

# PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

October 16, 2023

## 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 October 16, 2023.

### 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 09:17 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	John Curtis
Brad Daniels	Maurice Osborn
Barney McClure	Marty McPherson
Paul Tischler	Kathy Tucker

All members of the Board were in attendance, with the exception of Director(s) Tischler and McPherson, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also present at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; District staff; and members of the public. Brian Sledge, General Counsel, participated via video conference. *Copies of the public sign-in sheet(s) are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Motion was made by Director Curtis to approve the consent agenda. Director McClure 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 2023. – Mr. Watts reported ending cash balances for September 30, 2023, of \$1,889,380.45. Compared to ending cash balances for September 30, 2022, totals reflect a 7.23% increase in cash, which continues to be a positive indication of the overall financial health of the District. The Profit & Loss

Report for the month of September reflects gross revenue of \$320,198.52 with a refund allowance of \$43,690.58 making our “net” revenue \$276,507.94.

- b) Review 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report 2023 – Mr. Watts presented the Quarterly Investment Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2023 detailing banking and investments transactions for all funds of the District. He reported that for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, the funds of the District were being held in combination of five accounts and three separate depositories. Mr. Watts noted that in the summary section of the report, all the District’s funds are adequately collateralized by a combination of FDIC insurance and pledged securities and all funds are in compliance with the PGCD Investment Policy. Director Curtis made a motion to accept the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Investment Report and Director Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by all those who were present.

#### **BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – Maurice Osborn, Treasurer**

- a) Discuss, consider, and take action to approve selection of audit firm to serve as the District’s auditor for the fiscal years of 2023 and 2024. Ms. Jones advised the Board that the District’s Budget and Finance Committee was tasked to solicit proposals for auditing services for fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Requests for proposals were mailed August 2<sup>nd</sup> with September 14<sup>th</sup> as the deadline to respond. Following the Budget & Finance Committee’s meeting to review submittals, it is the Committee’s recommendation to approve Boucher Morgan and Young, P.C. (BMY) as the District’s auditor for fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Director Curtis made a motion to approve the selection of Boucher Morgan and Young, PC as the auditors for 2023 and 2024. Director McClure seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all those who were present.

#### **UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, EDUCATIONAL AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS – Kaylin Garcia, Public Relations and Education Director**

Ms. Garcia highlighted several educational and outreach initiatives that occurred in the District since the last board meeting including an eblast notice regarding the District’s adoption of Resolution #23-011, allowing an increase in groundwater production under Rule 5.10. The Water Education Trailer was demonstrated at the Ellis County Rural Heritage Farm and the Cleburne Chamber of Commerce’s Food Truck Festival and Business Expo. In addition, District staff presented to the Joshua Tour of Homes Association regarding well ownership and recent legislative changes. Ms. Garcia concluded her update discussing fall semester recruiting status with Tinker LLC, social media analytics, and upcoming events scheduled.

#### **ENGINEERING REPORT – Wade Oliver, INTERA**

Mr. Oliver briefed the Board on the new Hosston monitoring well, stating the well has been drilled and surface completed. He stated INTERA is also making good progress with the Northern GAM update for GMA 8. The consultant team is working on updating the structure and calibration scripts and has received the recharge information. Mr. Oliver added the next regular GMA 8 meeting has not been set at this time, but the technical review committee was expected to meet sometime late November or early December.

## **UPDATE ON WELL MONITORING AND FIELD OPERATIONS – Michael Heath, Field Operations Coordinator**

Mr. Heath reported on field activities since the last board meeting. He stated datalogger equipment on four PGCD monitoring wells had been updated due to a grant received by the Texas Water Development Board. Mr. Heath concluded his report highlighting as part of the ongoing expansion of the monitor well program, field staff added a Glen Rose well in grid 32-51.

## **GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT AND UPDATE – Kathy Turner Jones**

- a) Update on current administrative activities of the District. – Ms. Jones reported the new perimeter fencing has been installed with the controlled access gate tentatively scheduled for installation this week. Installation of the upgraded security/alarm system has been completed. District staff is working on preliminary budget projections and Ms. Jones anticipates a Budget Committee meeting prior to the November board meeting.
- b) Monthly update on well registrations and groundwater production reports. – Ms. Jones reported the pumpage continues to grow but is still behind year-to-date compared to 2022 production. For the month of September, the District received 38 well registrations.
- c) Drought Monitoring. – Ms. Jones reiterated current U.S. Drought Monitor reports indicate the majority of the District has been reduced to “severe drought” status as of October 10, 2023.
- d) Enforcement. – Ms. Jones stated that staff is managing those currently on enforcement and no formal board action is required at this time.

At this time, 9:47 a.m., the Board recessed into a closed executive session under Sections 551.071 and 551.074 of the Texas Government Code to consult with the District’s legal counsel on items on today’s agenda. No final action was taken during closed session. At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board will reconvene in an open public session and announce that the Board meeting is again open to the public.

At 10:43 a.m., President Beseda announced the meeting is reconvened in an open session and the Board meeting is again open to the public.

## **GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT – Brian L. Sledge**

Mr. Sledge provided an update on ongoing work for the District. Mr. Sledge concluded his firm is continuing to monitor agency rule making for both Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Railroad Commission.

## **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT(S) (DISTRICT BYLAWS 4.1) – Charles Beseda, President**

- a) Finance Committee – As required by the 4.1 of the District’s bylaws, the District Treasurer, Maurice Osborn, will serve as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. In addition, President Beseda recommends the appointment of Director(s) McClure, Curtis, and Daniels serve as committee members on the Budget and Finance

Committee. Director Osborn made a motion to accept President Beseda's recommendation and appointments of Director(s) McClure, Curtis, and Daniel to the Budget and Finance Committee. Director Curtis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all who were present.

- b) Advisory Committees - No action was taken. Advisory Committee Appointments will be announced at the November 13<sup>th</sup> board meeting.


**OPEN FORUM / DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS**

None.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, Director McClure made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Director Daniels. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2023.**

  
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Maurice Osborn, Secretary/Treasurer