



Minutes for Regular Meeting of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021

Time: 5:00 pm

Hays County Extension Office (Meeting Room)

200 Stillwater Rd, Wimberley, TX 78676

Pursuant to notice posted October 4, 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 5:07 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.

A quorum was present.

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

General Public Comment(s): None.

Announcements: Vice President Rogers and General Manager Flatten discussed attending the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) annual conference and the Hill Country Alliance Leadership Conference.

General Manager's Report:

- September 2021: 6 new well registrations, 55 new single-family public water supply connections.
- Updated Board on positive feedback from Regional Recharge Study Zone outreach.
- Website project proceeding on course; web payments being set up for new website.
- Brief update of State and County redistricting progress.
- Attended GMA 9 meeting Sept. 27 in Bandera. DFC conditions, all counties showed from 2 to 25 foot drop in water levels except Blanco County, which reported a 9 foot increase, with Comal and SW Travis County not reporting. Considered public comment collected on the 2021 DFC Explanatory Report.
- Next GMA 9 meeting will be in Boerne November 15.
- Both Region K and L planning groups are beginning their planning cycles and have chosen engineering firms.

Status of Drought Briefing: HTGCD drought triggers:

- As of October 1, drought triggers at Pedernales River at Johnson City and the Blanco River at Wimberley remain out of drought and in the Voluntary Conservation stage.
- Jacobs Well Spring 10-Day average discharge rate as of September 31, 2021 is 4.34 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 for Hays County. NOAA outlook predicts a 40% chance that October rainfall rates will be higher than those typically observed but Fall season rainfall will be lower than normal. NOAA predicts average temperatures to 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:

- September Monitoring Run: September 15 and 16. Most wells decreased slightly, with NW area of District showing decreases of 5 to 10 feet from last month.
- Keaton’s year-long study of Northwest Hays County monitor wells shows that despite high rainfall, wells show significantly reduced recovery compared to similar years of rainfall following drought. The report will be added to district website.
- Philip’s September Aquifer and Surface Water Condition report as well as Middle Trinity Historical Percentile maps are updated. 80% of the District remains below the 30th percentile of historic water levels.
- Jacob’s Well Monitoring Wells by BSCEAD still waiting on casing to begin drilling.
- Establishing Little Blanco study with the Meadows Center.
- Update on Horseshoe Ridge RV park drilling.

Consent Items

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

After brief discussion, the following motions were made:

Vice President Rogers moved to approve Consent Items 1 through 3. Director Jones seconded.

The motion prevailed by the following vote:

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

Nay: None

Absent: Director Shelton.

Discussion and Possible Action

- 4. Drought Status Changes:** Tabled due to no drought status changes.
- 5. JWGMZ Baseline Adjustment for Wimberley Springs Partners:** Tabled and moved to November meeting.
- 6. 2022 Budget Proposal for future Public Hearing:**

Board and Staff Discussion: Treasurer/Secretary Worrall introduced the draft 2022 Budget Proposal and explained that it represents a shift in budgeting style, incorporating actual past revenue numbers, and estimating expense and revenue with conservative growth in mind rather than no growth as in past budgets; resulting budget tool will be more sensible and straightforward. Emphasized use of District’s reserve funds as a rainy day fund and funding source for extraordinary expenses incurred by the District, such as decennial Redistricting costs and its associated larger election expense. President Fults addressed need to be cautious with water connection projections, including checking them against known expectations (planned developments, other future water sources, etc.) and economic outlook. President Fults stated need to update Hays County demand study as current study is now 10 years old.

Following additional discussion relating to personnel during the Executive Session recorded below, the following motion was made:

Vice President Rogers moved that the draft 2022 Budget with changes be scheduled for Public Hearing and possible action during the Nov. 4, 2021 meeting. Director Jones seconded.

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

7. General Manager Annual Review:
Considered in Executive Session.

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Executive Session

At 6:47pm, on Direction of the President and Pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 551, including Section 551.071 and 551.074, the Board and GM Flatten moved into Executive Session to discuss Agenda Item #6: 2022 Budget Proposal for Future Public Hearing (personnel) and Agenda Item #7 General Manager Annual Review.

No Action was taken.

7:51p.m.: Reconvened from Executive Session.

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Discussion Only

8. Public Water Supply Status Report:

Board and Staff discussed production status, line loss, and connection information of public water supplies within the District. Board asked Staff to clean up parts of chart and post on district website.


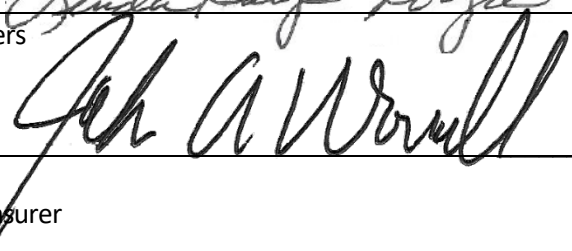
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Future Agenda Items:

Water Wise Speakers Series: Benefits of Land Conservation on Water Resource (Nov.)
2022 Budget Public Hearing
Public Water Supply Line Loss

Motion to Adjourn:

Director Jones moved to adjourn. Treasurer/Secretary Worrall seconded.
The motion prevailed by the following vote:
Aye: Doc Jones, Holly Fults, Linda Kaye Rogers, John Worrall,
Nay: None
Absent: Director Shelton.

Meeting Adjourned, 8:01 p.m.

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Approved:  11/04/2021
Linda Kay Rogers
Vice President
Approved:  11/04/2021
John Worrall
Secretary/Treasurer