

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

On the 19th day of February, 2020, at 10:30 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held at the Kenedy County Appraisal District Office in Sarita, Texas.

Directors present:

Chuck Burns, President
Homero Vera, Vice-President
Craig Weiland

Also present:

Andy Garza, General Manager
Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant
Louie Pena, Brush Country GCD

Absent:

Dave Delaney, Secretary
Danny Butler, Member

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chuck Burns, President, called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.

2. Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of January 15, 2020 Regular Meeting

President Chuck Burns presented to the Directors the minutes of the January 15, 2020 regular meeting.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the January 15, 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. TAGD meeting; Jan. 30-31, 2020
- d. Brush Country GCD meeting
- e. Duval County GCD meeting
- f. GMA-16 meeting; Jan. 28, 2020
- g. Region N meeting; Jan. 16, 2020

- h. Joint meeting of TX Senate committees to consider interim committee charges; Jan. 22, 2020**
- i. Eminent domain report**
- j. Water use reports for 2019**
- k. Drought report**
- l. Sarita School**
- m. News articles**
- n. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's meeting in January, 2020, he had communicated with Julia Guido and Frank Escobedo, Kleberg county landowner and County Agent, respectively, regarding salinity issues with a water well; Gabriela Bell, engineer with Huitt-Zollars, regarding groundwater levels along U.S. 77 and U.S. 281; J.D. Hinojosa, Energy Partners technician, regarding water use reports for 2019 and Heather Dodson, TWDB field technician, regarding water level measurements on the Encino and Norias divisions of King Ranch.

b. Well registrations: Garza reported that no wells had been registered since the last meeting in January, 2020.

c. TAGD meeting: Garza reviewed the highlights of the TAGD quarterly meeting that was on January 30-31, 2020 in Austin, TX.

d. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza informed the Directors that the Brush Country GCD had received a report on brackish GW issues from John Meyer, TWDB hydrologist and had hired WSP as consultant to assist the district with brackish GW rules.

e. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza stated that the Duval County GCD will hold its next meeting on February 26, 2020 in Benavides, TX.

f. GMA-16 meeting; Jan. 28, 2020: Garza reviewed the results of the preliminary GAM run and explained the assumptions that used to determine the modeled available groundwater or MAG.

g. Region N meeting: Garza reported that Region N had met on January 16, 2020 and covered the highlights of the agenda.

h. Joint meeting of TX Senate committees to consider interim committee charges: Garza reviewed the highlights of a joint meeting of the Senate Water and Rural Affairs and Natural Resources and Economic Development committees held on January 22, 2020 in Austin, TX.

i. Eminent domain report: Garza informed the Directors that he had submitted the required annual report on eminent domain activities to the State Comptroller's office.

j. Water use reports for 2019: Garza reviewed the water use reports for permitted wells and temporary rig supply wells for 2019. Garza reported that 20.9% of the permitted allocation was used in 2019.

k. Drought report: Garza provided the Directors with a quarterly drought report.

l. Sarita school: Garza informed the Directors that he had made a presentation on water to 4th graders at the Sarita School.

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

n. Other: Garza reported that a SOAH hearing will be held in Port Aransas, TX on March 24, 2020 relative to the desalination plants that the Port of Corpus Christi has proposed. Garza also reported that a technician from the Post Oak Savannah GCD will attend the April, 2020 board meeting to demonstrate a water well camera.

5. Discuss and Act on Approving the Kenedy County GCD Annual Report for 2019

Andy Garza reviewed the 2019 Kenedy County GCD Annual Report with the Directors. Garza reviewed each appendix of the report.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the 2019 Kenedy County GCD Annual Report as presented.

6. Receive Update on Petition for Inquiry Regarding the Starr County GCD

Andy Garza informed the Directors that the Review Panel assigned to this Petition for Inquiry had submitted a negotiated settlement that was agreed to by the Starr County GCD and accepted by the TCEQ.

No vote was needed and none was taken.

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

Andy Garza and Leo Villarreal informed the Directors that Mary Sahs and Dr. Uddameri were currently working on draft rules for brackish groundwater production in the Kenedy County GCD. According to Garza, the draft rules may be considered at the March, 2020 meeting.

No vote was needed and none was taken.

8. Discuss & Act to Approve Modified Assessment Payment Schedule Established By the Hidalgo County Appraisal District

Andy Garza and Leo Villarreal reported that the Hidalgo County Appraisal District had requested that the Kenedy County GCD approve their modified assessment payment schedule for services provided.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to approve the modified assessment payment schedule as provided by the Hidalgo County Appraisal District.

9. 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.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular board meeting at 9:00 AM on March 18, 2020 in the Kenedy County Courthouse courtroom.

10. Discuss & Act on Payment Bills

Chuck Burns presented the bills to the Directors for consideration and payment.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to pay the bills as presented.

11. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 11:35 AM.

David Delaney, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:

Chuck Burns, President