



Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021

Time: 5:00 pm

Sunset Canyon Baptist Church
4000 US-290 West, Dripping Springs, Tex. 78620

Pursuant to notices posted August 30, 2021, the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors met in a Public Meeting and was called to order by the Vice President, Linda Kaye Rogers, at 5:10 p.m.

The initial quorum call was answered as follows: 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; Philip Webster, Hydrogeologist; Laura Thomas, Office Administrator; Keaton Hoelscher, Geo Technician.

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General Public Comment(s): Garrett Allen, Nick Dornak

Invited Comment: Nick Dornak (Water Wise Speaker)

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Announcements: None.

Water Wise Speaker Series: Nick Dornak, Director of Watershed Services for the Meadows Center for Water and the Environment at Texas State University, gave a presentation on the One Water design of Wimberley ISD Blue Hole Elementary School. The One Water design involves managing all the campus’s water as a single resource that is sustainable and reusable. Blue Hole Elementary is an excellent example of the long-term cost savings and resource-independence achievable while also conserving an increasingly scarce resource. The video of the presentation is available on the District website. This was the fourth of the District’s bimonthly speaker series.

General Manager’s Report:

- August 2021: 21 new well registrations, 6 new single-family public water supply connections.
- Regional Recharge Study Zone and neighborhood outreach: collected water level and water quality measurements from Trinity Aquifer well owners in/nearby the Special Study Zone in the southern portion of the District. The Goal was to give well and water data to well owners and gather quantity and quality data on lower and middle trinity wells in the understudied Special Study Zone to advance science and produce the first potentiometric map of the lower trinity in that area. 320 postcards sent, 69 responses, 58 well tests performed.
- GM attended Tex. Assoc. of Groundwater Districts Summit, and staff watched virtual summit.
- Charlie was re-appointed by consensus to the Environmental Stakeholder Position of the Region L Water Planning Group and remains an alternate to Region K.

Status of Drought Briefing: HTGCD drought triggers:

- As of September 1, drought triggers at Pedernales River at Johnson City and the Blanco River at Wimberley remain in the No Drought – Voluntary Conservation stage.
- Jacobs Well Spring 10-Day average discharge rate as of August 31, 2021 is 3.06 cfs – remain at 20% curtailment for the JWGMZ, by rule.
- The Palmer Hydrologic Drought Index (NOAA) shows a state of no atmospheric or agricultural drought conditions through September 2021 for Hays County. NOAA summer outlook predicts a 33% chance that average rainfall rates in September will be higher than those typically observed and average temperatures will be warmer than those typically observed at that time of year.
- The District encourages a variety of groundwater conservation measures, including the cultivation of deep-rooted native grasses and robust rainwater storage systems.

Monitor Run and Science Update:

- July Monitoring Run: August 18 and 19. Most wells decreased slightly, with NW area of District showing decreases of 1.8 to 7.6 feet from last month.
- August Aquifer and Surface Water Condition report as well as Middle Trinity Historical Percentile maps are updated. 80% of the District is below the 30th percentile of historic water levels.
- Regional Recharge Study Zone: Collected water level data from ~60 wells through the Blanco and Cypress Creek watershed and Comal Co. and developed a Middle Trinity and Lower Trinity potentiometric surface map. Report is under review and expected to be released in October.
- Jacob’s Well Monitoring Wells - 2 wells, one traditional monitoring the Lower Trinity and Middle Trinity Aquifers, the other a multiport well, capable of collecting data from many hydro-stratigraphic units.
- Investigating potential surface water contributions to the Trinity Aquifer throughout Goldenwood and neighboring areas.

Consent Items

- 1. Approval of August 2021 Bank Reconciliations & Monthly Invoices**
- 2. Approval of July 2021 Financial Reports, Balance Sheets and, Budget to Actual Report**
- 3. Approval of August 5, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes**

After brief discussion, the following motions were made:
 Director Shelton moved to approve Consent Items 1 through 3. Director Jones seconded.
 The motion prevailed by the following vote:
 Aye: Doc Jones, Toby Shelton, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall,
 Nay: None
 Absent: Holly Fults.

Discussion and Possible Action

- 4. Drought Status Changes:**
 Tabled due to no drought status changes.

- 5. Federal Holiday Schedule Update:**
 The following motions were made:
 Secretary/Treasurer Worrall moved to add the newly recognized Federal holiday, Juneteenth, to the list of observed District holidays and update the Personnel Handbook accordingly. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:
Aye: Doc Jones, Toby Shelton, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall,
Nay: None
Absent: Holly Fults.

Discussion Only

6. JWGMZ Baseline Adjustments

Public Comment: Garrett Allen, Nick Dornak.

General Manager Flatten presented progress working with permittees on implementing changes required in the Jacobs Well Groundwater Management Zone (JWGMZ, Zone). Garrett Allen of Wimberley Water Supply Corp. (WWSC) made requests regarding the disaggregation of their permit containing wells inside and outside the Zone. Nick Dornak of the Meadows Center, who was in attendance as the Water Wise Speaker Series presenter, commented during discussion of potential baseline adjustments. Board and Staff discussion included potential baseline adjustments for the WWSC well within the Zone. Staff will continue to work with JWGMZ permittees on implementation.

Future Agenda Items:

7. JWGMZ Baseline Adjustments for Wimberley Springs Partners

8. 2022 Budget Proposal

10. Water Wise Speaker Series: Benefits of Land Conservation on Water Resource (Nov.)

Motion to Adjourn:

Director Shelton moved to adjourn. Director Jones seconded.


The motion prevailed by the following vote:

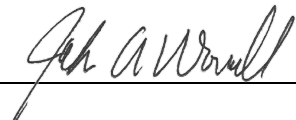
Aye: Doc Jones, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall, Toby Shelton,

Nay: None

Absent: Holly Fults.

Meeting Adjourned, 6:49 p.m.

Approved:  08/05/2021
Linda Kaye Rogers
Vice President

Approved:  08/05/2021
John Worrall
Secretary/Treasurer