

MINUTES OF
September 12, 2022
BOARD MEETING
CENTRAL TEXAS GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District held a Permit Hearing, Public Hearing on Tax Increase and Regular Board Meeting on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 1:00 p.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: 3 Members of the Public

President Rowney declared a quorum present and called the Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

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

President Rowney then asked for public comment. He read an emailed public comment received from Darrell Peckham thanking General Manager Sodek for his participation in the Texas Groundwater Summit panel "The "S" Word: Sustainability in Groundwater"

President Rowney then called a Permit Hearing to order at 1:02 p.m. for a permit amendment on permit application OP-10102102-A - Deer Springs Water Company. He asked for the General Manager's recommendation on the Permit Amendment Application that has been determined to be administratively complete. The Permit Amendment Application is in accordance with District Rules.

General Manager Sodek presented the Board his recommendation to approve an amendment to OP-10102102-A - Deer Springs Water Company for an additional 16.78 acre feet added to an existing 24.5 acre feet/year with special permit conditions for a permit reopener if leased groundwater rights change. The permit if approved would be for a total of 41.28 acre feet/year. The applicant has leased 16.78 contiguous controlled acres of groundwater rights.

President Rowney opened the hearing for public comment. There were no public comments.

President Rowney closed the Public Comment portion of the hearing.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Permit Application.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve the Deer Springs Water Company OP-10102102-A Permit Amendment Application and Special Permit Conditions proposal as recommended by the General Manager for an additional 16.78 acre feet added to an existing 24.5 acre feet permit for a total of 41.28 acre feet/year.

Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney adjourned the Hearing and reconvened the regular session at 1:10 p.m.

President Rowney then announced that Agenda Item number 5, Consider and/or action relating to Cause No. 53288, Central Texas GCD v. Deer Springs and Cody Lewis, Burnet County District Court would be moved to the end of the agenda.

President Rowney then called a Public Hearing on Tax Increase to order at 1:10 p.m.

President Rowney asked General Manager Sodek for the proposal to increase the total tax revenues of the District. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that the proposed tax rate of \$0.0057/\$100 valuation is higher than the No New Revenue rate of \$0.0056/\$100 valuation.

President Rowney then asked for Public Comment. There was No Public Comment.

President Rowney adjourned the hearing at 1:12 p.m. and returned to Regular Session.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Backbone Valley Nursery Agreed Order and Deferred Penalty. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that the \$500.00 penalty he recommended be enforced and was approved against Backbone Valley Nursery at the previous Board Meeting was done in error since the District had actually timely received production reports required by the deferment of the Agreed Order.

Ricky Bindseil moved to:

Redact the \$500.00 penalty for Backbone Valley Nursery and refund them the \$500.00 fine.

Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for Certification of Unopposed Candidates for the Regular Election and the Special Election scheduled to be held November 8, 2022. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that Election Officer Donnita Coats had certified that there were unopposed candidates for the Regular Election for precincts 2 and 4 with candidates Ryan Rowney and Ricky Bindseil being unopposed and for the Special Election for the At-Large position with candidate Paul King being unopposed. President Rowney acknowledged receipt of the Certificates of Unopposed Candidates for both the Regular and Special Election scheduled to be held November 8, 2022.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Accept the Certificates of Election for the Regular Election and for the Special Election scheduled to be held November 8, 2022.

Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Cancellation of the November 8, 2022 Regular Election. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that with certification of unopposed candidates for Precincts 2 and 4 that the Regular Election could be canceled.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Cancel the Regular Election that was scheduled to be held November 8, 2022.

Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Cancellation of the November 8, 2022 Special Election. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that with certification of unopposed candidates for the At-Large Position that the Special Election could be canceled.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:
Cancel the Special Election that was scheduled to be held November 8, 2022.
Second was by Paul King.
Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the FY 2022-2023 Budget. General Manager Sodek presented and reviewed the FY 2022-2023 Proposed Budget that included changes to the proposed budget that were discussed and approved at the previous Board Meeting. The changes to the previously proposed budget included adjustments of an increase of \$5,000.00 to the line item for Expenses - Education - General Public Education; an 8 percent cost of living wage increase for District Office Staff and also minor changes to balance the budget.

