

PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

November 15, 2021

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES 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, open to the public, within the boundaries of the District at 208 Kimberly Dr, Cleburne, TX, on November 15, 2021.

CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARE REGULAR MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

President Charles Beseda presided and called to order the regular Board of Directors Meeting at 9:11 a.m., announcing the meeting open to the public.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Charles Beseda	Maurice Osborn
John Curtis	Brad Daniels
Randy Kirk	Marty McPherson
Paul Tischler	Barney McClure

All members of the Board were in attendance, with the exception of Director(s) Osborn and McClure, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also, attending said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; Brian Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheet(s) attached hereto as Exhibit “A”.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION OF KENT SMITH IN APPRECIATION OF HIS LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE TO PRAIRIELANDS GCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

President Beseda gave a statement describing Director Smith’s service to the District during his time on the Board of Directors, and presented Director Smith with a commemorative award recognizing him for his many years of service.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Director McPherson to approve the consent agenda. Director Kirk seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all those who were present.

FINANCE REPORT – Brian Watts, Comptroller

- a) Presentation of unaudited financials for the month of September 2021. Mr. Watts discussed the balance sheet and profit and loss analysis for the Month of October 2021. He highlighted the District's ending cash balance of \$1,757,241.81 as of October 31, and that for the month of October the District's total income was \$34,136.03 which included investment earnings of \$216.86 for the month. The District's total expenses for the month of October totaled to \$148,495.47 which Mr. Watts stated included legal expenses of \$50,974.72. Mr. Watts went on to detail how for the year 2021, the District had income of \$1,282,534.11 from all sources and expenses for the same period of time of \$1,212,598.30 which resulted in an excess revenue for the ten months of 2021 of \$69,925.81.
- b) Review of monthly cash flow and cash projection for 2021. Mr. Watts provided an overview of the cash flow for the District and reported the District had collected \$207,070.13 in cash balances for the month of October and dispersed cash of \$127,361.65 creating a net cash inflow of \$79,708.48 for the month. Mr. Watts reported this increase in cash brought the ending cash balance to \$1,757,041.81, and when added to the \$200 petty cash balance brought the total cash to \$1,757,241.81 as shown on the balance sheet.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 8 – UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES RELATED TO JOINT PLANNING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS – Kathy Turner Jones

Ms. Jones updated the Board on the GMA 8 meeting that was held on November 4, 2021 at the Prairielands GCD office facility to receive and act on comments received from summary reports from the groundwater conservation districts within GMA 8. She reported Southeast GCD has received comments on their summary report which were addressed by their board of directors and determined to make no change to the DFCs. She went on to explain the proposed DFCs for the relevant aquifers in GMA 8 were approved by the GMA 8 representatives and authorized the administrative agency to submit the Explanatory Report documentation to the Texas Water Development Board on or before January 3, 2022. She discussed a flowchart depicting the steps of the DFC process and schedule moving forward and how the documentation would be reviewed by Texas Water Development Board for administrative completeness and sent back to the GCDs for final adoption if deemed administratively complete.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT RULES AND SETTING A DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS – Brian Sledge, Legal Counsel, SledgeLaw Group, PLLC

Mr. Sledge stated the District's Rules and Bylaws Committee had been working on items to be addressed in the District Rules and it would be the committee's desire to hold a rulemaking hearing in conjunction with the December 20, 2021 board of directors meeting. Mr. Sledge added there would be a redline version of the proposed rule amendments published and made available no later than November 30, which would be twenty days before the December board meeting. Director Kirk made a motion to authorize the General Manager to publish notice

of a public hearing to consider amendments to the District Rules based on the recommendations of the Rules and Bylaws Committee to be held in conjunction with the December board meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 20, 2021 at the District office. Director McPherson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, EDUCATIONAL AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS – Sinclair Newby

Ms. Newby discussed recent presentations with the Water Education Trailer at a meeting of the Glen Rose 4-H Club on October 19 and at Russell Farm in Burleson on November 6 for the Burleson Family Camp Out event. She also discussed the fall 2021 issue of the Prairielands eLine newsletter that was released on November 2 and the variety of topics discussed in the issue. She concluded by talking about a visit from Emma Pool, 4-H Water Ambassador from Johnson County, on November 10 to recognize the District for being a signature sponsor in 2021.

