

**GCGCD MINUTES**  
MEETING OF THE  
**GUADALUPE COUNTY GROUNDWATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**Thursday, January 11, 2024 @ 4:30 PM**

200 N. Austin St. Ste. # 301

Seguin, TX 78155

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

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

**Others in attendance:** Kelley Cochran, Caroline Hrcir, Tiffany Willrich, Bill Klemt, Judge Heather Wright, Christina Criss, Devan Montoya, Humberto Ramos, Randy Schwenn, Regina Franke, and Dan Myers.

**1. Invitation of citizens or Directors to speak in advance of District’s regular business.**

None received.

**2. Oath of Office – Directors of Districts 3 and 4** – Judge Heather Wright administered the Oath of Office to newly elected directors of District 3, Robert Raetzsch and District 4, Bill Jones.

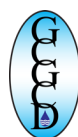
**3. Discussion and possible action to (re)elect officers {Water Code §36.054(b)}** – Motion by Mark Gustafson to re-elect current officers to same positions. Second by Matt Miranda. Motion passed.

- A. President** – Hilmar Starcke
- B. Vice President** – Jeff Schuehle
- C. Secretary** – Mark Gustafson
- D. Other – Treasurer** – Bill Jones

**4. Discussion and possible action to reorganize / reappoint committees {Water Code §36.061(5)(B)}**. Motion to reappoint same committee members for each committee by Jeff Schuehle. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion passed.

- A. Budget Committee** – President (Hil Starcke), Treasurer (Bill Jones) and General Manager (Kelley Cochran).
- B. Audit/Finance Committee**– President (Hil Starcke), Treasurer (Bill Jones) and General Manager (Kelley Cochran).

**5. Discussion and possible action to renew execution of Director bonds {Water Code §36.055 (c) and §49.055 (c)}**. Motion to renew execution of Director bonds by Bill Jones. Second by Jeff Schuehle. Motion passed.



6. **Approve Minutes of regular meeting held on November 9, 2023** – Motion to approve minutes as presented by Matt Miranda. Second by Jeff Schuehle. Motion passed.
7. **Review Palmer Drought Index, TWDB Drought Report and Rain Fall in GCGCD area** – Tiffany presented the 2023 Rainfall Calendar, the December Rainfall Calendar, and the TexMesonet station table and graph.
8. **Review Production data November & December 2023** – Board packet included production totals for calendar year 2023 by entity as well as pie charts depicting the percentage of permitted groundwater by aquifer. For the Carrizo, permitted and produced water was plotted against the Annual Production Cap and the Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) year 2030 values. For the Wilcox, permitted and produced water was plotted against the 2030 MAG for calendar year 2023. Produced water by PWS entities related to permit terms will also be calculated monthly and reported at least each quarter.
9. **Public Funds Investment Report – Kelley Cochran, PFI Officer** – Kelley summarized the District’s portfolio of investments for the period ending December 31, 2023 in accordance with PFIA 2256.023. On December 4, 2023, \$25,000 was transferred from operating cash account to TexPool. The interest earned for period ending FY 23-24 Q1 totaled \$13,643.44.
10. **Discussion and possible action to approve Financial Reports for November & December 2023.** Mr. Jones stated he reviewed the November and December financial statements and found them, along with the annual audit, to be in good order, rated A+. Mr. Jones stated our annual revenue last year from interest in TexPool account was over \$47,000. Due to the multiple layers of review of our financials - from the General Manager, Board Treasurer, outside CPA, and outside auditors – he is confident in the District’s reporting. Motion to approve the financial statements as presented by Bill Jones. Second by Mark Gustafson. Motion passed.
11. **Discussion and possible action to approve financial audit prepared by Armstrong, Vaughn & Associates for Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023 {Water Code §49.149(a)}.** Mr. Jones reiterated his comments related to the District’s multiple layers of review and stated his confidence in the annual audit report. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the financial audit for FY ending Sept. 30, 2023. Jeff Schuehle seconded the motion. Motion passed.
12. **Public hearing** - Mr. Starcke paused the regular meeting to open the public hearing at 4:49 PM.
  - A. **Springs Hill Water Supply Corporation (SHWSC) Carrizo permit PWS-2011-CZ-04 Major amendment request to increase the annual quantity of groundwater**



**authorized to be withdrawn – addition of 22.202 AF/YR.**

- i. **Invitation for public comment** – No comments received.
- ii. **GCGCD staff – present/summarize amendment** – An administratively complete application was submitted on November 29, 2023, requesting to include three additional water lease agreements which would increase the quantity of groundwater to be withdrawn by an additional 22.202 AF/YR for a total of 475.851 AF/YR. If approved, the combined total of Carrizo water permitted by SHWSC, including the historic use permit, would equal 1,389.851 AF/YR until January 1, 2025, when the historic use permit of 914 AF will expire.
- iii. **Permit applicant/representative(s) – comments** – Devan Montoya thanked the District for working with SHWSC as they continue their efforts to acquire additional water rights. She stated Christina Criss will elaborate on the retirement
- iv. **GCGCD Hydrogeologist – Bill Klemt comments** – Mr. Klemt summarized his recommendation for the Board to approve the amendment request as presented in a memo to the Board dated January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- v. **Invitation for additional public comments** – No comments.

