

**POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
Board of Directors Meeting  
POSGCD District Offices  
310 East Avenue C  
Milano, TX 76556  
April 23, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**POSGCD Board Members Present**

Ward Roddam  
Jay Wilder  
Ed Savage  
Lee Pelzel  
Becky Goetsch  
Kit Worley  
John Redington  
Jeffrey Zgabay

**Board Members Absent**

Buster Evers  
Robert Jekel

**POSGCD Staff Present**

Gary Westbrook  
Courtney Gentry  
Michael Redman – online  
Kelli Timmerman  
Jaclyn Wise  
Gregory Perry  
Jeff Fisher  
Craig Andrews

**POSGCD Consultants Present**

Barabara Boulware-Wells	The Knight Law Firm
Steve Young (online)	Intera

**Public Attendance**

Alan Gardenhire	SLR
Stefan Schuster	EPCOR
Andy Wier	SAWDF
Robert Miller	4-H Water Ambassadors
Elizabeth Miller	4-H Water Ambassadors
Casey Cooper	Terrill & Waldrop

Liz Ferry  
Steve Thoreson

RW Harden  
LWS

**Public Attendance via online**

Charles Dunning  
414-343-6408  
Ed

WellIntel, Inc.

**Board Meeting**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Ed Savage 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**

Board President Ward Roddam called the Board Meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and confirmed a quorum was present.

**4. Public Comment**

Andy Wier made public comment requesting that the Directors provide guidance to GM Westbrook regarding DFCs and GMA 12 decision making and the joint planning process. He stated he would like GMA 12 to pursue looking at what an aquifer can produce in perpetuity and remain healthy.

**5. Consent Agenda** – *All of the following items on the Consent Agenda are considered to be self-explanatory by the Board and will be enacted with one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board Member requests.*

- a) Minutes of February 13, 2024 Board Meeting**
- b) Update on Aquifer Conservancy Program (ACP) enrollments**
- c) Water Well Monitoring Update: Number of wells and frequency of measurements, and wells plugged**
- d) Water Well Drilling activities: applications filed, registrations issued, and inspections performed**
- e) Groundwater Well Assistance Program (GWAP) Update: investigations and corrective actions taken**
- f) Report on property inspections received under Interlocal Agreement with Milam and Burleson Counties**
- g) Bills received, current financial status, Investment Officer Report**
- h) Review of Recent Education Efforts and Activities**
- i) Receive report from General Manager on recent District activities and take appropriate actions.**

- 1. Permit applications filed with the District and Hearing Dates; Emergency Permits Granted**
- 2. Recent and future District presentations and activities**
  - a. Brazos G Regional Water Planning Group Groundwater Committee meeting of March 27, 2024**
  - b. Participation in Workshop with Burleson County Commissioners concerning platting subdivisions and groundwater availability studies of March 25, 2024.**
  - c. Texas Environmental Law Enforcement Association Conference for CEUs Licensing of April 23-26, 2024**
  - d. Texas A&M AgriLife Burleson County Ag and Health Safety Day of May 8, 2024**
  - e. American Groundwater Trust Conference of June 11-12, 2024**
  - f. Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts Groundwater Summit of August 20-22, 2024 and Sponsorship of Video/Livestream**
  - g. Grant Application filed with Texas Water Development Board for 2024 Agricultural Water Conservation Grant**
  - h. Milam and Burleson Counties Groundwater Summit of July 18, 2024**

President Roddam offered the Consent Agenda items for consideration and invited any of the Directors to ask questions about any of the items. Director Goetsch asked that the most recent monthly total be added to the GWAP report. Gregory Perry, Water Resource Management Specialist stated this was an oversight and would be corrected. Director John Redington asked GM Westbrook to briefly discuss progress under item 5.i)2.b., which he did. Director Kit Worley requested GM Westbrook speak briefly about item 5.i)2.a., which he did.

After discussion concluded on the Consent Agenda items, GM Westbrook noted that the wrong document was posted to the District website regarding the TWDB grant application, but the corrected application was included in the folders for the Directors at the meeting. He stated there is not a timeline set for award or denial of the TWDB grant at this time. If awarded, the total grant would be for \$60,000; \$30,000 from TWDB and \$30,000 paid by District.

