



GCGCD MINUTES

MEETING OF THE GUADALUPE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

200 N. Austin St. Ste. # 301

Seguin, TX 78155

Thursday, September 14, 2023 @ 4:30 PM



CALL TO ORDER – President Mr. Starcke called the meeting to order at 4:32 PM.

DETERMINE A QUORUM – Verified. Board members present: Hil Starcke, Bill Jones, Mark Gustafson, Matt Miranda, Jeff Schuehle, and Robert Raetzsch.

Others in attendance: Kelley Cochran, Omar Maldonado, Caroline Hrcir, Bill Klemt, Neil Deeds, John Kaufmann, Humberto Ramos, and Andrew McBride.

1. **Invitation of citizens or Directors to speak in advance of District's regular business (limited to 3 minutes each – agenda items/non-agenda items).** No comments.
2. **Approve Minutes of regular meeting held on August 10, 2023** – Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held August 10, 2023 by Bill Jones. Second by Robert Raetzsch. Motion approved.
3. **Review Palmer Drought Index, TWDB Drought Report and Rain Fall in GCGCD area** – Reviewed.
4. **Review Production data August 2023** – Reviewed.
5. **Public Funds Investment Report – Kelley Cochran, PFI Officer** – Kelley summarized public funds investment portfolio for the period ending August 31, 2023 in accordance with PFIA 2256.023. No transfers or withdrawals this period. No action required.
6. **Discussion and possible action to approve Financial Reports for August 2023.** Motion to approve the financial reports as presented by Bill Jones. Second by Jeff Schuehle. Motion approved.
7. **Discussion and possible action to declare directors of Districts 3 & 4 unopposed and elected** Directors from Districts 3 and 4 are unopposed. Motion to declare directors of Districts 3 & 4 unopposed and elected by Jeff Schuehle. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion approved.
8. **Discussion and possible action to cancel General Election** – Motion to cancel the general election by Robert Raetzsch. Second by Bill Jones. Motion approved.
9. **Public hearing** - Mr. Starcke paused the regular meeting at 4:39 PM to open the public hearing.
 - A. **Springs Hill Water Supply Corporation (SHWSC) Carrizo permit PWS-2011-CZ-04 Major amendment request to change location of groundwater withdrawal – correct coordinates of Well 3A**
 - i. **Invitation for public comment** – No comments received.
 - ii. **GCGCD staff – present/summarize amendment** – Kelley summarized the amendment request. In an effort to preserve mature oak trees and negotiate the rig on site, the well was drilled >90 feet from the authorized coordinates. GCGCD Rule 6.3(a) allows for a 30-foot shift.
 - iii. **Permit applicant/representative(s) – comments.** Neil Deeds (Intera) apologized for the error and explained that he relied on aerial photography instead of a site visit. He thanked the Board on behalf of SHWSC for their understanding and

- thanked the District for working with SHWSC to correct the permit.
- iv. **GCGCD Hydrogeologist – Bill Klemt comments** – In a memo dated 9/4/23, Mr. Klemt stated the review of the SHWSC’s electric logs indicates no change in Carrizo/Wilcox subsurface conditions because of the 90-foot relocation. Mr. Klemt stated it is good that the oak trees could be saved. Water quality problems are not anticipated, and he recommends the District grant the amendment.
 - v. **Invitation for additional public comments** – Humberto Ramos (County Line SUD) commented that saving old growth trees is important and he was pleased to learn that SHWSC is working on their wellfield and additional water rights acquisition.
- B. William Schaefer permit AG-IRR-2018-WX-05 - Major permit amendment to change the purpose of use of the water**
- i. **Invitation for public comment** – No comments.
 - ii. **GCGCD staff – present/summarize amendment** – Kelley summarized the applicant’s request. This permit was recently transferred from Clarice Ullrich to William Schaefer after the sale of the property was finalized. New owner would like to use the well, currently permitted as irrigation use, for the additional non-exempt use of livestock to supplement water to the small tank (less than ¼ acre) for livestock, in addition to maintaining the irrigation ability of the well. Because the well exceeds the completion capacity limits of an exempt well, an amendment is required to change the purpose of use of the well as permitted. The District conferred with legal counsel, and this is a common GCD amendment request, permissible under our rules.
 - iii. **Permit applicant/representative(s) – comments** – Permit holder not present.
 - iv. **GCGCD Hydrogeologist – Bill Klemt comments** – In a memo dated 9/4/23, Mr. Klemt noted that Wilcox water levels within the District do not indicate long-term regional water level declines. However, short-term significant water level drawdowns have been measured in the Ullrich well due to pumpage by previous owner. The short-term declines recovered within a few days after pumping stopped. Water quality problems are not anticipated. Mr. Klemt recommends the approval of the inclusion of non-exempt livestock use for this well.
 - v. **Invitation for additional public comments** – Mr. Raetzsch asked if the permit remained the same amount of acre feet. Kelley replied that the permit amount is not impacted by this decision, it remains the same. No other comments were received.
- C. ADJOURNMENT of public hearing** – Mr. Starcke adjourned the public hearing at 4:48 PM and resumed the regular meeting.
- 10. Discussion and possible action on major amendment request by SHWSC to change location of groundwater withdrawal – correct coordinates of Well 3A on permit PWS-2011-CZ-04.** Motion to approve the major amendment as presented by Matt Miranda. Second by Robert Raetzsch. Motion approved.
- 11. Discussion and possible action on major amendment request to change the purpose of use of water for permit AG-IRR-2018-WX-05.** Motion to approve the amendment as presented by Matt Miranda. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion approved.
- 12. REPORTS**
- A. Kelley Cochran: General Manager Report**

