



Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

**Meeting Date: Thursday, May 6, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Via Videoconference**

Pursuant to notice posted May 3, 2021, the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors met in a Public Meeting and was called to order by the President, Holly Fults, at 6:02 p.m.

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

A quorum was present.

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

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Public Comment(s): Susan Cook; Jimmy Skipton.

Invited Comment: Water Wise Speaker Series: Jackie Mattice, Hays County Master Naturalist; Jeff Foreman, Dripping Springs Wastewater Commission member; Greg Ellis, HTGCD Lawyer.

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Water Wise Speaker Series: Jackie Mattice, a Hays County Master Naturalist, gave a useful presentation on landscape plants shown to be well adjusted to the local climate, especially drought, heat, and cold, with a focus on native or non-invasive plants. This was the second of the District’s new bimonthly speaker series.

Public Comment: Susan Cook; Jimmy Skipton.

Announcements: GM Flatten: GMA9 undergoing 5-year planning, HTGCD hearing for it is June 3, 2021; will be working on permitting for newly announced Mirasol Springs Development in NW corner of District.

General Manager’s Report, Charlie Flatten:

- Introduction of the HTGCD bi-monthly Water Wise Speakers Series. The next presentation will be by the State Climatologist, John Nielson-Gammon, and will be held at the beginning of the July Board meeting.
- Participated in educational panel with Tex. State Univ. Dept. of Geography.
- NOAVs have been calculated and sent.
- April 2021: 14 new well registrations, 7 new single-family public water supply connections. Received stack of 1st Quarter 2021 connections from DSWSC.

Status of Drought Briefing: Our drought triggers at:

- May 4th Pedernales River drought trigger shows 3 consecutive days of discharge flows above the drought stage ‘Alarm’ and 0 consecutive days below the drought stage ‘Critical.’ The Blanco River drought trigger shows 3 consecutive days of flows above ‘Alarm’ and 0 consecutive days below ‘Critical.’ To move out of ‘Alarm’ or into ‘Critical,’ both rivers must have 60 consecutive days of flow above or 30 consecutive days of

flow below the drought stage, respectively. The District's third trigger, the Palmer Hydrological Drought Index, shows 'Severe Drought' conditions. Staff recommends the Board remain in 20% Alarm Drought Stage.

- Jacobs Well Spring 10-Day average discharge rate as of February 28, 2021 is 1.81 cfs -- remaining in a 30% curtailment for the JWGMZ by rule.
- The Palmer Hydrologic Drought Index (NOAA) shows persistent moderate drought conditions for all of Hays County. NOAA 3-month weather forecast predict below average rainfall and above average temperatures.
- The District encourages a variety of groundwater conservation measures, including the cultivation of deep-rooted native grasses and robust rainwater storage systems. See more on our website.

Monitor Run and TCEQ Update, Keaton Hoelscher:

- February Monitoring Run: April 14 & 15. Most wells showed decline from previous month, from 2 to 10 feet. with a decrease of 1 to 4 feet in Henly area wells.
- On April 30th, the District received notice of the 'Heritage Phase 1' project. This project is located about a mile NW of the Ranch Road 12 and Highway 290 intersection.

Science Update:

- Developing study of Unit 3 (Upper Glen Rose) implications on recharge throughout Barton Creek watershed.
- Continuing study of potential surface water contributions to the Trinity Aquifer throughout Goldenwood and neighboring areas.
- BRAATWURST Study preparations (County-wide model focusing on surface water/groundwater interactions).
- Modeling Tool refinement: gives the ability for anyone to run the model scenario; does not require any additional programs. Running the model with the various projected growth rates, production, climate models, etc.
- Assessing details of our monitoring network with goal is to add 2 more transducer monitoring wells.

Consent Items

- 1. Approval of April 2021 Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices**
- 2. Approval of March 2021 Financial Reports, Balance Sheets and, Budget to Actual Report**
- 3. Approval of April 1, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

After brief discussion, the following motions were made:

Director Jones moved to approve Consent Items 1 through 3. Director Shelton seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: None.

Discussion and Possible Action

- 1. Standstill Agreement with DSWSC**
Brief update by Director Shelton; no action taken.
- 2. Review and Approve 2020 Annual Report**

Following presentation by GM Flatten and Board and Staff discussion, the following motion was made:

VP Rogers moved to approve the 2020 Annual Report. Secretary/Treasurer Worrall seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall, Toby Shelton;
Nay: None
Absent: None.

3. Favoring or opposing legislation currently pending before the Texas Legislature

Greg Ellis, HTGCD Gov't Relations, gave update on groundwater related bills at Tex. Legislature.
No action taken.

4. Dripping Springs Wastewater Commission HTGCD representative appointment

Following Board discussion, the following motion was made:

VP Rogers moved to continue utilizing Roger Kew as the HTGCD Representative on the Dripping Springs Wastewater Commission. Director Shelton seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

Aye: Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall, Toby Shelton;
Nay: None
Absent: None.

Executive Session

At 8:01 pm, on Direction of the President and Pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 551, including Section 551.071 and 551.074, the Board, Attorney Greg Ellis, and GM Flatten moved into Executive Session items to discuss the standstill agreement with DSWSC.

No Action was taken.

8:56p.m.: Reconvened from Executive Session.

Discussion Only

- 1. Dripping Springs Wastewater Commission Report:** Jeff Foreman gave an overview of Commission's 2020 activities.
- 2. Connection Fee Adjustment:** Pres. Fults spoke about possibility and complication of adjusting connection fees depending on data, outcome of legislation, Board and community input, etc. Secretary/Treasurer Worrall gave wise feedback.

Motion to Adjourn:

Secretary/Treasurer Worrall moved to adjourn. Director Shelton 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, 9:13 p.m.

Approved: Holly Fults 06/03/2021
Holly Fults, President

Approved: John Worrall 06/03/2021
John Worrall, Secretary/Treasurer