

POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting
POSGCD District Offices
310 East Avenue C
Milano, TX 76556
July 14, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

Directors Present

Sidney Youngblood- in person
Lee Alford- in person
Becky Goetsch- via online
Steven Wise- via online
Dana McClaren- via online
Ed Savage – via online
Chris Whittaker – via online
Jay Wilder- via telephone
Bob Wilson – via telephone

Directors Absent

Tommy Tietjen

Staff Present

Gary Westbrook- in person
Doug Box- in person
Elaine Gerren – via online
Bobby Bazan – via online

Others Present

Barbara Boulware-Wells- via online
Charlotte Morgan - via online
Ross Cummings-via online
Shan Rutherford-via online
Jaclyn Robertson-via online
Judith McGeary-via online
Amy Hinnant-via online
Blaire Parker-via online

Entity

The Knight Law Firm, LLP
Self
Blue Water
Terrell Law Firm
Texas A&M Agrilife
Milam County Landowner
Burleson County Landowner
SAWS

Board Meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Doug Box led the pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas.

2. Invocation

General Manager Gary Westbrook gave the invocation.

3. Call to Order and establish quorum

The board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Sidney Youngblood. He proceeded to call the roll of the Board and he declared a quorum had been established, with nine (9) directors verified by general counsel and staff to be in attendance either in person, by telephone or online.

4. Public Comment

President Sidney Youngblood verified with GM Westbrook no individuals had requested to speak under public comment. He then asked for comment from anyone online. No one offered public comment.

5. Public Hearing on Rules: Section 1 Definitions and Concepts

The public hearing was opened at 5:40 p.m. with President Youngblood asking for comment on the proposed amendments to the Rules.

Shan Rutherford with Blue Water stated that they had filed extensive comments on these proposed Rules and he strongly urged the Board to read the comments submitted before making a vote tonight. He stated he or Paul Terrill would be glad to discuss the comments with any of the District personnel, or Directors. He noted they have some serious concerns and they recommend that the District reject the rule because this proposed rule deals with property disputes and the District does not have authority to determine real property disputes.

Ross Cummings apologized for the mis-communication with a landowner but in the future urged the District to provide his contact information to any landowner so he can communicate directly with them.

President Youngblood asked for any additional comment. None was offered.

President Youngblood asked General Manager, Gary Westbrook for any additional comment. He noted the need for a process to consider properties in dispute, and that the purpose for public hearings is to receive comment on proposed changes which might be considered by the Board. and the Board had been given very specific comment in this instance to consider.

President Youngblood asked Barbara Boulware-Wells to comment and she echoed Gary Westbrooks points.

President Youngblood asked for any further comments. No further comments were offered. President Youngblood stated that this item would be discussed further in the meeting. No action was taken. The public Hearing was closed at 5:48 p.m.

6. 2020 Aquifer Conservancy Program: Kick off for Enrollment and Landowner incentives

Doug Box stated he had sent out press releases to newspapers and local radio to announce this year's ACP sign-up period. He noted the District staff has been very active in social media as well. Staff mailed out thank you letters to last year's participants which included brochures to hand out to friends and family to encourage them to sign up for the ACP as well. The District has a large newsletter mail out to all rural addresses in progress with an emphasis on the ACP.

7. Minutes of June 9, 2020 Board Meeting

General Manager, Gary Westbrook stated that there were some typo corrections made. After discussion

by the Board a motion was made by Director Lee Alford to approve the corrected minutes of June 9, 2020 Board Meeting. The motion was 2nd by Director Jay Wilder. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Consider Rules: Section 1 Definitions and Concepts

Comment was given by Director Becky Goetsch. Her thought is that given the comments submitted from Blue Water, she thinks that we should look at the rule further before making a decision. Director Dana McClaren agrees that we should read and consider all comments before we make a decision, but there needs to be a process developed and put into place. A motion was made by Director Lee Alford to table this item for further consideration. The motion was 2nd by Becky Goetsch. The motion carried unanimously. Chris Whittaker left the meeting at 6:03 pm.

9. 2020 Milam and Burleson Counties Groundwater Summit

General Manager Gary Westbrook stated the Advisory Committee had met and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and after much thoughtful discussion of the health and well being of our citizens, the Advisory Committee is recommending we cancel this year's Summit, and possibly move it to a date in August of next year, depending of course on the affects of the pandemic. Director Steven Wise states that he is in agreement to move it to next year. A motion was made by Director Lee Alford to cancel the Summit for this year and reschedule it for a date in August 2021. The motion was 2nd by Steven Wise. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Responses to public comments and questions as posted on District website: www.posgcd.org

General Manager Gary Westbrook stated that there were questions asked and the comments submitted with minor edits. President Youngblood asked for comment, and receiving none, instructed GM Gary Westbrook to post the comments on the website.

11. Report on recent activities of groundwater level monitoring from Water Resource Management Specialist

A slideshow report was given by Bobby Bazan, Water Resource Management Specialist for the district. Staff has been working on quality assurance of data and are continuing the addition of new wells. The staff continues the improvement of monitoring equipment and is increasing the frequency of measurements. Staff, in coordination with INTERA, is working on assuring data accuracy for all monitoring wells. Eleven new acoustic measuring devices (Wellntel) have been deployed and are collecting data and we are currently measuring monitoring wells in vicinity of Vista Ridge on a weekly basis. GM Westbrook reported on the recharge study with Texas A&M and noted the location had been changed to another location in the immediate vicinity which is south of Cameron. No new wells have been located in the Deanville area at this time.

12. Review of recent Education Efforts and Activities

A report was given by Doug Box, educational director for the district. With the Covid-19 we are not able to do in-house educational classes. The mass mailing has been sent out on the District Newsletter with a large promotion for the ACP included in this mailing. We are still focusing on social media avenues. President Youngblood asked for GM Gary Westbrook to check on some radio ads for the ACP and he stated that this is already in the works.

13. 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

GM Westbrook reported no permits filed requiring Hearings and no Emergency Permits were granted. Applications were filed by Beaver Creek WCID#1 that will be processed in the near future and may require hearings.

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

GM Westbrook reported 18 Registrations, 10 new applications, 9 completions, 2 plugged wells, 0 well inspections

C. Recent and future District presentations and activities

1. Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) Groundwater Summit of September 1-3, 2020

GM Westbrook reported this Summit has been moved to entirely virtual and Board members should advise if they would like to be registered for virtual attendance.

2. Disposal of obsolete District assets

GM Westbrook reported on obsolete electronics, which have either little or no value any longer. He noted we have contacted a company that will shred the hard drives on old computers and will take the old machines in return for shredding the hard drives. He then requested the Board approve disposal of other assets including older iPads through a public auction so anyone who desires could have access to the bidding.

A motion was made by Director Steven Wise to approve disposal of obsolete District assets. The motion was 2nd by Bob Wilson. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Office staffing, protection of staff and public, social distancing

Following the most recent disaster order of Milam County Judge, Steve Young, and orders from Governor Greg Abbott, our staff is once again alternating days in the office as before. We continue to meet all the needs of our citizens.

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

After discussion by the Board a motion was made by Director Lee Alford to approve the Bills, current financial status, and investment officer report. The motion was 2nd by Director Jay Wilder. The motion passed unanimously.

15. Dates, locations, and times of future meetings.

We will have a special called meeting Thursday, July 16, to discuss two important issues which will involve executive session. Our next regular meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

16. Adjourn Board Meeting

The meeting was adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HELD ON JULY 14, 2020 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THAT BOARD ON AUGUST 11, 2020.

Sidney Youngblood, President

Attest:

DRAFT