager's Report:**

Charlie Flatten:

- Covid-19 response
  - Started monthly well monitoring with owners consistent
- Update on Projects
  - Braatwurst: Phase 2 (numerical model development), currently gathering political will and funds
- Staff job vacancy: initial phone screenings start next week
- November elections: District 2 and 4 are up for re-election
- Continuing website updates
- Jacobs Well Groundwater Management Zone implementation plan:
  - Continuing to discussions with Permittees
  - Received pumpage reports for the drought month of May
- Permian Highway Pipeline:
  - Hays County has pulled permits for boring across three county road
  - Utilized GIS to identify wells within a 5-miles buffer of the pipeline right-of-way
    - Identified over 700 wells
  - Creating a letter to send to identified well owners with information regarding what to do if the landowners well becomes contaminated.
- 15 new registrations in June
- 16 Public Water Supply connections in June

**Status of Drought Briefing:**

Charlie Flatten:

- o Pedernales and Blanco River are flowing above drought triggers
- o JW is in 0-percent curtailment stage
- o PDHI shows no drought for all of Hays County
- o Forecast: above average rainfall and above temperatures
- o District encourages rainwater collected and the use of surface water

**Science Update:**

Keaton Hoelscher:

- o TCEQ update:
  - o June 12, Parten Ranch Phase 3, located at Parten Ranch Parkway and Two Creek Ln, single family residential. Currently working on response.
  - o June 16, Headwater Phase 2, located at Kubo Rdg. And US 290, four apartment buildings. Currently working on response.
- o Gave update on Board elections and timeline of events

Philip Webster:

- o Update on Burton Monitoring well report
- o May science-related meetings
- o Edwards and Trinity Regional Aquifer Modeling
- o Braatwurst modeling

Keaton Hoelscher:

- Details about the contents of the letter to be sent out to well owners identified in the 5-mile buffer

Linda Kaye:

- Recommends staff to write up an article about why residents should register their well

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**Consent Items**

**Item # 1: Approval of Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices**

**Item # 2: Approval of May Financial Reports, Balance Sheets, and Budget to Actual Report**

**Item # 3: Approval of June 4, 2020 meeting minutes**

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

John Worrall:

- o Liquid Assets: \$810,000

- Profit: YTD: \$89,000; budgeted income: \$173,000; currently running a deficient
- Less than 50% of expected revenue
- Expenses are where they should be

Charlie:

- DSWSC has paid Jan-March but not April-June. Once DSWSC pays for the second quarter, the gap between revenue and expenses should decrease.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Asked if the 16 connections are from Aqua Texas

Keaton Hoelscher:

- Yes, most of the June connections were from Aqua Texas

**Motion:**

Jeff Shaw: Motioned to accept Jon’s Financial Report

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers); motion passed

**Motion:**

Linda Kay Rogers: Motion to approve the June 4 Meeting Minutes

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers); motion passed

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**Discussion and Possible Action**

**Item # 4: Nomination and appointment of HTGCD representative on the 2020-2021 Drippings Utility Commission**

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Jeff Shaw:

- The District has two representatives for the Drippings Utility Commission with 2-year rotations
- Nominate Jeff Forman for the HTGCD open spot on the Dripping Springs Utility Commission

Jeff Forman:

- Long time Austin resident
- Vested interesting for the Dripping Springs area

Linda Kaye:

- Quick summary of the Boards expectations of the representative

*Discussion between the Board and Jeff Foreman regarding the position*

**Motion:**

Jeff Shaw: Motion Jeff Foreman to be the nominee of the Dripping Spring Utility Commission

Dec Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers); motion passed

**Item # 5: Outreach and Communication: Commencement of 2021 Water Vision process**

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Holly Fults:

- Development of a strategic plan to reach out to the community and share the message of why the HTGCD exist
- Looking for a facilitator with an array of skills to help the District with outreach to the community
- Establish a near and long-term vision for how the District is going to move further and manage the change

Jon Worrall:

- Sent out letter to all permittees and interested parties discussing:
  - Population increase
  - Drought conditions producing dry wells
  - How the limited available water will support the Districts needs
  - Optimize our limited water supply
- Bringing in the permittees and interested parties in the discussion in developing a strategic vision for our water future
- Discussion of sustainable funding methods
- Produce survey to permittees and interested parties to potentially take to the legislature showing community support

Charlie Flatten:

- We sent out 97 letters and received about a 10% response rate, all are willing to participate.
- Will contact all larger permittees to ensure the letter was received.

