

**MINUTES OF
February 25, 2022
BOARD MEETING
CENTRAL TEXAS GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District held a Regular Board Meeting on Friday, February 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the District office located at 225 S. Pierce Street, Suite 104, Burnet, Texas.

Members Present: Ryan Rowney, President Ricky Bindseil, Vice-President
Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer Homer Will, Director Paul King, Director
Staff and/or Consultants Present: Mitchell Sodek, General Manager
Donnita Coats, Office Manager Bill Dugat, District Legal Counsel
Others Present: 6 Members of the Public

President Rowney declared a quorum present and called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

President Rowney then called for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags.

President Rowney then asked for public comment. Former Groundwater Resource Specialist, Paul Babb, announced that he had taken a position elsewhere the previous week and thanked the Board and Staff for the opportunity and pleasure to work with them.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Annual District Audit for FY 2020-2021. General Manager Sodek introduced the new District Auditor, Eric Ede of Ede & Company, LLC, to present the FY 2020-2021 Audit. Mr. Ede provided Board Members with a copy of the audit and gave an opinion and review. He gave the District the best opinion you can receive.

Paul King moved to:

Approve the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District FY 2020-2021 Annual Audit as presented.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action relating to Deer Springs Water Company's failure to comply with District Rules, relevant statutes, and Permit OP-10102102. General Manager Sodek reported that, immediately following the January 21, 2022 Board Meeting, Cody Lewis with Deer Springs Water Company provided the District with a packet of documents relating to the permit amendment and water rights. After review of the documents by General Manager Sodek and District Legal Counsel Dugat it was determined that the documents were insufficient. A lawsuit against Deer Springs Water Company was filed last week and is in the process of being served.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Termination of USGS Monitoring of Felps Springs at the Request of the Landowner. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that a timely written request to end the monitoring of the springs was received by Felps LLC and that the USGS had removed the monitoring equipment last week.

President Rowney then asked for Discussion and/or action on Hiring of a Groundwater Technician. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that the position has been posted to the District website and has been advertised in various locations.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on TAGD Salary Study and on Salary and/or Benefits for the General Manager, the Office Manager, and the Groundwater Technician Positions. General Manager Sodek reviewed the salary study and proposed increased salaries for staff members. President Rowney said that the Board would discuss proposed salaries further in an Executive Session later in the meeting.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on a Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest on Taxes from Cheryl & David Thomas.

Ricky Bindseil moved to:

Deny the Request for Waiver of Penalty and Interest on Taxes from Cheryl & David Thomas.

Second was by Homer Will.

Vote on the motion carried four to one.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 21, 2022. Kathy Griffis-Bailey offered an amendment to the minutes on the motion to take legal action with a suit against these entities to enforce the Agreed Order and seek penalties and other relief necessary for over pumping in 2020 and 2021. She proposed replacing the words “these entities” with the words “Deer Springs Water Company”.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 21, 2022 with the proposed amendment to the minutes.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Expenditures for January 2022; Budget Line Item Adjustments; and Review of 2021-2022 Budget. General Manager Sodek reported that the following line item adjustments were made within a budget category to the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget:

Moved \$2538.00 from Expenses - Capital Purchase - Office and Field Equipment to Expenses - Capital Purchase – Printer/Copier.

Ricky Bindseil moved to:

Approve the Expenditures for January 2022.

Second was by Kathy Griffis-Bailey.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Determination of Drought Stage. General Manager Sodek reported that the latest Palmer Hydrological Drought Index corresponds with our current Stage 2 Moderate Drought and recommended that no change be made to the drought status at this time.

President Rowney then called on the General Manager for the General Manager and/or Staff Report and Update.

a. Well Registrations & Permitting

General Manager Sodek reviewed graphs of current figures for well registration and permitting. The District had been receiving an average of forty applications per month. There have been fifty-five applications in February to date.

b. Management Plan Update

Groundwater Districts are required to adopt its management plan no less than every five years and the District's management plan will expire in May. We have a draft update to our plan and will hold a hearing on the proposed re-adoption of the plan prior to re-adoption of the plan on March 1, 2022

c. Hydros Database

A budgeted work order is in place for water level graphs and upload of data.

President Rowney then called for Director comments. There were no Director Comments.

President Rowney then called for agenda items for the next Regular Board Meeting.

Proposed Re-Adoption of Management Plan

Directors may contact the General Manager or Board President prior to the deadline for posting notice of the next meeting if they have a suggested agenda item.

President Rowney then set the date for the next regular Board Meeting for, Monday, March 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Burnet, TX 78611.

President Rowney then called for an Executive Session to consider agenda items five and eight, under Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.071, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, annotated for consultation concerning attorney-client matters, and Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.074, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, annotated for personnel matters at 9:53 a.m.

President Rowney reconvened the Regular Session at 11:04 a.m.

President Rowney then returned to agenda item number eight and asked for consideration and/or action on TAGD Salary Study and on Salary and/or Benefits for the General Manager, the Office Manager, and the Groundwater Technician Positions.

Paul King moved to:

Increase salaries according to the request made by General Manager Sodek for a \$9,000.00 annual increase for the General Manager, a \$4,000.00 annual increase for the Office Manager and a range of up to \$60,000.00 to \$65,000.00 for the Groundwater Technician Position based on experience; and that the District pay for the full health insurance family plan and full cost of dental insurance for all employees.

Second was by Kathy Griffis-Bailey.

Vote on the motion carried.

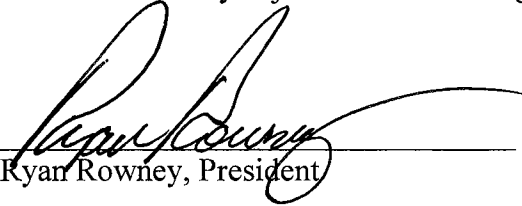
Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Amend the previous motion to include making the pay increases effective the next pay period and the payment of the full health insurance family plan and full cost of dental insurance effective when the next premium is due.

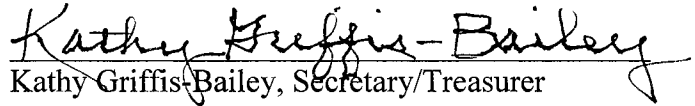
Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.



Ryan Rowney, President



Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer