

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

On the 18th day of November, 2020, at 9:30 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse Courtroom. Both a phone number, 877-568-4106, and an access code, 859362781, were provided for those who desired to participate in the meeting via telephone.

**Directors present:**

Chuck Burns, President  
Homero Vera, Vice-President  
Dave Delaney, Secretary (via telephone)  
Danny Butler, Member  
Craig Weiland, Member

**Also present:**

Andy Garza, General Manager  
Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant  
Mary Sahs, Legal Counsel (via telephone)  
Dr. Venki Uddameri, Hydrologist  
Louie Pena, Brush Country GCD  
Monica Jacobs, La Paloma Ranch (via telephone)  
George Gonzalez, Duval County GCD

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chuck Burns, President, a quorum being present, called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

**2. Public Comments**

No public comments were offered.

**3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of September 30, 2020 Special Meeting and Oct. 21, 2020 Regular Meeting**

President Chuck Burns presented to the Directors the minutes of the September 30, 2020 special meeting and Oct. 21, 2020 regular meeting.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the September 30, 2020 special meeting and Oct. 21, 2020 regular meeting minutes be accepted with one correction to the Oct. 21, 2020 regular meeting minutes.

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

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

- e. TAGD Legislative Committee virtual meeting**
- f. TAGD Executive Committee meeting**
- g. RGV groundwater data**
- h. GMA-16 meeting**
- i. December, 2020 invitations**
- j. Drought report**
- k. News articles**
- l. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's October, 2020 meeting, he had communicated with Jorge Medina, Cameron County resident, regarding depths of water wells in the San Benito, TX area; Monica Jacobs, legal counsel for La Paloma Ranch, regarding comments on the proposed GAM; Ryan Guillen and J.M. Lozano, state representatives, regarding the possibility of attending the GCD's December, 2020 meeting; George Gandara, Hidalgo County appraisal district representative, regarding Kenedy County GCD's 2020 various tax rates and Dr. David Ramirez, TAMUK professor, regarding a letter of support from the Kenedy County judge's office for a grant being sought by TAMUK.

b. Well registrations: Garza reported that the District had received a well replacement application from Los Hermanos Ranch.

c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he had attended a meeting of the Brush Country GCD on October 27, 2020 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting with the Directors.

d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza reported that he had attended a meeting of the Duval County GCD on October 28, 2020 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting with the Directors.

e. TAGD Legislative Committee virtual meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he had attended virtually a meeting of the TAGD legislative committee on November 5, 2020 and reviewed highlights of the meeting.

f. TAGD Executive Committee meeting: Garza reported that he had participated virtually in a meeting of the TAGD executive committee on November 10, 2020. Garza noted that the primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss a request for an amicus brief from the Neches and Trinity Valleys GCD.

g. RGV groundwater data: Garza reviewed with the Directors several driller's reports that had been filed with the TWDB on water wells drilled in Cameron County.

h. GMA-16 meeting: Garza informed the Directors that GMA-16 has reviewed all 9 factors that are required to be reported in the Explanatory Report as part of the DFC process. Garza reviewed the report on socioeconomic impacts with the Directors.

i. December, 2020 invitations: Garza stated that he had extended an invitation to Representatives Ryan Guillen and J.M. Lozano to attend the Kenedy County GCD's meeting in December, 2020. Garza reported that Mr. Guillen will attend the December, 2020 meeting.

i. Drought report: Garza provided the Directors with latest map from the U.S. Drought Monitor.

k. News articles: Garza handed out news articles pertinent to groundwater issues to the Directors.

l. Other: Garza informed the Directors that the TWCA Risk Management Fund had recognized the Kenedy County GCD for excellence in workers' compensation performance.

**5. Discuss and Act to Approve HB 722 Rule Amendments Regarding Brackish Groundwater Production Permits**

Mary Sahs, via telephone, gave the Directors an update on the proposed rules for brackish groundwater production permits. Sahs indicated that she was waiting for input from Monica Jacobs to determine what could be incorporated into the latest version of the proposed rules and thought that the final version of the proposed rules could be considered by the Directors at their January, 2021 meeting.

Craig Weiland moved and Danny Butler seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to table this item to at least until the January, 2021 meeting.

**6. Discuss and Act on Formal Proposal and Scheduling a Hearing on HB 722 Rule Amendments Regarding Brackish Groundwater Production Permits**

Mary Sahs recommended that this item be tabled to a later time.

Homero Vera moved and Danny Butler seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to table this item to a later time.

**7. Discuss and Act on Mary Sahs' Legislative Activities Report**

Mary Sahs provided the Directors with a copy of her most current Legislative Activities report. Sahs reviewed SB 152 which has been filed by Senator Perry in regards to regulation of GCDs.

Craig Weiland moved and Danny Butler seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the Legislative Activities report from Mary Sahs as presented.

**8. Discuss & Act to Approve and Submit Comments on Proposed GAM to TWDB**

Dr. Uddameri made a powerpoint presentation on the conceptual model of the proposed GAM currently being developed by the TWDB. Dr. Uddameri discussed the strengths and



weaknesses of the proposed GAM and provided the Directors with a draft version of comments that will be submitted to the TWDB.

Danny Butler moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to approve and submit comments regarding the proposed GAM to the TWDB.

**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.

Danny Butler moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular board meeting at 10:30 AM on December 18, 2020 in Sarita, TX.

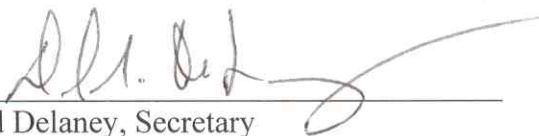
**10. Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills for November, 2020**

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

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to officially approve the November, 2020 bills as presented.

**11. Adjournment**

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Danny Butler moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 AM.

  
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David Delaney, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:

  
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Chuck Burns, President