# MINUTES OF April 19, 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 Tuesday, April 19, 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 Shrader Davis, Groundwater

Technician Donnita Coats, Office Manager Bill Dugat, District Legal Counsel

Others Present: 5 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. Steve Eckert with Capitol Aggregates, Inc. informed the Board of future plans to apply for an amendment to their operating permit.

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 following the March 21, 2022 Board Meeting, he had corresponded with Gene Montes, representing Central States Water Resources, who is negotiating to purchase the Deer Springs Water System, regarding insufficient water rights documents. No further correspondence or receipt of water rights documents has taken place. Legal Counsel Dugat informed the Board that Deer Springs Water Company had been served with a lawsuit by the District and that an answer was due in court on Monday, April 11, 2022. He informed them that an answer was not filed with the court and that a default judgement for failing to answer was a remedy of the Board and that legal strategies could be discussed in closed or open session.

President Rowney announced that an Executive Session would be held on Agenda Item Number 4 before the end of the meeting and moved to Agenda Item Number 5.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Burnet County Commissioners Court Groundwater Supply Resilience Study in Coordination with the District and INTERA. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that Intera had, at the request of the District, presented a proposal to the Burney County Commissioners Court requesting funds of just under \$100,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to develop a conceptual model of the hydrogeology in Burnet County to help with understanding groundwater availability. The Court approved the proposal and will enter into a contract with Intera. The District will provide data and in-kind services to the project through an inter-local agreement with the county, to approved at later date.

No action was taken.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 21, 2022.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 21, 2022.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Expenditures for March 2022; Budget Line Item Adjustments; Review of 2021-2022 Budget; and Quarterly Report on Investments.

Paul King moved to:

Approve the Expenditures for March 2022.

Second was by Homer Will.

Vote on the motion carried.

Public Funds Investment Officers, Mitchell Sodek and Donnita Coats, gave the Board a Quarterly Report on the Investment Position of the District for the quarter ending March 31, 2022 in accordance with Section IV of the Public Funds Investment Policy of the District.

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 is showing a shift from moderate to severe drought with a seasonal outlook for extreme drought for the west.

## Ricky Bindseil moved to:

Determine the District to be in the Severe Drought Stage and initiate the Stage 3 Severe Drought stage of the District Drought Management Plan effective April 19, 2022.

Second was by Kathy Griffis-Bailey

Vote on the motion carried.

Current drought conditions will be posted on the District website, given to local media as a press release and shared at upcoming scheduled presentations to be given by District Staff.

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 is still receiving an average of 50 well registration applications per month.

### b. Groundwater Technician Position

General Manager Sodek introduced newly hired District Groundwater Technician Shrader Davis who started his position with the District on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

## c. WaterWise Program

After a pause in participation due to the COVID pandemic, Spicewood Elementary has ordered kits for the District sponsored program offered to all 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes in Burnet County. WaterWise conservation kits and classroom curriculum are provided and have been highly rated in past years by participating Burnet County teachers, students and parents.

### d. BOPATE EVENT

The event will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup> this year and public information flyers with District sponsorship information have been distributed in multiple ways throughout the county.

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. 4-H Water Ambassadors Program 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, Friday, May 20, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Burnet, TX 78611.

President Rowney announced at 9:33 a.m. that following a five minute break the Board would go into Executive Session.

President Rowney then called for an Executive Session to consider agenda item number 4, under Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.071, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, annotated for consultation concerning attorney- client matters at 9:38 a.m.

President Rowney reconvened the Regular Session at 9:58 a.m.

President Rowney then returned to agenda item number 4 and asked for consideration and/or action on relating to Deer Springs Water Company's failure to comply with District Rules, relevant statutes, and Permit OP-10102102. Following discussion between General Manager Sodek, Cody Lewis with Deer Springs Water Company and Board Members on the lawsuit filed and water rights issues with Deer Springs.

Paul King moved to:

Instruct counsel to pursue legal default judgment in the Deer Springs Case.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Ryan Rowney, President

Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer