



GCGCD MINUTES
MEETING OF THE GUADALUPE COUNTY
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Thursday, February 8, 2024 @ 4:30 PM

200 N. Austin St. Ste. # 301

Seguin, TX 78155

CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Starcke called the meeting to order at 4:34 PM.

DETERMINE A QUORUM – Verified. Board members in attendance: Hilmar Starcke, Bill Jones, Mark Gustafson, and Robert Raetzsch.

OTHERS IN ATTENDEANCE – Kelley Cochran, Caroline Hrcir, Tiffany Willrich, Bill Klemt, Humberto Ramos, Christina Criss, Rebecca Clark, Mike Andrews, Andrew McBride, and Marisa Perales (virtually, executive session only).

Introductions of Mike Andrews, GM for SHWSC and Rebecca Clark, District 2 resident, TLU lecturer in Mathematics Department and interested candidate for GCGCD board appointment.

- 1. Invitation of citizens or Directors to speak in advance of District’s regular business.** No comments received.
- 2. Approve Minutes of regular meeting held on January 11, 2024.** Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 11, 2024 by Bill Jones. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion approved.
- 3. Approve the Minutes of the Workshop held on January 11, 2024.** Motion to approve the minutes of the Workshop held on January 11th by Bill Jones. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion approved.
- 4. Review Palmer Drought Index, TWDB Drought Report and Rain Fall in GCGCD area.** District staff displayed current drought maps. According to the Feb. 6th TX Drought map intensity scale, the southern portion of the District is considered not in drought. The rest of Guadalupe County remains in abnormally dry or moderate drought intensity. January rainfall averaged close to 5.5” for the District.
- 5. Review Production data January 2024.** District displayed monthly production totals for the Carrizo and Wilcox aquifers for PWS permit holders.

6. Discussion and possible action to approve Financial Reports for January 2024. Mr. Jones commented the District's finances are in good order and made the motion to approve as submitted. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion approved.

7. Discussion and possible action to approve Annual Manager's Report – 2023 – Motion to approve the 2023 Manager's Report as presented by Mark Gustafson. Second by Robert Raetzsch. Motion approved.

8. REPORTS

A. Kelley Cochran: General Manager Report – transferred \$25,000 into TexPool account yesterday. TexPool account earned \$4,700 in interest last month. Full PFI report next month.

- **Association updates** – TGWA: Attended conference last month. Groundwater Science 'Person of the Year' award now renamed the 'Joe Vickers' award. First award given to Bill Stein, AGS. TAGD: Attended Winter business meeting – informative boot camp on aquifer sciences. Adam Foster (TDLR) named the new Executive Director; GMA 13: Meeting Feb. 9th canceled, rescheduled for April 19th - Bill Hutchison will have the updated GAM available for GMA approval and subsequent submission to the TWDB for review and public comments; Region L: Tiffany will be attending the Region L meeting on Feb. 14th; TWCA: Spring Conference March 6-8th.
- **Other District business** – Water levels were obtained last month – Mr. Klemt will share his report; Winter 2023-2024 Newsletter published Feb. 1st; District is conducting a full audit on all permit holders – updating contact information and verifying water rights on all permits; Continued work on verifying parcel data and calculating the water rights for the Carrizo Aquifer so we can post the updated files; Update on follow up discussions from the Wilcox Rule Workshop. Over the next few monthly board meetings, Mr. Klemt and I will be addressing several possible rule edits from both a scientific modeling and policy perspective.

B. Caroline Hrcir – Education & Outreach: Caroline summarized her meeting with the NRCS staff (January 17th) – the feature article in our Winter Newsletter. Caroline and Tiffany attended an aerobic septic system maintenance course offered by Texas AgriLife Extension in Seguin, designed to certify homeowners in maintaining private systems. She and Tiffany were there as a reference for homeowners with wells to answer questions about spacing and District rules. District is working with the TWDB to replace the desiccant beads at all the GCGCD TexMesonet stations.

C. Tiffany Willrich – Administrative Report – Presentation on Providing the Most Efficient Use of Groundwater: 31 TAC 356.52(a)(1)(A); TWC §36.1071(a)(1) Management Plan Goal.

D. William B. Klemt, PG - Consulting Hydrogeologist – Mr. Klemt summarized the January Water Level drawdown maps. The Carrizo water levels in the outcrop area declined ~4 feet on average across the 11 wells measured. The Wilcox water levels remain stable and a viable source of groundwater within the District.

E. CRWA – No report.

F. SSLGC – Andrew McBride shared an update on the progress of the Guadalupe Project construction and the expansion of the parallel pipeline project. Mr. McBride reported that SSLGC is hoping to have the filter backwashing completed in April and the treatment plant online sometime this summer.

G. SHWSC – Mike Andrews, new General Manager for SHWSC, introduced himself and gave the report. Mr. Andrews shared SHWSC is closing on the purchase of property to be able to build pump stations and elevated storage tanks to meet demands of increased population to their service areas; He discussed the partnership with the city to buy back used meters at a discounted rate; He announced the SUD conversion election will be on the May 4th ballot for SHWSC customers to vote and elect directors; he summarized multiple benefits of the SUD conversion for both SHWSC customers and employees.

H. CCSUD – Stephanie emailed an update – “Several projects are underway from ESTs to ARWA’.

I. CSWR – Feb. 7th the District received an email letter from Ben Glynn reporting CSWR continues to work through the list of landowners maintained by the GCGCD. CSWR has reached out to thirty-seven landowners on the list maintained by GCGCD. Twenty-one have previously leased the water rights. CSWR has been unable to contact seven property owners based on the available information. Of the remaining eight, only four property owners have expressed an interest in leasing. CSWR will continue to discuss leasing with those property owners.

9. Discussion and possible action to appoint Rebecca Clark as Director of District 2. The Board invited Ms. Clark to introduce herself. Ms. Clark stated she is a long-time resident of Seguin, lives in District 2, graduated from TLU and received her Master’s in mathematics from Texas State University and currently is a lecturer in the Mathematics Dept at TLU for past fifteen years. She stated her interest in conservation and excitement to join the Board and help any way she can to further the District’s mission. Motion to appoint Rebecca Clark as Director of District 2 by Robert Raetzsch. Second by Bill Jones. Discussion: Mark Gustafson stated he has known Ms. Clark for years - they both work at TLU and he is in favor of her joining the Board. Mr. Starcke thanked Ms. Clark for her willingness to join. Motion approved.

10. Discussion and possible action to obtain bond for \$10,000 payable to District for Rebecca Clark per TWC Ch. 36.055 & Ch. 49.055. Motion to obtain director bond for Rebecca Clark by Mark Gustafson. Second by Robert Raetzsch. Motion approved.

11. Possible items for discussion/consideration at next meeting – Mr. Starcke mentioned Bill Klemt and Kelley will be presenting possible Wilcox rule edits related to spacing at the next meeting for discussion.

12. Lloyd Gosselink law firm/Perales, Allmon & Ice, P.C. (Executive Session Recommended).

Mr. Starcke paused the regular meeting at 5:16 PM to enter into executive session (TX Gov't Code Sec. 551.071(1)(a) consultation with attorney, pending or contemplated litigation). Marisa Perales joined virtually at 5:22 PM to enter into executive session. Executive session adjourned at 5:51 PM.

13. Discussion and possible action re: TCEQ lawsuit in Travis County court. Mr. Starcke re-opened the regular meeting at 5:52 PM. Mr. Jones thanked Marisa for everything she has done to date. Robert Raetzsch made the motion to table the vote until the March meeting and to continue trying to reach out to legal counsel and contact the general manager for SSLGC to gauge their interest and potential involvement. Second by Bill Jones. Motion passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Mark Gustafson

Mark Gustafson, Secretary

March 14, 2024

Date