Director Redington moved to approve the items under the Consent Agenda as presented and was seconded by Director Jeffrey Zgabay. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

## **6. Regular Agenda**

**a) Report from EPCOR on recent events and activities concerning Vista Ridge Pipeline and permit applications to reduce production from Carrizo aquifer and increase production in Simsboro aquifer**

Stefan Schuster, EPCOR, gave an update regarding EPCOR recent events and activities. He recapped the SAWS main break in January and the annual maintenance shut down in February where 1.8 million gallons of water was released into Long Creek to repair 211 corroded vaults. An additional 31 vaults have been repaired since. He stated all vaults are expected to be completed by the end of the year. An additional repair was made on a Simsboro well that lasted into March. As of March, EPCOR is at full summer flows and the system is running at full 50,000 ac/ft. They are currently operating under the original 2019 permit and are working on a response to comments received from District in January 2024. EPCOR is ensuring lease report boundaries coincide with appraisal district maps. They are looking at developing a plan to incrementally increase adjustments to the Simsboro/Carrizo production ratio. A revised application is expected to be submitted to the District in the next 60 days. They are currently running at about 76% Simsboro and 24% Carrizo blend which is approximately a 6% increase in Simsboro production, with the desired blend still intended to be 82%/18%. The Board thanked Mr. Schuster for his updates.

**b) Update from Robert Miller on activities involving 4-H Water Ambassadors**

4-H Water Ambassador, Robert Miller, gave a presentation entitled 4-H Water Ambassador Report by Month. He overviewed 4-H Water Ambassador events and activities he participated in over the year of 2023 and in 2024 so far. He also spoke about upcoming events and activities for 2024. He answered questions from the Board. GM Westbrook noted that Mr. Miller would receive the approved scholarship for fulfilling his obligations to the District as a 4-H Water Ambassador and answered questions about the scholarship program. The Board thanked Mr. Miller for his service and update.

**c) Discussion and possible action on new tool to review monitoring information**

POSGCD Regulatory Compliance Officer, Michael Redman, gave a presentation showing an example of one way to capture monitoring data that could be accessible for consideration by the Board at regularly scheduled times throughout the year. Mr. Redman and GM Westbrook answered questions from the Board.

Due to technical difficulties, President Roddam moved to agenda item 8.a. before hearing a presentation from Charles Dunning, WellIntel.

After reconvening into Regular Session, the Board heard a presentation from Chuck Dunning that was entitled POSGCD Data Centralization by WellIntel. He provided an overview of a program that Staff and Directors could utilize to access and utilize monitoring data. He answered questions from the Board. After discussion, Director Kit Worley moved to table this agenda item until the next Board Meeting. He was seconded by Director Zgabay. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**d) Responsibilities of District Committees**

GM Westbrook asked the Board if they had any questions or concerns regarding the District Committees. He answered questions from the Board and discussed Committee structures and responsibilities. The question of the current responsibilities of the Building Committee will be addressed when Director Evers is present.

**e) Purchase of new downhole camera and sale of current downhole camera**

GM Westbrook stated that he believed it would be beneficial to purchase a new downhole camera with capabilities of extended depth and a new operating system. The proposed camera could reach 2,000 feet in depth with the current camera able to reach 1,300 feet in depth. Lost Pines GCD has shown interest in purchasing the camera that is currently in use at POSGCD for approximately \$12,000-\$13,000. After discussion, Director Redington moved to purchase a new camera and sell the current one to LPGCD. He was seconded by Director Worley. After discussion on the content of the motion, the motion failed. A new motion was made by Director Redington to purchase a new camera contingent upon the sale of the current one for between \$11,000 and \$13,000. He was seconded by Director Worley. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**f) Purchase, sale, and trade of District vehicles**

After discussion, Director Redington moved to table action on the vehicles presented for consideration under this agenda item and seek further information. He was seconded by Director Zgabay. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

Director Zgabay stated he believed there was a truck available at a Caldwell dealership which might meet the District's specifications and was priced under \$50,000. After additional discussion, Director Zgabay moved to allow staff to proceed with the purchase of a new truck for under \$50,000 if one could be found to meet the specifications as described. He was seconded by Director Redington. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

Director Worley then moved to have staff construct bid specifications for the second vehicle described in the vehicles to be considered and distribute to all dealerships within the District for consideration at the next meeting. Director Zgabay seconded and the motion passed unanimously of all present. GM Westbrook clarified that at the next Board Meeting, auctioning of current vehicles will be discussed. All on the Board were in agreement.

**g) Review of District Programs**

GM Westbrook overviewed the list of current District programs and services. President Roddam recommended that the Board consider making an amendment to the Fire Department Reimbursements Program to only reimburse for Class A foam due to issues with other classes of foams. He and Director Zgabay also encouraged the Board to re-evaluate the reimbursement amount for foam application nozzles. After discussion President Roddam asked if the Board would like to perform a formal review of some of the programs and take comment. GM Westbrook stated t

hat the District could survey entities and citizens who had used the programs for recommendations and the District could also request public comment and consider any useful amendments to programs.

After discussion, Director Worley moved to review the Groundwater Well Assistance Program, Fire Department Reimbursement Program, Aquifer Conservancy Program, and Groundwater Conservation Grant program. He was seconded by Director Zgabay. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**h) Improvements to District building, property, and parking space at 310 E. Avenue C, Milano, Texas**

GM Westbrook stated the Advisory Committee had directed him to obtain information to bring to the Board for consideration. He then asked Gregory Perry to speak to the Board about the cost of paving the District Office parking lots and the cost of a new storage building. Asphalt for the parking lots was quoted at approximately \$65,000 at the time of receiving the quote. The Board discussed the current property at this location and the agreement with the City of Milano for the District's use of Second Street. It was agreed to publish bids to pave the parking areas of the property owned and used by the District.

GM Westbrook then discussed the need for an additional storage building. Mr. Perry discussed the research on this item he had performed. After discussion, Director Worley moved to purchase a new storage building at a cost not to exceed \$9,000 with a cushion of 10% in case of a price increase. He was seconded by Director Redington. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

GM Westbrook asked the Board's opinion on new monitors for meetings and education classes. The District received quotes from Stratmont which were included in the Board packet for options which included one 85" screen, four 50" screens that would operate in harmony, or 24" monitors at every other station on the dais. Director Becky Goetsch stated that she didn't see a need for screens on the dais and the decision should be left to Staff. Director Worley agreed and moved to empower Staff to spend up to \$2,000 to fulfill audio and visual needs for meetings and education. He was seconded by Director Redington. After discussion, Director Worley amended his motion to empower Staff to spend up to \$3,000 to fulfill audio and visual needs for meetings and education. He was seconded by Director Redington. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**i) Discussion of District current and future staffing**

Director Redington moved to table agenda items 6.i, 6.j, 6.k, 6.l. He was seconded by Director Savage. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**j) Discussion of District Budget**

**k) Texas Water Conservation Association Interim Legislative Committee Meetings of March 20, 2024**

**l) Recent paper published in Texas Water Journal- "*Case Study of Groundwater Management Issues at the Forefront of Large Scale Production from a Confined Aquifer: The Vista Ridge Project*"**

**m) Request for extension of time for Groundwater Conservation Grants awarded:**

**1. Deanville WSC**

Director Worley moved to approve Deanville WSC's request for an extension of time and was seconded by Director Goetsch. Motion passed unanimously of all present.

**2. City of Thorndale**

Director Jay Wilder moved to approve City of Thorndale's request for an extension of time and was seconded by Director Worley. Motion passed unanimously of all present.

**3. Clay WSC**

Director Zgabay moved to approve Clay WSC's request for an extension of time and was seconded by Director Wilder. Motion passed unanimously of all present.

**4. Marlow WSC**

Director Worley moved to approve Marlow WSC's request for an extension of time and was seconded by Director Wilder. Motion passed unanimously of all present.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, the Board of Directors only will consider receiving legal advice on the following matters:**

- a. Pending SOAH Docket Nos. 965-23-21218 and 965-23-21219, Application of SLR Property I, LP for a new 9,000 acre-foot per year Simsboro and Hooper Drilling and Operating Permit and Application of SLR Property I, LP for a new 15,000 acre-foot per year Simsboro Operating Permit- Discussions with the Board only.

President Roddam recessed the Board into Executive Session Pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code at 6:31 p.m.

**b. District Staffing and Salaries**

Director Redington moved to pass on agenda item 7.b. and was seconded by Director Worley. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**8. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to Section 551.071, Texas Government Code, the Board of Directors only will consider receiving legal advice on the following matters:**

- a. Pending SOAH Docket Nos. 965-23-21218 and 965-23-21219, Application of SLR Property I, LP for a new 9,000 acre-foot per year Simsboro and Hooper Drilling and Operating Permit and Application of SLR Property I, LP for a new 15,000 acre-foot per year Simsboro Operating Permit- Discussions with the Board only.

The Board reconvened into Regular Session at 7:07 p.m. President Roddam noted no action was taken on this agenda item.

**b. District Staffing and Salaries**

No discussion or action took place on this agenda item.

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

The next Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

**10. Adjourn Board Meeting**

The Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.



**THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HELD ON APRIL 23, 2024 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THAT BOARD ON \_\_\_\_\_, 2024**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ward Roddam, President

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Westbrook, General Manager

Date\_\_\_\_\_