

**MINUTES OF
October 21, 2011
BOARD MEETING
CENTRAL TEXAS GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District met in regular session Friday, October 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in the District office located at 225 S. Pierce Street, Suite 104, Burnet, Texas.

The following persons were present:

Members Present

John Simmons, President	Clyde Waters, Secretary/Treasurer
Todd Fox, Vice President	Steve Henderson, Director
	Wayne Brown, Director

Staff and or Consultants Present

Charles Shell, General Manager	Donnita Coats, Administrative Assistant
	Mitchell Sodek, Hydrologist

Others present

3 Members of the Public

President Simmons asked General Manager Shell to establish a quorum through a roll call of Directors; declared a quorum present; and called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

President Simmons asked for public comment.

There were no Public Comments.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held September 9, 2011.

Clyde Waters moved to:

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held September 9, 2011.

Second was by Steve Henderson.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on Expenditures for September 2011; Review of 2010-2011 Budget and Budget Adjustments; Review of 2010-2011 Annual and Sick Leave Accounting; review of 2011-2012 Budget; and Quarterly Report of Investment Accounts.

Wayne Brown moved to:

Approve the expenses for September 2011.

Second was by Todd Fox.

Vote on the motion carried.

General Manager Shell reported on budget adjustments that he and Secretary/Treasurer Waters made to the 2010-2011 Budget as allowed by the District Bylaws and reported that the 2010-2011 Budget balanced.

General Manager Shell reviewed annual and sick leave adjustments made for Fiscal Year 2010-2011. Administrative Assistant, Donnita Coats, was paid \$1155.56 for 3 days annual leave adjustment and for 6.75 days sick leave adjustment.

General Manager Shell presented the 2011-2012 Budget as adopted.

Public Funds Investment Officer, Donnita Coats, gave the Board a Quarterly Report on the Investment Position of the District for the quarter ending September 30, 2011 in accordance with Section IV of the Public Investment Policy of the District.

President Simmons then asked for a report from Burnet City Manager, David Vaughn, on Drought Management Plan. General Manager Shell informed the Board that Mr. Vaughn was not able to make the meeting but that he had informed him that up to 40% of the complete water needs of the city may have to come from groundwater in the future and that they would comply with their Drought Management Plan. President Simmons stated that the District needs to look at the city plan and that they would also need to comply with the District Plan.

President Simmons then asked for an update on the Central Texas Water Coalition from Jo Karr Tedder. Ms. Tedder was not present at the meeting so President Simmons proceeded to agenda item number seven.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on taxing “Goods in Transit”. General Manager Shell explained changes to legislation on goods in transit and that to date no one had applied for exemption in our District since it was created. He informed the Board that unless they took action to tax goods in transit they would be exempt from taxation beginning in 2012.

No action was taken to tax goods in transit.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on a New Website for the District. General Manager Shell informed the Board that he had been approached by many citizens that their web browser will not open links on the District Website. Because of the program that the District now uses for the website, Internet Explorer is the only browser that will open all links and many internet users now use other browsers. General Manager Shell explained that he had gotten one proposal to design a new website that would cost approximately \$10,000.00 and that it would allow all users to access the complete site and would allow for better technology for education purposes. Director Brown asked that the staff get ideas and cost estimates from different website designers. Director Fox stated that he had recently gone through the process of creating a website and felt that the \$10,000.00 estimate was in line with current costs for the service and that the website would provide the most benefit for public education for the District. General Manager Shell will explore options for a new District website and report back to the Board.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on the continuation of Professional Licenses for Charles Shell. General Manager Shell informed the Board of the Professional Licenses that he currently has and how it would benefit the District for him to keep those licenses current. He estimated that it would cost approximately \$1370.00 per year to attend schools, on-line training or other methods of obtaining continuing education credits to keep the licenses current. He also stated that the District would need to send a letter to applicable agencies to inform them that he is working for the District.

Clyde Waters moved to:

Have General Manager Shell continue his Professional Licenses by funding the cost of attending schools or other types of training necessary to keep the licenses current and to send a letter to applicable agencies informing them that Charles is working for the District.

