

**POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**POSGCD District Offices**  
**310 East Avenue C**  
**Milano, TX 76556**  
**March 5, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Directors Present**

Chris Whittaker  
Durwood Tucker  
Steven Wise  
Lee Alford  
Ed Savage  
Tommy Tietjen  
Becky Goetsch  
Sidney Youngblood  
Bob Wilson

**Directors Absent**

Jay Wilder

**Staff Present**

Gary Westbrook  
Bobby Bazan  
Elaine Gerren  
Ralph Sifuentes  
Doug Box

**Others Present**

Barbara Boulware-Wells  
Pat Reilly  
Ross Cummings  
Dan Fischer  
Shan Rutherford  
Mary Ann Russell  
Fred Russell  
Steve Young  
Nathan Ausley  
Craig Bennett  
Paul Terrill  
James Bene'  
R. Rushing  
Amy Jurica Hinnant  
Melvin Lehmann  
Bob Ware  
Merle Beck  
Jimmy Hindman

**Entity**

The Knight Law Firm, LLP  
Blue Water System  
Blue Water System  
Landowner  
Terrill & Waldrop  
Landowner  
Landowner  
Intera  
Landowner  
Bullock, Bennett & Associates  
Terrill & Waldrop  
R.W. Harden  
Resident  
Burleson County Resident  
Birch Creek Rec Volunteer Fire Department  
Birch Creek Rec Volunteer Fire Department  
Birch Creek Rec Volunteer Fire Department  
Birch Creek Rec Volunteer Fire Department

## **BOARD MEETING**

### **1. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Sidney Youngblood asked GM Gary Westbrook to lead the pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas and he did so.

### **2. Invocation**

President Sidney Youngblood asked Ralph Sifuentes to lead the invocation and he did so.

### **3. Call to Order and establish quorum**

The meeting was called to order and a quorum established at 5:34 p.m. by President Sidney Youngblood.

### **4. Minutes of January 8, 2019**

After brief discussion a motion was made by Director Bob Wilson to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2019 board meeting as presented. The motion to approve the board meeting minutes was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Lee Alford. The motion carried unanimously.

### **5. Update on education and conservation efforts in Rainwater Harvesting from Texas A&M Agri-life and Drew Gholson**

Dr. Drew Gholson with Texas A&M Agri-life provided an overview for the last year in the education and conservation efforts in Rainwater Harvesting from Texas A&M Agri-life. He presented a slideshow of the grants that were given and the workshops that had been provided to the Milam and Burleson County Residents. He briefly discussed his new position in Mississippi and assured the District that whoever replaces him will step into his position with little difficulty in transition. President Sidney Youngblood thanked Dr. Gholson for all of his hard work and the District presented Dr. Gholson with a plaque of appreciation.

### **6. Continuation of Education and conservation efforts in Rainwater Harvesting with Texas A&M Agri-life**

The Board discussed future Continuation of Education and conservation efforts in Rainwater Harvesting with Texas A&M Agri-life and decided to wait until closer to the expiration of this contract to look at a formal proposal for further work. No action was taken.

### **7. Board Dashboard**

Board President Sidney Youngblood asked for a report of progress from each committee. He began by reporting the Advisory Committee had moved forward with approval of the contract to be used in the Aquifer Conservancy Program (ACP) and oversight of the ACP Ambassadors program. Director Goetsch reported the Rules Committee will meet later this month to look at some minor “clean up” language on the Rules left over from last year. Director Wise reported on the most recent work completed by the DFC Committee and noted that several work items would be completed during the next month. Director Wilson reported on ongoing work of the Education Committee, including recent signs which had been posted at the Rockdale City limits. GM Gary Westbrook noted that the Summit was set for August 14<sup>th</sup> and that the Caldwell Civic Center had been reserved. Director Alford reported the Grant Committee would meet soon after the approaching deadline on applications received. Director Youngblood reported the building committee had accomplished

installation of the flag poles and the flowerbeds needed for further education workshops. These continued to be maintained by Clover Cochran. Director Tucker reported the Legislative Committee had not met, but GM Gary Westbrook had reported on the Senate Bills and House Bills that are currently being looked at and may need evaluations soon. Director Youngblood reported the Community Outreach Committee would poll citizens soon to decide dates and topics for the next committee meeting. No action was taken.