**B. ADJOURNMENT of public hearing** – Mr. Starcke adjourned the meeting at 4:51 PM.

**13. Discussion and possible action to approve major amendment request by SHWSC to increase the quantity of groundwater to be withdrawn by 22.202 AF/YR to be added to permit PWS-2011-CZ-04.** Motion to approve the major amendment as presented by Bill Jones. Second by Matt Miranda. Motion passed.

**14. REPORTS**

- A. **Kelley Cochran: General Manager Report** – Kelley welcomed our new Administrative Assistant, Tiffany Willrich. Tiffany joined GCGCD end of December 2023. Tiffany is working on a Master of Applied Geography degree at Texas State focusing on Environmental Studies.
  - **Association updates** – TGWA Convention Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> in San Marcos; TAGD interviews for ED on Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>; TAGD Winter business meeting in Round Rock Jan. 30-31<sup>st</sup> – Boot camp – Aquifer Science; Next Region L meeting will be Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> (verified by Humberto); Next GMA 13 meeting will be Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> to review the updated GAM completed by Bill Hutchison. Once approved by the GMA 13 board, it will be submitted to TWDB to begin the 90-day comment period.
  - **Other District business** – Water level measuring day scheduled Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> – working with consulting field technician Evan Schaefer; Received the most updated parcel data from Appraisal District and are working on calculations; updates to app to include navigation capabilities in the field, and improved methods for staff to access water rights allocation of parcels; In response to SB 2440 which requires groundwater availability studies be



conducted for development in areas dependent upon groundwater as source, we are working with Madison Huerta to develop an information sheet related to GCGCD rules the County can disseminate at pre-development meetings; GCGCD Winter Newsletter will publish end of January; Talk+Water podcast with Todd Votteler published Jan. 8, 2024.

- B. **Caroline Hrcir – Education & Outreach** – Caroline announced the District is working to create a YouTube channel to host recorded PowerPoint presentations about various conservation efforts relating to our management plan. The YouTube channel will be featured on the website under Education. She also announced that she and Tiffany will be meeting with the National Resources Conservation Service next Wednesday at 10:00 AM to discuss recent development, and the role of easements in Guadalupe County. Additionally, the GMA13.org website is now public.
- C. **William B. Klemt, PG - Consulting Hydrogeologist** – Mr. Klemt reported on Gonzales water levels. From September '23 – January '24, water levels around the SSLGC wellfield have risen 16.5 feet.
- D. **CRWA** – Randy Schwenn, introduced himself as the new interim General Manager for CRWA with no report at this time.
- E. **SSLGC** – Dan Myers updated the Board on the progress of the Guadalupe Project. Contractor is finishing up and anticipated tests in April, depending upon switchgears.
- F. **SHWSC** – Christina Criss reported that Mr. Pepin resigned his position as General Manager and the board has appointed Mike Andrews as new GM. Mr. Andrews' first day will begin Monday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>; SHWSC has entered Stage 2 drought in response to moderate water shortage conditions - 10% reduction in daily watering; meter installation report for 2023 – SHWSC received 81 private residential meter requests and 833 subdivision meter requests; As of October 24, 2023 – SHWSC is only accepting standard meter installation requests, no commercial requests until further notification by board action; SUD Conversion update – SHWSC is waiting for the confirmation and directors election on May 4, 2024 to transfer from WSC to Special Utility District; Corollo Engineering Firm has completed 100% design of the plant filter replacements, intermediate pump station and granular activated carbon contactors; Prior to Mr. Pepin's departure, he implemented a team to collaborate efforts to acquire additional water rights to satisfy responsibilities related to expiring historic water rights.
- G. **CCSUD** – Regina Franke declined to report.
- H. **CSWR** – Ben Glynn emailed an update stating in November of 2023, the District was able to verify an additional 7.736 AF/YR of water lease agreements submitted by CSWR bringing the commitment of water rights total to 29.824 AF/YR. CSWR has contacted more than 200 landowners and has retained Kelley Wilson, KW Land Specialist Inc. to assist in following up with landowners.



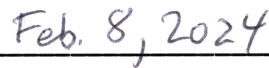
15. Possible items for discussion/consideration at next meeting. None received.

16. Lloyd Gosselink law firm/Perales, Allmon & Ice, P.C. (*Executive Session Recommended*) – No executive session.

17. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting adjourned at 5:06 PM.



Mark Gustafson, Secretary



Date