Ryan Rowney moved to:
Adopt the proposed FY 2022-2023 Budget as presented for adoption as the FY 2022-2023 Budget of the District.
Second was by Paul King.
Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on a 2022 Tax Rate. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that the requirements for posting and publishing tax rate notices and the requirement for a Hearing on Tax Rate Increase had been met and that the Board had previously approved a proposed 2022 tax rate of \$0.0057/\$100 value.

Ryan Rowney moved:
That the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.0057, which is effectively a 1.78 percent increase in the tax rate.
Second was by Paul King.
Vote on the motion carried as follows:
For: Ryan Rowney, Ricky Bindsiel, Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Homer Will, Paul King
Against: None
Present and not voting: None
Absent: None

General Manager Sodek presented the Board with an Order Setting the Tax Rate that needed Board Approval.

Ryan Rowney moved to amend his previous motion to read as follows:
That the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.0057, which is effectively a 1.78 percent increase in the tax rate and to adopt the Order Setting the Tax Rate.
Second was by Paul King.
Vote on the motion carried as follows:
For: Ryan Rowney, Ricky Bindsiel, Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Homer Will, Paul King
Against: None
Present and not voting: None
Absent: None

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on TML Health Benefits Pool ReRates. General Manager Sodek presented the Plan Year 2022-2023 ReRate Sheet from TML Health Benefits Pool. He informed the Board that health insurance rates for the current plan option had increased approximately 6% from the previous plan year.

Ricky Bindseil moved to:

Approve the TML Health Benefits Pool Insurance ReRates for Plan Year 2022-2023 with the current plan option as presented.

Second was by Kathy Griffis-Bailey.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 16, 2022.

Paul King moved to:

Approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 16, 2022.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

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

Moved \$291.11 From Expenses – Contract Services – Spring Monitoring To Expenses – Contract Services – Appraisal Fees

Moved \$50.49 From Expenses - Capital Purchase – Flow Meters To Expenses – Capital Purchase – Office And Field Equipment

Moved \$14,000.00 From Expenses - Reserves – Building/Construction Consultant To Expenses – Reserves – Database Application

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve the Line Item Adjustments as presented.

Second was by Homer Will.

Vote on the motion carried.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve the Expenditures for August 2022.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

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 is still showing Burnet County to be in Extreme Drought which is the highest category and correlates with the District's Stage 4 - Critical Drought Stage. He recommended remaining in the District Stage 4 – Critical Drought Stage 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

The number of applications received has come down slightly over the last few months.

b. TAGD Groundwater Summit

All staff attended the Summit and General Manager Sodek was a presenter on a panel discussion "The "S" Word: Sustainability in Groundwater"

c. Drought Signage

Payment has been made to start designing a proof for sixteen signs to be made.

President Rowney then called for Director Comments. Ricky Bindseil reminded the Board of the upcoming October 15, 2022 HHW Collection Event.

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

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, Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Burnet, TX 78611.

President Rowney then returned to Agenda Item number 5 for consideration and/or action relating to Cause No. 53288, Central Texas GCD v. Deer Springs and Cody Lewis, Burnet County District Court and announced at 1:50 p.m. that following a short recess the Board would go into Executive Session to consider the agenda item under Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551.071, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, annotated for consultation concerning attorney- client matters.

President Rowney reconvened the Regular Session at 2:12 p.m.


Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Direct Counsel to pursue legal fees and penalties on Cause No. 53288, Central Texas GCD v. Deer Springs and Cody Lewis, Burnet County District Court.

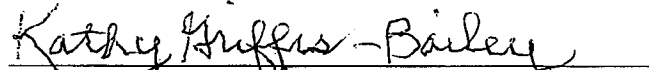
Second was by Homer Will.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.



Ryan Rowney, President



Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer