

PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

February 19, 2019

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (the “District” or “Prairielands GCD”) met in a regular board meeting at 205 S. Caddo Street, Cleburne, Texas.

At 8:37 a.m., President Charles Beseda called the regular meeting to order, established a quorum, and declared the meeting open to the public. Roll was called, and the following board members were present: Charles Beseda, Maurice Osborn, Marty McPherson, Paul Tischler, Tod Sandlin, and Kent Smith. Director Dennis Erinakes arrived at 9:04 a.m. Director Randel Kirk had provided notice before the meeting that he was not able to attend. Also present were Jim Conkwright, Rosetta Douthitt, Stephanie Rexrode, Michael Heath, and Annette Kinney from the staff of Prairielands and members of the public.

Under Item #2 Public Comment, there were none made.

Regarding Item #3 Administrative and Financials, President Beseda inquired if any director would entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Director Smith moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Director McPherson seconded, and the motion carried.

Proceeding to Item #4 Administrative, operational, and regulatory issues of the District, Mr. Conkwright spoke regarding the following items:

- Timely customer payments had been made even though the District’s new permanent rules had been changed to reflect an earlier due date. He stated that there was no reason for any Show-Cause Hearings at this time.
- Introduction of Ms. Annette Kinney to the Board as the new Office Assistant.
- An email had been received from Stephen Allen of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Mr. Conkwright read Mr. Allen’s comments that “the three reviewers went over the plan today. It was very well written. [It was] Probably one of the best 3 or 4 plans out of the 98 districts. I’m going to write up our comments (there are very few) and supply you with the instructions for submitting the final version of the plan”.
- Prairielands GCD was the featured district in the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts’ (TAGD) January newsletter.
- Apprised the Board of the upcoming Region C Meeting in Arlington next week.
- Announced the hiring of Sinclaire Newby as the new Public Relations and Education Administrator and talked about her qualifications. Mr. Conkwright also informed that Ms. Jillian North had agreed to train her on the Conservation/Education Trailer.

At 8:47 President Beseda announced, “the Board will recess into a Closed Executive Session under Government Codes Section 551.072, deliberation regarding real property, and 551.074, personnel matters. No action will be taken in closed session, and the Board will reconvene in open session at the conclusion of the closed session.” The Executive Session concluded at 10:05 a.m.

At 10:18 a.m. the regular meeting reconvened in open session.

The following Item #5 was for the Board to discuss and consider possible action on the proposed budget and scope of work on the proposed new district facilities and authorizing the General Manager to enter into agreements (contractual or otherwise) on behalf of the District as necessary for commencement and completion of the proposed new facilities. Director Osborn moved to authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements on behalf of the District as necessary for commencement and completion of the proposed new facilities with consideration approving 1.5 million dollars down and borrowing the balance based on a 25-year payment plan. Director Tischler seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. (Attorney Mark Hines participated by telephone.)

At 10:20 a.m. President Beseda announced, "the Board will recess into a Closed Executive Session under Government Code Section 551.074 personnel matters. No action will be taken in closed session, and that the Board will reconvene in open session at the conclusion of the closed session." The Executive Session concluded at 11:35 a.m.

At 11:37 a.m. the regular meeting reconvened in open session.

The subsequent Item #6 was for the Board to discuss and consider possible action on personnel matters related to the District General Manager including but not limited to: contractual agreements, terms and conditions, and salary, as recommended by the Policy and Personnel Committee. Director Tischler moved to authorize the General Manager to execute an employment agreement with Ms. Kathy Turner Jones. Director Smith seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Pertaining to Item #7 General Counsel's Report, in the absence of Mr. Sledge, Mr. Conkwright told the Board that there were no issues with the Railroad Commission of Texas or the TCEQ concerning waste injection wells, and no concerns regarding District rules enforcement or management plan implementation. He announced there would possibly be a GMA-8 meeting during the month of March, and added that to date he had not seen any new bills filed in the 86th Texas Legislative Session regarding groundwater legislation. The bills he had seen thus far came from previous sessions and the interim.


Proceeding to Item #8 Open forum / discussion of new business, there were no matters considered.

At 11:40 a.m., Director McPherson moved to adjourn, Director Smith seconded the motion, and it carried.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the BOARD of DIRECTORS this 18th day of March 2019.



Charles Beseda, President



Maurice Osborn, Secretary/Treasurer