

THE STATE OF TEXAS * GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COUNTY OF KENEDY * OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 22nd day of April, 2020, at 9:00 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held via a teleconference; phone number was 877-309-2073 and access code was 465918389.

Directors present:

Chuck Burns, President
Homero Vera, Vice-President
Dave Delaney, Secretary, by phone
Danny Butler, Member, by phone
Craig Weiland, Member, by phone

Also present:

Andy Garza, General Manager
Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant
Louie Pena, Brush Country GCD, by phone
Monica Jacobs, La Paloma Ranch, by phone

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chuck Burns, President, called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM, conducted roll call, established a quorum and stated for the record that the teleconference was being held in compliance with guidelines set forth by the offices of the Governor and the Attorney General of Texas as a result of the disaster declaration.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were made.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of February 19, 2020 Regular Meeting

President Chuck Burns presented the Directors with the minutes of the February 19, 2020 regular meeting. Burns stated that no minutes for the March, 2020 meeting were presented because the March, 2020 meeting had been cancelled.

Homero Vera moved and Danny Butler seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the February 19, 2020 regular meeting minutes be accepted as presented.

4. Receive General Manager's Activity Report & Act, If Necessary, Regarding:

- a. Communications**
- b. Well registrations**
- c. Brush Country GCD meeting**
- d. Duval County GCD meeting**

- e. Water levels for winter, 2020**
- f. TWDB 2018 irrigation survey**
- g. USDA irrigation survey**
- h. Preliminary appraisals for Kenedy County**
- i. Cybersecurity training as per HB 3834**
- j. Featured GCD in TAGD newsletter**
- k. 4-H Water Ambassadors program**
- l. News articles**
- m. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's meeting in February, 2020, he had communicated with Alejandro Urias, Santa Fe Ranch manager, regarding his dealings with a GCD in the Texas panhandle; John Byrum, Nueces River Authority liaison to Region N, regarding a signature needed for the Initially Prepared Plan; Gabriella Bell, engineer with Huitt-Zollars, regarding information on high water marks on US Highway 77; Alex Holtmeir, La Jolla Corona Ranch manager, regarding drilling of new water wells and TAGD, regarding an Executive Committee teleconference.

b. Well registrations: Garza reported that King Ranch had submitted some paperwork on replacement wells.

c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza stated that the Brush Country GCD will hold a videoconference/teleconference on April 28, 2020.

d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza informed the Directors that the Duval County GCD will hold a videoconference/teleconference on April 28, 2020.

e. Water levels for winter, 2020: Garza reviewed the water level measurements taken for the winter, 2020 period. Garza reported one abnormality involving well #841; the hydrostatic water level in this particular well is about 31 feet higher than it was in summer, 2019. Danny Butler added that he has a well that does something similar to what Garza had described.

f. TWDB 2018 irrigation survey: Garza reviewed the 2018 irrigation survey requested by TWDB. Garza stated that the survey is based on reported water usage on the irrigated acres in the Kenedy County GCD.

g. USDA irrigation survey: Garza reported that the USDA had requested that the Kenedy County GCD complete an irrigation survey. Garza reported that he had completed the survey which is 20 pages long and only a small portion pertains to the irrigation that takes place in our GCD. Chuck Burns recommended that Garza provide the directors with a copy of the survey and be given the opportunity to submit comments no later than April 27, 2020.

h. Preliminary appraisals for Kenedy County: Garza reviewed the mineral, utility and industrial preliminary appraisals as reported by the Kenedy County Appraisal District. A reduction of about 11% is anticipated for 2020.

i. Cybersecurity training as per HB 3834: Garza informed the Directors that as per HB 3834, employees and Directors of the Kenedy County GCD must complete a cybersecurity training by June 14, 2020. Garza stated that TAGD will providing a training video for this particular purpose.

j. Featured GCD in TAGD newsletter: Garza reported that the Kenedy County GCD had been featured in the TAGD March newsletter.

k. 4-H Water Ambassadors program: Garza stated the director of the 4-H Water Ambassadors Program had sent a thank you note for the donation made by the Kenedy County GCD.

l. News articles: Garza provided the Directors with news articles pertinent to groundwater issues.

m. Other: There was nothing to report on this item.

5. Receive update on Petition for Inquiry Regarding the Starr County GCD

Andy Garza informed the Directors that the TCEQ had met and accepted the recommendations from the Review Panel that the Starr County GCD must follow in order to remain active and viable.

This item was for information only.

6. Discuss & Act on Authorizing Signing of 2019 Audit Engagement Letter

Leo Villarreal informed the Directors that the Womack Accounting firm needed the signatures of the General Manager and Administrative Assistant for the engagement letter needed to initiate the 2019 financial audit.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to authorize the signing of the 2019 audit engagement letter requested by the Womack Accounting firm.

7. Discuss & Act to Confirm Authorizing Leo Villarreal's Office to Bank Online For The Kenedy County GCD

Leo Villarreal stated that his office was requested to do online banking on behalf of the Kenedy County GCD to facilitate making bank deposits and to obtain banking information to prepare the monthly accounting for the District because the bank statements do not come in time for the meeting reports.

Dave Delaney moved and Danny Butler seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to confirm the authorization for Leo Villarreal's office to do online banking on behalf of the Kenedy County GCD.

8. Discuss & Act, If Necessary, On Development of Brackish Groundwater Production Rules

Andy Garza reported that Mary Sahs and Dr. Uddameri have completed draft rules for brackish groundwater production in the District. Garza stated that the draft rules will be reviewed whenever the GCD can hold a regular meeting where everyone is physically present.

Homero Vera moved and Dave Delaney seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to table this item until the next meeting.

9. Discuss & Act to Approve Sponsorship for TAGD's Cybersecurity Training Program In the Amount of \$250

Andy Garza recommended that the Kenedy County GCD approve a sponsorship for TAGD's cybersecurity training program in the amount of \$250.00 contingent on extension of the current deadline for the sponsorship.

Dave Delaney moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to approve a sponsorship for TAGD's cybersecurity training program in the amount of \$250.00 if the deadline is extended by TAGD.

10. Receive Report on Upcoming 2020 Election for Director of Precinct 3, Chuck Burns and Director of Precinct 4, Danny Butler

Leo Villarreal reminded the Directors that Chuck Burns, representing Precinct 3, and Danny Butler, representing Precinct 4, will be up for reelection in November, 2020. Villarreal stated that the sign-up period will be in September, 2020.

No vote was needed and none was taken.

11. Discuss & Act on Date for Next Regular Board Meeting

Chuck Burns informed the Directors that a date needed to be set for the next regular meeting.

Dave Delaney moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular board meeting at 9:00 AM on May 20, 2020 at a place or via a format to be determined.

12. Discuss & Act on Payment Bills for March and April, 2020

Chuck Burns presented the bills from March and April, 2020 to the Directors for consideration and payment.


Danny Butler moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to officially approve the March, 2020 bills and pay the April, 2020 bills as presented.

13. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Danny Butler moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 9:45 AM.

David Delaney, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:



Chuck Burns, President