- **Association updates** – TAGD Summit exceeded attendance of previous years with 430 registrants. I was elected Parliamentarian for TAGD (2-year term) at the business meeting. Panel on correlative rights was a great success; GMA 13 meeting is Sept. 15th, Dr. Hutchison will be reviewing the updated GAM; BEG Roundtable Discussion to be scheduled in October – Justin Thompson is gathering all the GMs from the pilot program testing the alpha version of the hydro-economic well performance tool to discuss experiences and potential future of the tool with TWDB, TCEQ, TAGD, TWCA, TFB, TGWA, EDF, and TX 2036.
 - **Other District business** – GCGCD published its first ‘Bonus’ Newsletter (Pre-Fall issue) to showcase Bill Klemt & Greg Sengelmann’s “Fault Zone Salinity Study”. Regular newsletter will publish end of October; Met with Guadalupe County Engineers and development staff and County Fire Marshal to discuss District spacing rules and work on coordinating reviews of submitted subdivision plats that rely solely on groundwater wells; Presented on GCGCD rules in Giddings - Interest continues with Lost Pines GCD Rule Making Stakeholder group in developing rules that take sustainability into account; Development on in-house app continues – new ability to input water level data into app – Alpha testing on water level days Sept. 18th & 19th; Update on Kiteboard Ranch from Chris Pepper – TCEQ permits for detention dam are still pending – to date, no water has been produced from those permitted wells; Moy drilling/Ranchy McRanchface drilled well in unapproved location ~600 ft. off mark. Pilot hole was plugged, per direction of permittee. Drilling at approved located began late last week; Working with Mike Gershon to draft edits to GCGCD rules per required updates to Chapter 36/recent Legislation along with some general ‘housekeeping’ edits for consideration at rule making hearing – potentially scheduled for January 2024 – potential workshop could be arranged to coincide with November 9th board meeting if Board wanted to look at other rules; Working on new irrigation permit application in Kingsbury area; GCGCD still unable to locate a vehicle to rent – will have to use my personal vehicle again. Possible discussion on the District purchasing a vehicle.
- B. Omar Maldonado – Field Report** – Geronimo and Alligator Creek Fall Cleanup scheduled for October 7th - Mr. Jones asked if there was a way for the District to pay volunteers to help with the clean-up – Kelley will follow up; Omar and Caroline attended the Healthy Lawns and Healthy Waters workshop on September 12th; attended the Region 11 Flood Planning Group meeting on September 12th; TWDB Groundwater Data Viewer has been updated with new features and layout.
- C. Caroline Hrcir – Presentation on Gray Water** – Moved to October agenda.
- D. William B. Klemt, PG - Consulting Hydrogeologist** – Discussed possible sites for Wilcox water quality monitor wells in Kingsbury and estimated calculations of horizontal velocity of movement of ‘waste’ through the sands to reach the monitor wells, based on assumptions of leakage from tears in the liner at the landfill. Mr. Klemt’s calculations were based on gradient data provided by Post Oak Landfill on submitted TCEQ permit

application. Due to the excessive timeframe, the project does not appear to be cost effective. Mr. Klemt recommends the District continue to try to obtain the water quality sample results collected by Post Oak Landfill as required by TCEQ. Mr. Klemt does not recommend the nested wells for water quality analysis in that area. He does however recommend the District consider additional monitoring wells near the increased pumping sites within the District to measure water level declines.

- E. **CRWA** - John Kaufmann thanked the board for understanding the increased water needs during this time of drought.
 - F. **SSLGC** – Andrew McBride gave a construction update on the Guadalupe plant. SSLGC is scheduling the final walk through. Andrew will be looking to work with the District to drill two additional wells in the wellfield.
 - G. **SHWSC** – Daniel Pepin unable to attend. Kelley updated the Board on the status of SHWSC conversion to an SUD. Membership vote is expected to occur May 2024. Update on the improvement to Lake Placid Surface Water Plant – scheduled to be completed in 2026. Well 3A pump tests have been completed and the well should be on-line soon. Intera is supplying all requested data to the District. Another public hearing will be scheduled for Oct. 12th to discuss major amendment request to increase annual groundwater withdrawal by 204.241 AF/YR to partially account for loss of historical use permit on Jan. 1, 2025.
 - H. **CCSUD** – Regina Franke has nothing to report in the GCGCD area.
 - I. **CSWR** – CSWR continues to struggle to obtain the renewal of water rights from its customers. I have sent a spreadsheet of water rights attached to permits with the District to help narrow down the list of potential leases in an effort to assist them in obtaining water leases outside of their customer base. This list was also shared with SHWSC.
13. **Possible items for discussion/consideration at next meeting** – None received.
14. **Lloyd Gosselink law firm/Perales, Allmon & Ice, P.C. (Executive Session Recommended)** – No executive session.
15. **ADJOURNMENT** – Meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM.

Mark Gustafson
Mark Gustafson, Secretary

Oct. 12, 2023
Date

