



Public Hearings and Board Meeting  
October 1, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.  
Post Oak Savannah GCD Offices  
310 East Ave. C  
Milano, Texas  
Agenda Preview

Hello Directors,

Here is an Agenda Preview for our October 1 meeting. As usual my comments are in ***bold italics where necessary***. I will leave no comment in cases where comment is not needed and a full report will be given at the meeting. Any necessary supporting documents are attached, or will follow shortly. Please call with any questions.

Respectfully,

Gary Westbrook

**The Meeting Agenda subjects to be discussed or considered, or upon which any formal action may be taken, are as listed below. Items may or may not be taken in the same order as shown on this Meeting notice.**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Invocation
3. Call to Order and establish quorum
4. Public Comment on items included in agenda
5. Minutes of September 10, 2019 Board Meeting  
***Sent to you previously and attached to this email.***
6. Receive Award for appreciation from Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors  
***We are receiving an award of appreciation from the Ambassadors Program again this year.***
7. Consider contract with Century Link for upgraded internet service  
***Please find the first draft of this agreement attached for your review. The agreement has been modified to account for negotiated services to us, and will be available from them soon. For the past year or so our internet service has been erratic. We are assured this is due to the age and composition of the current transmission lines. There are days lately when we may find ourselves without service for most of several hours at a time. We have also been experiencing slow downs even when the service is up. A new agreement would upgrade our service to fiber optic. Through negotiations, Century Link has reduced installation charge to almost nothing. Our overall cost would increase approximately \$130 per month with a 5 year contract, as compared to our current 2 year agreement. We would consolidate the phone (convert to VoiP), internet, and Office 365 licenses all into this one bill/account. Additionally, an appropriately secure Firewall protection meant for government servers would be included.***
8. 2019 Budget  
***I will provide an update on the current year's budget at the meeting, as we will not have closed out September for a few more days. At that time I will finalize this report and review it with you at the meeting.***
9. First look at Draft 2020 Budget  
***The Advisory Committee has reviewed the draft of the budget for 2020 and it is attached for your review. They will be looking for comments and input prior to finalizing the budget so we can set it for hearing.***
10. Board Dashboard and Committee Reports  
***AS always, this is an opportunity for each committee chair to update the Board.***
11. Aquifer Conservancy Program
  - a. General Update  
***We will give an update on total number of acreage and parcels enrolled.***
  - b. Requests to Extend 2019 Sign up date to October 31, 2019  
***We are still receiving applications daily and have had several requests to extend the deadline as some are still just now hearing about the program. The Advisory Committee is recommending extending the deadline to October 31. The original reason for setting the sign-up period at 3***

*months was twofold: first, to give a definitive time period to any person interested in administering the program; and second, to finalize sign-ups in time for the work of the next budget for funding. After discussion, it is the opinion we are on track to utilize but not exceed the budgeted amount for this year, and therefore it is not a problem for budgeting. Also, since we are handling this effort in house, there are no concerns about timing there.*

c. Current Contracts issues

*We have noticed a couple of minor issues with the contracts which have been issued. First, the auto-population of the contracts did not go off completely without a hitch as the number of years should have been included in one paragraph, but was omitted. This does not cause the contract to be invalid, but we are addressing this issue. Second, there is no statement of how the agreement is cancelled if the District does not fulfill its responsibilities. We may need to send out addendums to the contract to rectify these and any additional issues.*

d. Hiring additional part time position to complete tasks for 2019

*Since we have now processed and completed approximately 100 of these applications we have an estimate of time required. As a conservative estimate, it takes our staff approximately 1 hour and 10 minutes for each and every application we receive, if the application is filed online. It takes an additional 10-15 minutes on average if there is a manual or paper submission. This means, with our current amount of 340 submissions, it will take a full time staff person over 8 weeks to complete the tasks. Elaine has born the brunt of this additional effort, with all other staff picking up slack where possible. Our staff is beyond stretched thin. I am recommending to hire a person part time, which we did address earlier this year. The person who works in this capacity must be accomplished in attention to detail. If they perform as expected, I believe we will need them to work part time for approximately 6 weeks. I have asked both the Board president and our general counsel about this situation, and as they both concur with my solution which is to hire LaVelda Box, retired teacher and wife of Doug, to fill this need for the remainder of this year. We will address this issue again in preparation for next year, but for the remainder of this year's effort on the ACP, we need dependable assistance immediately.*

12. Request to extend Deadline for completion of application, award, and contract for 2018 Groundwater Conservation Grant

*Please see the attached requests from both of these cities for a second extension to the award from 2018 grants.*

a. City of Somerville

b. City of Thorndale

13. Review of Recent Education Efforts and Activities

*Doug will give a complete update here.*

14. 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)

*I will give a brief update of the most recent GMA 12 meeting.*

15. Receive report from District Manager on recent District activities and take appropriate actions.

*I will provide a complete report on the following items under A, B, and C at the meeting.*

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

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

C. Recent and future District presentations and activities

1. One Water Summit of September 18-20, 2019

2. Milam County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting of September 23, 2019

3. Brazos G Regional Planning Group Meeting of September 25, 2019

16. Bills received, current financial status, Investment Officer Report.

17. Public Comment on items not included in agenda

18. Dates, locations, and times of future meetings

*Next Board meeting is public hearing of Thursday, October 3, with next regular Board meeting scheduled for November 5.*

19. Adjourn Board Meeting