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- Worried about the Legislative and Education/Outreach Committee overlapping
- Asked Charlie if he could bring Jeff into the discussion without creating a walking quorum

Doc Jones:

- Requested the letter be sent to the Board members

Holly Fults:

- Researched water management district conducting a similar outreach program
- People seem to be adapting to the teleconference technology

**Motion:**

No motion needed

**Item # 6: Consider Approval of Hays County *CONTRACT FOR ELECTION SERVICES***

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Charlie:

- The two District re-elections should cost around \$13,122.44
- Needs documents signed

Greg Ellis:

- Linda Kaye Rogers can motion to have Charlie Flatten sign the necessary documents

**Motion:**

John Worrall: Motion to approve Hays County Contract for Election Services authorizing Charlie Flatten to sign on behalf of the Board

Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers); motion passed

**Item # 7: Consider Approval of Hays County *JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN HAYS COUNTY AND HTGCD***

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Charlie:

- Supporting document of the contract for election services
- Spells out processes, agreement, and staff requirements to facilitate the election

**Motion:**

No Motion Needed

**Item # 8: Order #200 to change JWGMZ Drought Stage**

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Charlie:

- This was a placeholder in case the District needed to declare a drought for the Jacobs Well Groundwater Management Zone.

**Motion:**

No Motion Needed

**Item # 9: Potential Kinder Morgan Pipeline Dye Tracing in Blanco County**

**Board and Staff Discussion:**

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Meet with Ron Fieseler (GM of the Blanco GCD) and Charlie Flatten to discuss the Dye Trace between Blanco Pedernales GCD and Kinder Morgan.

Charlie Flatten:

- o Kinder Morgan will be funding a dye trace study in Blanco County
- o Ron Fieseler asked for a grant so that the study could be done by an independent third party
- o Ron Fieseler is currently working on the design and detail of the dye trace study
- o Should receive details soon

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Concern due to the dye trace study occurring within the HTGCD boundary. HTGCD would not be included in the study due to Kinder Morgan not wanting our participation
- o The study therefore would stop at the county line even though the dye is not affected by political boundaries
- o The District should ask Ron Fieseler to notify us regarding the details of the study, allowing the District to establish our own monitoring sites
- o Staff should be prepared to reach out to residents for potential monitoring sites

Jeff Shaw:

- o The District should be collecting that data from the monitoring sites with the District boundaries
- o Noted that in the past, notifying the public of a dye trace taking place can result in inaccurate results

Doc Jones:

- o Should notify surrounding well owners about study as they may receive discolored water from their well

Linda Kaye Rogers:

- o Great opportunity to study the flow regimes in the study area

**Motion:**

Linda Kaye Rogers: Motioned to authorize staff to prepare for any residual responses to the Dye trace study that Blanco Pedernales GCD may be doing for Kinder Morgan

Jeff Shaw: Seconded

Vote: 4-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Linda Kaye Rogers); 1 recusal (Holly Fults); motion passed

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**7:25 p.m.: The Board recessed into Executive Session to Discuss Agenda Item # 9 and 10 (Texas Government Code Section 551.071).**

**8:45 p.m.: Reconvened from Executive Session.**

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**Discussion Only**

**Item # 10: Standstill Agreement with DSWSC**

**Item # 11: Aqua Texas objections to Rule 15 requirements**

**Item # 12: Discussion with General Counsel on Fraud Prevention and Best Management Practices**

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**Future Agenda Items**

Discussion and Possible Action: 2019 Annual Notice of Alleged Violation Actions

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**Adjournment**

**Motion:**


Jeff Shaw: Motion to adjourn meeting


Doc Jones: Seconded

Vote: 5-0 in favor (John Worrall, Doc Jones, Jeff Shaw, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers); motion passed.

**8:52 p.m.: Meeting Adjourned**

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Approved:   
Linda Kaye Rogers  
President

Approved:   
John Worrall  
Secretary/Treasurer