- a) Discuss, consider, and take action as necessary to authorize sponsoring water education curriculum through Tinker, LLC for 2022. Ms. Newby provided background on how the District has previously participated in the Outdoor WaterWise curriculum program for 5th grade students in Ellis County in recent years, and how in 2021, the program was expanded to include Johnson, Hill and Somervell counties. Due to the pandemic sending students into a remote-learning situation, more schools and teachers are utilizing technology in the classroom, and she explained how it led to a reevaluation of the curriculum program sponsored by the District. Ms. Newby reported the Tinker, LLC program had been identified as a technology-based approach to conservation curriculum versus the traditional hardcopy workbooks and materials utilized by WaterWise. She explained that Tinker utilizes an online dashboard for lessons and activities and provides the ability to view program progress in real-time on the District's end and the District can customize the lessons and materials to its specific region and water resources, making the information more relevant and engaging for students. She concluded by listing several fellow groundwater conservation districts that have also implemented the curriculum program through Tinker, LLC and provided a projected comparison of cost for the Tinker curriculum compared to the WaterWise program, which indicate savings of \$12.50 per student. She added the program would be funded from the public relations and education budget in 2022. Director Curtis made a motion to authorize the approval of sponsoring and funding water education curriculum through Tinker, LLC for 2022. Director McPherson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEERING REPORT – Wade Oliver, INTERA

Mr. Oliver reported he had been continuing to work on several hydrogeologic projects tied to objectives in the District's management plan, including the Aquifer Storage and Recovery project, well spacing, drought planning, and the well monitoring program. He concluded his report by discussing how he would be meeting with the District's Planning and Development Committee following the board meeting to discuss specific updates on the projects to prepare to bring before the entire board.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT AND UPDATE – Kathy Turner Jones

- a) Update on current administrative activities of the District. Ms. Jones reported the District would be making the transition to the new groundwater management system database beginning at 5:00 p.m. that day. She explained how the existing system would no longer be available to the public while the data was transferred to the new system, and the new database would be accessible to the public by 8:00 a.m. on November 22. She described how District staff had conducted beta tests with a few permittees and well drillers to test the functionality of the new system prior to the official transition. She also discussed recent meetings of the Budget and Finance Committee to prepare the proposed 2022 Operating Budget to be presented at the December board meeting. She also stated the committee was working to finalize a draft reserve fund management policy. Ms. Jones also mentioned that a Planning and Development Committee meeting would be held following the meeting this morning. She discussed the year to date water level charts and the well registrations for the previous month.
- b) Enforcement. Ms. Jones stated there were no enforcement items.

There being no further discussion, President Beseda announced, "At this time, 9:56 a.m., the Board will recess into a Closed Executive Session to consult with legal counsel on items on today's agenda under Government Code Section(s) 551.071 for consultation concerning attorney-client matters. No action will be taken in closed session. At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board will reconvene in open session with the public."

At 11:19 a.m. President Beseda announced the meeting was reconvening into an open session and was open to the public.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT – Brian L. Sledge

Mr. Sledge stated he had been working with the District's Rules and Bylaws Committee to identify needed amendments in the District Rules in preparation for the scheduling of a rulemaking hearing. For a legislative update, Mr. Sledge mentioned how interim committee work would begin following the holidays in December, and how the Texas Water Development Board and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality were both going through Sunset review as directed by the Texas Legislature in the Texas Sunset Act. To conclude his report, Mr. Sledge stated there were no updates regarding UIC wells and would update the Board as they arise.

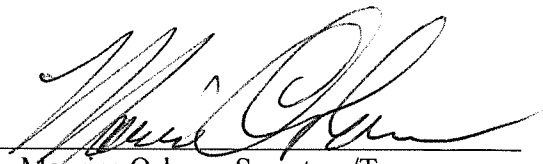
OPEN FORUM / DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Director Osborn made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Director Kirk. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 20th DAY OF DECEMBER 2021.



Maurice Osborn, Secretary/Treasurer



Sign-In Sheet

November 15, 2021

****** Note: If you are speaking, please limit to 3 minutes ******

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