Second was by Steve Henderson.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on Variance to Tract or Lot Sizes for drilling new wells per District Rules in Chapter 6. General Manager Shell asked the Board for clarification on the rule as it applies to property platted or otherwise configured prior to September 1, 2009. Director Fox clarified that exempt wells to be drilled on tracts less than 10 acres platted or otherwise configured prior to September 1, 2009 are exempt from the spacing requirements and tract sizes stated in the rules. All Board members agreed with this clarification of the rules.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on the determination of the drought stage. Mitchell Sodek, District Hydrologist, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Palmer Hydrological Drought Index and district monitor well levels. The water levels had gone up a little or leveled off prior to the most recent rainfall probably due to pumping reduction and trees becoming dormant. The District is currently in the Severe Drought Stage and he and General Manager Shell recommended the District continue the Severe Drought Stage. The Board took no action to change the current Drought Stage.

President Simmons then asked for consideration and/or action on Nomination for Appointment of a Representative to Region K. General Manager Shell informed the Board that GMA 8 will have a member on Region K and asked for a volunteer from the Board or staff to offer a resume for nomination. Director Waters volunteered and will provide a resume by early November for General Manager Shell to send to GMA 8.

President Simmons then asked for an Education Committee Report from Committee Chairman Brown. Director Brown reported that the Education Committee had met on Monday, October 17, 2011 and reported the following education activities:

- Additional Monitor Well Level Map Presentations have been placed at the AgriLife Extension Service and NCRS Offices.
- Committee Member and Master Gardener, Bill Luedke, will give xeriscape plans to District Staff to be included on the District Website.
- The District will have signs made for the Helping Hands project and to be used at District presentations.
- Committee member and Extension Agent, Wade Hibler, may request support from the District on a small rainwater harvesting project to be done in the near future.
- The committee is looking into the cost of rain gauges to be given away at District events in the future.

Director Waters suggested that the committee consider a program on abandoned wells. Director Brown stated that drought conditions and the monitor well program are the main concern at this time but the committee will keep it in mind and asked to be informed of any interest groups that the committee could work with.

President Simmons then stated that Commissioner Joe Don Dockery had public comment on the current status of CAPCOG grants for Solid Waste projects. Commissioner Dockery reported on the cutbacks that will be made to grant funds in the next two years. He reported that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee will continue to work towards a permanent solid waste facility but without CAPCOG funding the facility will not be built at this time. The committee plans on having two future waste collection events and requested that the Board commit \$10,000.00 for each, a total of \$20,000.00, from the funds budgeted for the permanent facility. Director Henderson asked if the committee had gone to the City Councils in Burnet County with the same request. Commissioner Dockery said that they would be requesting funds from the cities. President Simmons told Commissioner Dockery that his request would be put on the Agenda for consideration and/or action at the November or December Regular Board Meeting.

President Simmons then called on the General Manager for the Staff Report.

The General Manager provided the following report:

a. Rule implementation activities,

Activity	Total as of September 8, 2011	Total as of October 20, 2011
Well registrations	3,281	3,304
Exempt Well Drilling Auth.	302	333
Permit App. Received	120	120
Permit Applications by Use		Permits Issued
Commercial	16	3
Domestic, Livestock & Poultry	39	39
Industrial	8	0
Irrigation	23	6
Public Water Supply	34	0
Total	120	48
Permit Applications by Precinct		
Precinct 1	52	
Precinct 2	30	
Precinct 3	22	
Precinct 4	15	
Precincts 1 2 & 3	1	
Total	120	

b. Future Permit Hearings

Reviewing Existing Well and/or Grandfathered Use Permit Applications. Will set a permit hearing for a day other than a Regular Board Meeting date when applications are administratively complete.

c. Expansion of Monitor Well Program

Drilled one monitor well the end of September in Mahomet on the Williamson County Line, drilled one monitor well in Lake Victor on October 20, 2011 and plan to drill 4 or 5 more monitor wells this fiscal year in the northwest portion of the county.

Looking at RF Frequency for telemetry reading of monitor well data and will update with a cost estimate and more information at a later date.

Word of mouth has been effective in getting volunteers for existing monitor well locations

President Simmons then called for any Director comments.

There were no Director Comments

President Simmons called for Agenda items for the next Board Meeting.

Solid Waste Collection Events

City use of groundwater

President Simmons stated that Directors could contact the Manager or himself prior to the deadline for posting notice of the next meeting if they have a suggested agenda item.

President Simmons then set the next regular board meeting for, Friday, November 18, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Burnet, Texas. The District Office is closed on the second Tuesday of the month, which is the regular meeting date, in observance of Veterans Day.

At 10:26 a.m. President Simmons stated that the Board would go into Executive Session to discuss real property considerations and personnel matters.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 11:05 a.m. and President Simmons stated that no action would be taken as a result of the executive session.

President Simmons adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

John Simmons, President

Clyde Waters, Secretary/Treasurer