## **8. Update on Aquifer Conservancy Program**

### **a. Administration**

President Sidney Youngblood asked General Manager Gary Westbrook for an update. GM Gary Westbrook stated that after evaluation of possible ways to administer the program, the district would administer this program in house along with help from The Knight Law Firm and possibly some part time temporary help. He also noted that much of the process could be completed online, followed with steps to verify each application prior to signing a contract.

### **b. Ambassador Program**

GM Gary Westbrook reported the District has hosted 3 workshops for the Ambassador program with approximately 30 members of the public responding. New updated ACP flyers are being completed and will be distributed to the Ambassadors and distributed throughout Milam and Burleson Counties. He also reported a new page on the website has been developed that is dedicated to being a hands-on tool for the ambassadors, and he recognized Amy Jurica Hinnant had provided excellent feedback with ideas to further the Ambassador Program.

## **9. Evaluation of study by local Fire Departments on conservation of water using certain nozzles and equipment**

A presentation was given by James Sowders with the Birch Creek Rec. Fire Department reporting on water savings which would be realized by the replacement of traditional nozzles with adjustable flow nozzles. Discussion was held by the Board to clarify if these nozzles can be interchanged to be used on multiple pieces of equipment. A motion was made by Director Tommy Tietjen to include adjustable flow nozzles to the eligible items included within the current budget item for Fire Department water conservation expenditures. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Ed Savage. The motion carried unanimously.

## **10. Consider recommendations from DFC Committee:**

Committee Chair Steven Wise gave an overview of the DFC Committee meeting prior to the Board Meeting, and invited GM Westbrook to give a summary of the work considered and discussed, and the recommendations from the committee concerning agenda item 11 of this meeting.

## **11. Investigation into possible contamination of groundwater resources due to deposits of coal ash**

GM Gary Westbrook reviewed the results of a recent report that had been published concerning the Alcoa plant location as well as other Coal Fired Power Plants that may have possible contamination due to the disposal of coal ash. He discussed the possible contamination at the Alcoa location, answering questions concerning the construction of the pit where the coal ash was deposited and current monitoring and reporting requirements. He then discussed the District's actions to date, noting that all regulatory authority at this site rested with either the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), but that the District would continue to closely monitor the situation and results of ongoing water quality tests. GM Westbrook then reported the committee had recommended to the Board for staff and consultants to continue to work with Alcoa and TCEQ by participating in the ongoing water quality testing and possibly add more monitor wells in the

Alcoa area so the District could better provide accurate information to the public concerning the water quality in the area and any movement of that water quality. After discussion a motion to proceed as recommended was made by Director Bob Wilson. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Durwood Tucker. The motion passed unanimously.

## **12. Water Level Monitoring Work**

Bobby Bazan, Water Resource Manager gave an overview, stating that District Staff member Ralph Sifuentes has begun the annual measurements and has completed approximately 100 wells. He stated that we have approximately 220 wells in the monitoring system to date. He stated that we continue to monitor the Deanville Well and have experienced no gain or loss from last year's measurement.

## **13. Update on Application to Dispose of Oil and Gas Waste by Injection, number 1186984, filed by Wildhorse Resources Management Company, LLC**

Barbara Boulware-Wells of The Knight Law Firm, LLP stated that she RR had filed a motion for rehearing on behalf of the District, and that she had received the response from Wildhorse. She explained the next step would depend on action taken by the Commissioners of the Railroad Commission of Texas. No further action was taken.

