



Minutes for Public Hearing & Regular Meeting of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

**Meeting Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020
Time: 6:00 pm
Via Teleconference**

Pursuant to notice posted November 12th and 30th, 2020, the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors met in a Public Hearing & Meeting and was called to order by the President, Linda Kaye Rogers, at 6:02 p.m.

The initial quorum call was answered as follows: Linda Kaye Rogers, President; Holly Fults, Vice President; John Worrall, Secretary/Treasurer; James “Toby” Shelton, Director.

A quorum was present.

Staff Present: Charlie Flatten, General Manager; Philip Webster, Hydrogeologist; Keaton Hoelscher, Geo-Technician; Laura Thomas, Office Administrator.

Public Comment(s): None.

Announcements: GM Flatten noted upcoming GMA 11 and 9 meetings, Dec. 8th and 14th. Director Rogers noted she and GM Flatten attended virtual Cypress Creek Watershed Protection Plan mtg. Director Rogers noted she and Director Shelton had both taken oath of office and signed all required paperwork.

6:05pm Doc Jones, Director, now present.

General Manager’s Report, Charlie Flatten:

- Investment reports now on website.
- 2019 Audit completed and returned to District.
- November 2020: 6 new well registrations, 8 new single-family public water supply connections.

Status of Drought Briefing: As of December 2, our drought triggers at:

- Pedernales River at Johnson City and the Blanco River at Wimberley are currently running in drought stage. Staff recommends the District remain in 20% Alarm Drought Stage.
- Jacob’s Well Spring 10-Day average discharge rate as of November 1, 2020 is 1.34-cfs and has slowed to almost zero in the last couple of days, thus remaining in a 30% curtailment for the JWGMZ by rule.
- The Palmer Hydrologic Drought Index (NOAA) shows Severe Drought conditions for all of Hays County and most of central Texas. NOAA Weather forecasts below average rainfall and above average temperatures through the end of the year. We remain in the grip of a La Nina weather pattern.
- The District encourages a variety of groundwater conservation measures, including deep rooted native grasses. Check haysgroundwater.com for more conservation practices.

Election and Monitor Run Update, Keaton Hoelscher:

- No new TCEQ notifications.
- Election results official. Board canvassed votes on Nov. 20.
- Monitor Well levels across the District saw a small decline from the previous month, down 2-15 feet from October. The Henly-area wells remain very close to their historically low numbers.

Science Update, Philip Webster: Gave thorough presentation of his completed reports,

- District Recharge Characteristics on a Watershed scale, and
- Trinity Aquifer Response Under Current Production Levels at 2011 Drought Conditions.

Consent Items

1. Approval of Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices

2. Approval of October Financial Reports, Balance Sheets and, Budget to Actual Report

3. Approval of November 5, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

After brief discussion and Secretary/Treasurer Worrall noting that the District is on track to end the year in the black, the following motions were made:

Director Jones moved to approve Consent Items 1 and 2. Director Fults seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, Toby Shelton, John Worrall

Nay: None

Absent: None.

VP Fults moved to approve Consent Item 3. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, Toby Shelton, John Worrall

Nay: None

Absent: None.

Public Hearing 7:06PM Public Hearing Open

4. 2021 Groundwater Management Plan approval

Public Comment: None

GM Flatten gave brief overview of 5- year management plan required by the Texas Water Development Board. Noted deficiency in plan data due to 2020 decennial census numbers due to be released March 2021, but plan to be approved in January 2021. TWDB declined to allow district to postpone plan in order to make use of upcoming census data.

7:09 PM, Public Hearing Closed.

Discussion and Possible Action

5. Al Broun Certificate of Excellence

Staff hydrogeologist Philip Webster spoke about former Director and long-time staff Professional Geologist Al Broun, his mentorship to district scientists, his rigorous research, and his significant contributions to the advancement of hydrogeologic science. The Board presented a plaque recognizing Al Broun for excellence in his 20 plus years of dedication to the District and expressed its enduring gratitude for his devotion to HTGCD and aquifer science. One plaque will be sent to Mr. Broun and one will hang in the HTGCD lab in perpetuity.

6. 2021 Groundwater Management Plan approval

After Board discussion, Secretary/Treasurer Worrall moved to approve and adopt the 2021 Management Plan. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall, Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Toby Shelton

Nay: None

Absent: None.

7. Holiday Hours for District Office

Secretary/Treasurer Worrall moved to approve the traditional holiday schedule and close the District office from December 24 through January 1. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall, Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Toby Shelton

Nay: None

Absent: None.

8. Election of New Board Officers:

Board President:

President Linda Kaye Rogers nominated Director Holly Fults for President. No other nominations were offered. Holly Fults was unanimously elected to the office of President of the HTGCD Board of Directors.

Vice President:

Director Jones nominated Linda Kaye Rogers for Vice President. No other nominations were offered. Director Rogers was unanimously elected to the office of Vice President of the HTGCD Board of Directors.

Secretary/Treasurer:

Vice President Rogers nominated John Worrall to continue to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. No other nominations were offered. Director Worrall was unanimously re-elected to the office of Secretary/Treasurer of the HTGCD Board of Directors.

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Discussion Only

9. Standstill Agreement with DSWSC status report:

Director Worrall advised that all parties are standing still, although DSWSC had not been available to meet recently. Director Shelton expressed his interest in assisting with the agreement.

10. Strategic Water Vision 2021 status report:

President Fults gave update on project status. Round 2 of stakeholder engagement meetings recently completed. Director Shelton participated in one and VP Rogers participated in the other. Gave brief review of list of 6 recommendations gleaned from the first-round meetings. Discussed stakeholder interest in alternative funding structures that might inform future legislation. Board expressed desire for greater and ongoing

community participation. Treasurer/Secretary Worrall projected that the full presentation of the 2021 Strategic Water Vision would be during the February board meeting.

11. Alternative connection fee options:

GM Flatten explained current and historic fee structures and offered a brief assessment of alternatives to connection fees as a funding mechanism, including using AWWA meter size approach. Stated that almost any alternative requires a legislative change. Expressed interest in discussing fee structures with the water utilities in the District.

12. NOAV penalty discussion :

President Fults opened discussion of NOAV fees, including value of staff time administrating the fees. GM Flatten gave estimate of staff time and cost related to NOAVs. Board expressed hesitation towards implementing an administrative fee and did not express interest in adding it to the next agenda.

Future Agenda Items:

1. Incentive Policy for Personnel

2. Recycling Policy

Board discussed dates for a special meeting relating to a legislative package.

Motion to Adjourn:

VP Rogers moved to adjourn. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

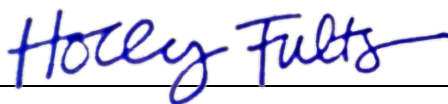
Aye: Doc Jones, John Worrall, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, Toby Shelton

Nay: None

Absent: None.

Meeting Adjourned, 8:16 p.m.

Approved: _____

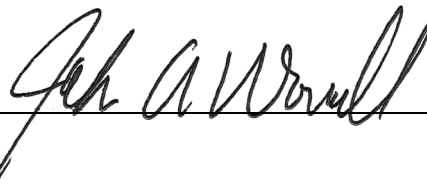


1/07/2021

Holly Fults

President

Approved: _____



1/07/2021

John Worrall

Treasurer/Secretary