

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

On the 17th day of February, 2021, at 9:00 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held in the Kenedy County Courthouse Courtroom. Both a phone number, 877-309-2073, and an access code, 709881077, 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)
Craig Weiland, Member

Also present:

Andy Garza, General Manager
Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant
Monica Jacobs, La Paloma Ranch (via telephone)
Verl Cash, King Ranch, Inc.
Mary Sahs, Legal counsel (via telephone)
Joey Mendieta, Kenedy County Fire Chief

Absent:

Danny Butler, Member

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chuck Burns, President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM with a quorum being present.

2. Public Comments

Joey Mendieta, Kenedy County Fire Chief, reported on the progress made in delivering the coronavirus vaccine to residents and employees in Kenedy County. Mendieta stated that Kleberg County was setting up a vaccination site in Kingsville, TX that would be opened 5 days per week for a year.

Leo Villarreal informed the Directors that Kleberg County was asking for donations from entities in Kenedy County with taxing authority to support the vaccination site in Kingsville, TX. Villarreal recommended that the Kenedy County GCD provide financial support for that effort.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of January 25, 2021 Regular Meeting

President Chuck Burns presented to the Directors the minutes of the January 25, 2021 regular meeting.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the January 25, 2021 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. TAGD quarterly virtual meeting**
- f. GMA-16 meeting**
- g. GMA-16 meeting**
- h. Brackish GW commingling webinar**
- i. Eminent domain report**
- j. 2020 water use reports**
- k. Cybersecurity training**
- l. News articles**
- m. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's January, 2021 meeting, he had communicated with Leah Martinsson, TAGD executive director, regarding a meeting of the TAGD Bylaws Committee; Louie Pena, Brush Country GCD general manager, regarding the testing of water sample to determine TDS levels; Heather Dodson, TWDB technician, regarding annual water level measurements; Alejandro Urias, Santa Fe Ranch manager, regarding the need to submit 2020 water use reports; and Joey Mendieta, Kenedy County Fire Chief, regarding his attendance at the February meeting of the Kenedy County GCD.

b. Well registrations: Garza reported that the District had received paperwork on new and replacement wells from King Ranch.

c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he attended a meeting of the Brush Country GCD on January 26, 2021 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza reported that the Duval County GCD had met on January 27, 2021 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

e. TAGD quarterly virtual meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he had participated virtually in a quarterly meeting of TAGD and reviewed various items listed on the agenda.

f. GMA-16 meeting: Garza reported that GMA-16 had met on January 28, 2021 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting. Garza stated that GMA-16 will adopt a proposed DFC at its March, 2021 meeting.

g. Region N virtual meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he had participated in a virtual meeting of Region N on February 4, 2021 at which time the Nueces River Authority was retained as the political subdivision to manage the affairs of Region N.

h. Brackish GW commingling webinar: Garza reported that he had participated in this particular webinar where Intera explained out how this study will be carried out.

i. Eminent domain report: Garza stated that he had completed a report on eminent domain activities for 2020 to Texas Comptroller's office

j. 2020 water use reports: Garza reported that 23.1% of the permitted allocation was used in 2020 compared to 20.9% in 2019.

k. Cybersecurity training: Andy Garza and Leo Villarreal informed the Directors that cybersecurity training must be completed by June 14, 2021.

l. News articles: Various news articles pertinent to groundwater issues were provided to the Directors.

m. Other: Andy Garza stated that the donation to support the coronavirus vaccination site in Kleberg County could be approved under this item.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to pledge \$5,000.00 for the Kleberg County vaccination site and provide \$2,500.00 up front and authorize Chuck Burns to determine if the remaining balance is needed at a later time.

5. Discuss & Act to Approve District Rule Amendments Regarding Brackish Groundwater Production Permits as Per HB 722

Mary Sahs was unable to attend the meeting due to inclement weather.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera to table this item: the motion passed unanimously to table this item until the next meeting.

6. Discuss & Act on Formal Proposal and Scheduling a Public Hearing to Consider Rule Amendments Regarding Brackish Groundwater Production Permits as Per HB 722

No action was taken on this item.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously table this item until the next meeting.

7. Discuss & Act on Mary Sahs' Legislative Activities Report

Mary Sahs, via telephone, provided the Directors with the latest information coming out of the current legislative session. Sahs did report that Governor Abbott has asked the legislature to consider a review of ERCOT as an emergency because of the failure of the electrical grid during the latest cold surge.

Being that it was only a report, no vote was needed and none was taken.

8. Discuss & Act to Approve Sponsorship for Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program

Andy Garza recommended that the Kenedy County GCD continue supporting the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program with a donation in the amount of \$500.00

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded he motion; the motion passed unanimously to support the Texas 4-H Water Ambassador Program with a \$500.00 donation.

9. Discuss & Act to Approve Payment of TWCA Dues

Andy Garza recommended that the Kenedy County GCD pay the TWCA membership dues in the amount of \$408.00 for 2021.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to pay the 2021 dues to the TWCA in the amount of \$408.00.

10. 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.

Homero Vera moved and Craig Weilaqnd seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular board meeting at 9:00 AM on March 17, 2021 in Sarita, TX.

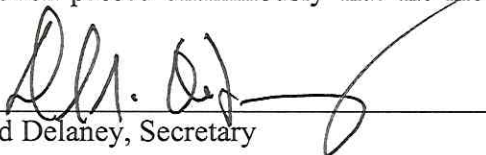
11. Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills for February, 2021

Chuck Burns presented the bills from February, 2021 to the Directors for consideration and payment.

Craig Weiland moved and Homero Vera seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to officially approve the February, 2021 bills as presented.


12. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Homero Vera moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 10:40 PM.



David Delaney, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:



Chuck Burns, President