

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

On the 15th day of May, 2024, at 9:00 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held at the Kenedy County Appraisal District Office.

Directors present:

Edward Bordovsky, President
Verl Cash, Vice-President
Esteban Lopez, Secretary
Sonny Burns, Member

Also present:

Andy Garza, General Manager
Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant
Chuck Burns, Kenedy County Judge
Justin Cantu, Hacienda Campo Alegre manager

Absent:

Danny Butler, Member

1. Call Meeting to Order

Edward Bordovsky, President, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM and announced that a quorum was present.

2. Public Comments

None were offered.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of April 17, 2024 Regular Meeting

Edward Bordovsky presented the Directors with the April 17, 2024 regular meeting minutes.

Sonny Burns moved and Esteban Lopez seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2024 regular meeting 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. Region N meeting; May 16, 2024

- f. Quarterly TAGD meeting; June 6-7, 2024**
- g. Water production permit for Oxy/DAC facility**
- h. Alice, TX desal plant update**
- i. Water levels compared to mean sea level**
- j. Community meeting in Duval County**
- k. Letter of support for GCD funding**
- l. News articles**
- m. Other**

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's April 17, 2024 meeting, he had communicated with Kristen Fancher, GCD legal counsel, regarding her attendance of GCD's July, 2024 meeting; Daniel Almeida, Sarita, TX water supply system manager, regarding water chemistry data possibly available from the Kenedy County GCD; Justin Cantu, Campo Alegre ranch manager, regarding an introductory meeting that was requested by Danny Butler and Jacob Hart, Land Manager for Oxy, regarding a meeting needed to initiate the permit process for the proposed DAC facility on King Ranch.

b. Well registrations: Garza informed the Directors that no water wells had been registered since the last meeting of April 17, 2024.

c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza reviewed with the Directors the highlights of the Brush Country GCD meeting that was held on April 23, 2024 in Falfurrias, TX.

d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza stated that the Duval County GCD had met on April 24, 2024 in Benavides, TX and reviewed the highlights of the meeting with the Directors.

e. Region N meeting; May 16, 2024: Garza informed the Directors that he would be attending the Region N meeting on May 16, 2024 in Robstown, TX.

f. Quarterly TAGD meeting; June 6-7, 2024: Garza reported that he will be attending the quarterly TAGD meeting on June 6-7, 2024 in Round Rock, TX.

g. Water production permit for Oxy/DAC facility: Garza informed the Directors that he will be meeting with Oxy personnel to review the water production permit process as described in the Kenedy County GCD rules.

h. Alice, TX desal plant update: Garza reviewed with the Directors the driller's log for the water well that will supply the water for the Alice, TX desal plant. Garza reported that the well will be drawing water from the Jasper formation at a depth of 2,004 feet.

i. Water levels compared to mean sea level: Garza shared with the Directors water levels that were compared to a common denominator, mean sea level.

j. Community meeting in Duval County: Garza informed the Directors that he had attended a community meeting at which time a 5-year master plan for Duval County that addresses water infrastructure, flooding issues, etc. was reviewed. Garza stated that the Duval County GCD had spearheaded this effort because the costly 5-year master plan was not being utilized.

k. Letter of support for GCD funding: Garza stated that the Texas Farm Bureau and the Environmental Defense Fund have teamed up to urge the Texas Water Development Board to request funding through its budget for local groundwater science and data during the next Texas legislative session.

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

m. Other: Garza reported on the following: 1) the cost of electing Appraisal District directors as a result of new law passed in 2023, 2) current drought conditions in Texas and 3) interim committee charges as per the Texas House.

Leo Villarreal reported on the following: 1) tax abatement for the Ocelot Solar farm has been approved by Kenedy County, 2) the 2024 Valedictorians for both Riviera High School and Santa Gertrudis Academy attended the Sarita School and 3) Womack Co. will mail audit survey letters to Directors and others in the very near future.

Esteban Lopez moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the General Manager's report and including Leo Villarreal's report.

5. Review Estimated Taxable Values for 2024

Garza informed the Directors that the estimated 2024 taxable values for the Kenedy County GCD are showing a decrease of \$327,724,575 from 2023.

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

6. Receive Statement From Danny Butler Regarding Status as GCD Director

With Danny Butler being absent, Garza reported that on May 7, 2024, he and Butler had met with Justin Cantu to determine if Cantu was interested in replacing Butler on the Kenedy County GCD board of directors. Cantu indicated that his interest in the position was definitely positive. Danny Butler plans to resign from the Kenedy County GCD board of directors at the June, 2024 GCD meeting.

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

7. Update on Proposed GCD Building

Leo Villarreal and Judge Chuck Burns reported that efforts continue to communicate with heirs of the Pedro Salinas family. Judge Burns indicated that if this effort fails, then another option to consider would be the site where the old JP building, scheduled to be demolished, is located.

No vote was needed and none was taken.

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

Edward Bordovsky informed the Directors that a date needed to be set for the next regular meeting.

Verl Cash moved and Sonny Burns seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to hold the next regular meeting at 10:30 AM on June 19, 2024 at the Kenedy County Courthouse in Sarita, TX.

9. Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills for May, 2024

Edward Bordovsky presented to the Directors the bills for May, 2024 for consideration and payment.

Sonny Burns moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to pay the bills for May, 2024 as presented.


10. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Sonny Burns moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 10:43 AM.



Esteban Lopez, Secretary

ATTESTED TO:



Edward Bordovsky, President