

PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

September 18, 2023

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT RULES

The Board of Directors of the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (“District”) met in special session, open to the public, at 208 Kimberly Dr, Cleburne, TX 76031, within the boundaries of the District on September 18, 2023.

President Charles Beseda presided and called to order the Public Hearing on Amendments to the District Rules at 9:08 AM.

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

Charles Beseda
John Curtis
Kathy Tucker
Paul Tischler

Maurice Osborn
Brad Daniels
Marty McPherson
Barney McClure

All members of the Board were in attendance, with the exception of Director McPherson, thus constituting a quorum. Also, in attendance at 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 sheets and video conference attendee list are attached hereto as Exhibit “A” to the September 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes.*

President Beseda called on the District’s legal counsel, Brian Sledge, to explain the proposed amendments to the District Rules.

PRESENTATION BY DISTRICT’ LEGAL COUNSEL, SLEDGELAW GROUP, PLLC ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT’S RULES

Mr. Sledge stated the notice of this public hearing on amendments to the District Rules and the proposed amendments themselves had been published, posted, and made available to the public as required by Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and as required in the District Rules no less than 20 days before the public hearing. *Copies of the published and posted public notices are attached as Exhibit “B” hereto.* He announced that no written comments were received and confirmed there would be an opportunity for verbal comments from the public or following the presentation of proposed amendments.

Mr. Sledge explained the proposed amendments are necessary to ensure the District is in compliance with several new laws passed during the 88th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature that affect groundwater conservation districts.

Mr. Sledge summarized the proposed amendments to the District Rules as: 1) provide that the drilling of a water well for temporary use to supply water solely for a drilling rig that is actively engaged in drilling a water well subject to the permitting requirements of the District is itself exempt from the permitting requirements of the District, and sets forth limitations to the exemption required by Senate Bill 1746; 2) establish a process provided by House Bill 2443 for a person to petition the District to request one or more amendments to the District Rules and set forth procedures for the petition process and the processing of the petition by the District; 3) update the procedures for the District to act on a permit or permit amendment application to be consistent with House Bill 1971 of the 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 4) amend requirements for retail public utilities to submit annual water audits to the District and clarifying penalties for failure to submit the audits; 5) amending test well requirements; 6) amend requirements related to the deadline for drilling and completing a well after approval by the District; 7) amend water meter accuracy requirements; 8) amend requirements related to shared wells; 9) amend well spacing requirements and related to requesting an exception for spacing requirements; and 10) other minor clarifying or non-substantive changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT RULES

None.

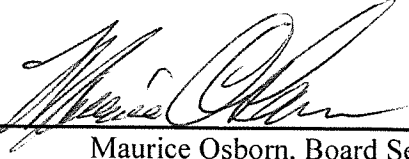
DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ADOPTING RESOLUTION #23-009 APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT'S RULES FOR GROUNDWATER WELLS IN ELLIS, HILL, JOHNSON, AND SOMERVELL COUNTIES, TEXAS, IN THE FORM ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED OR WITH CHANGES BASED UPON COMMENTS RECEIVED. *Copy of Resolution #23-009 attached hereto as Exhibit "C"*

Director Tischler made a motion to approve Resolution #23-009, approving amendments to the District Rules. Director Curtis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Due to conflicting language in a resolution that passed in the August 2023 board meeting, Mr. Sledge proposed an additional motion to state the language in the District Rules supersedes language in resolutions. Director Osborn made a motion that language in the District Rules supersede other documents. Director McClure seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There being no further discussion, Director McClure made a motion to adjourn the public hearing. Director Daniels seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the public hearing to adopt amendments to the District Rules was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.



Maurice Osborn, Board Secretary