## **14. Review of Recent Educational Efforts and Activities**

A handout and update was given by Doug Box on the District Activities. Mr. Box noted the work on social media performed by the District's volunteer intern, Mrs. Jaclyn Robertson. He stated that he had taught class at Caldwell Intermediate last week and he also did a program at the Rockdale library and the Wildlife Banquet in Deanville on Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **15. Joint planning process and Desired Future Conditions (DFCs), groundwater resources in the District, and future process for evaluating District DFCs for Groundwater Management Area 12 (GMA 12) and Groundwater Management Area 8 (GMA 8)**

GM Gary Westbrook advised the Board on the recent actions of GMA 12 at the meeting of January 29, 2019. He reported that, as recommended by the Board at the last Board meeting, he discussed the possibility of converting expression of current DFCs from average drawdown across an entire District in an aquifer to DFCs only in the shallow section of the aquifers, and converting expression of DFCs from average water level drawdown to water level compared to Mean Sea Level. He reported he believed the other GCDs in GMA 12 would prefer to make no changes at least during the current round of joint planning. No action was taken.

## **16. Receive report from District Manager on recent District activities and take appropriate actions.**

### **A. Permit applications filed with the District and Hearing Dates; Emergency Permits Granted**

No Emergency Permits were filed. GM Gary Westbrook stated that an application had been received from Blue Water Systems, but it had not been ruled administratively complete yet, so hearings dates could not be set.

### **B. Well Drilling activities: registrations, applications, completions, plugging, inspections**

There were 41 wells registered, 2 new well applications, 4 wells completed, 1 wells plugged and 3 well inspections.

### **C. Recent and future District presentations and activities**

#### **1. Legislative Update**

GM Gary Westbrook provided a review of several House Bills and Senate Bills, including HB721, HB726, HB1066, and SB851. Also called attention to the letter which had been sent to Chairman Larson and House member Ashby outlining the District's preferences on HB726

and HB1066.

**2. Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts meeting of January 22-23, 2019**

GM Gary Westbrook stated the he, Bobby Bazan and Doug Box attended the TAGD meeting on January 22-23, 2019.

**3. Groundwater Conservation Grant Program and Scoring Mechanism**

GM Gary Westbrook stated that the application deadline is March 15, 2019 by 4:00 pm

**4. Water for Texas Conference of January 23-25, 2019**

GM Gary Westbrook stated that he and Doug Box attended the Water for Texas Conference of January 23-25, 2019.

**5. Texas Ground Water Association meeting of January 23-25, 2019**

GM Gary Westbrook stated that Bobby Bazan and Ralph Sifuentes attended this conference of January 23-25, 2019.

**6. Texas Water Conservation Association Meetings March 6-8, 2019**

GM Gary Westbrook stated that he would attend this meeting.

**7. Sponsorship at 2019 Texas Groundwater Summit August 20-22, 2019**

GM Gary Westbrook presented a handout of the sponsorship levels A motion was made by Director Bob Wilson to continue to sponsor at the \$ 2,500.00 level as we did last year. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Becky Goetsch. The motion carried unanimously.

President Sidney Youngblood read a letter of appreciation from David Smith of the 4-H Ambassadors.

**17. Bills received, current financial status, Investment Officer Report.**

After discussion by the board, a motion was made by Director Tommy Tietjen to approve payment of bills and accept the financial report. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Lee Alford. The motion passed unanimously.

**18. Public Comment**

President Sidney Youngblood invited public comment.

Public comment was heard from Fred Russell in opposition to the permitting rules of the District. No one else offered comment.

**19. Dates, locations, and times of future meetings.**

The next scheduled regular meeting will be on April 2, 2019 at the District Office at 5:30 pm.

**20. Adjourn Board Meeting**

President Sidney Youngblood adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

**THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HELD ON MARCH 5, 2019 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THAT BOARD ON APRIL 2, 2019.**

Sidney Youngblood, President

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Tietjen, Secretary/Treasurer

Date \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT