

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

On the 17th day of March, 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, 866-899-4679, and an access code, 734350165, were provided for those who desired to participate in the meeting via telephone.

Directors present:

Chuck Burns, President
Dave Delaney, Secretary
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
Venki Uddameri, Hydrologist
Diana Nichols, Kelly Hart Hallman (via telephone)

Absent:

Danny Butler, Member
Homero Vera, Vice-President

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

No comments were received from the public.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of February 17, 2021 Regular Meeting

President Chuck Burns presented to the Directors the minutes of the February 17, 2021 regular meeting.

Dave Delaney moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the February 17, 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 legislative committee meeting**
- f. GMA-16 meeting**
- g. House natural resources committee meeting**
- h. Winter, 2021 water levels report**
- i. Quarterly drought report**
- j. TWCA membership acknowledgement**
- k. Report to Commissioners Court**
- l. News articles**
- m. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's February, 2021 meeting, he had communicated with George Medina, Cameron County landowner, regarding drilling depths for wells in Cameron County; Josh Sendejar, TWDB project manager,, regarding the purchase of educational booklets for the Major Rivers program and Petra Hernandez, Kenedy County judge's secretary, regarding the placement of an agenda item for the meeting of the Kenedy County Commissioners' Court to be held in April, 2021.

b. Well registrations: Garza reported that the District had received plugging reports from the King Ranch.

c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he attended a meeting of the Brush Country GCD on February 24, 2021 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza reported that the Duval County GCD had met on March 2, 2021 and reviewed the highlights of the meeting.

e. TAGD legislative committee meeting: Garza informed the Directors that he had participated virtually in a meeting of TAGD's legislative committee and reviewed some of the highlights of the meeting.

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 meeting on March 23, 2021.

g. House natural resources committee hearing: Garza informed the Directors that he had attended a virtual meeting of the House Committee on Natural Resources on March 9, 2021 at which time the Committee heard invited testimony from the TCEQ and the TWDB.

h. Winter, 2021 water levels report: Garza reviewed the results of the water level measurements taken in February and March, 2021.

i. Quarterly drought report: Garza shared with the Directors a map from the Drought Monitor that showed that much of Texas is in some stage of drought.

j. TWCA membership acknowledgement: Garza reported that the TWCA had acknowledged payment of dues for 2021-2022.

k. Report to Commissioners' Court: Andy Garza informed the directors that he will be on the agenda for the April, 2021 meeting of the Kenedy County Commissioners' Court.

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

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

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

Mary Sahs reviewed in detail all of the rule amendments that have been recommended by the Directors.

No action was taken and no vote was needed.

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 and no vote was needed on this item.

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

Mary Sahs provided the Directors with the latest information coming out of the current legislative session and reviewed some of the more pertinent groundwater bills.

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

8. Discuss & Act on Receiving Phil Esquivel's Investment Proposals

Phil Esquivel and Marcus Esquivel presented the Directors with investment proposals through New York Life where municipal bonds would yield 4% and corporate bonds 1.5%. The combination of bonds would yield 3.5% while meeting the statutes requirements that principal be protected, early accessibility allowed and earn the highest rate possible.

Dave Delaney moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that this item be tabled until all Directors are present.

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.

Dave Delaney moved and Craig Weiland seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular board meeting at 9:00 AM on April 21, 2021 in Sarita, TX.

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

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


Craig Weiland moved and Dave Delaney seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to officially approve the March, 2021 bills as presented.

12. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Craig Weiland moved and Dave Delaney seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 12:30 PM.



David Delaney, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:


Chuck Burns, President