

***Minutes of
Regular Meeting***
TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

August 28, 2012

At the Texas Groundwater Summit August 28-30, 2012

Crowne Plaza Hotel

6121 N. IH-35 Hwy at US Hwy 290 East

Austin, Texas 78752

These Minutes are a record of the items discussed, including motions on any matters that involve the TAGD Membership. The Minutes mostly follow the order on the previously distributed agenda, but may not have been discussed in that order, as noted in the Minutes.

- A. Call to Order.** TAGD President Kathy Turner Jones called the meeting to order at 10:16am.
- B. Invocation.** Jim Conkwright gave the invocation.
- C. Roll Call.** Secretary Kirk Holland called the roll, and informed the Chair there were 44 District Members in attendance, comprising a quorum. A list of GCDs represented at the meeting is attached as Exhibit 1.
- D. Announcement of new members:** TAGD Executive Director Stacey Steinbach announced that the Executive Committee has approved membership applications of two new Associate Members: Bill Hutchison, independent groundwater consultant; and Burgess Well Company.
- E. Discussion and possible action on minutes of prior meeting.** C.E. Williams made and Gary Westbrook seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2012 TAGD meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Discussion and possible action on Financial Reports from Finance and Budget Committee.** Stacey Steinbach and TAGD Treasurer Steve Walthour gave an overview of TAGD's financial status, noting that we are under budget on annual expenditures and over budget on annual revenues. Steve moved to approve the financial reports and Janet Adams seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Discussion and possible action on requests for support of grant applications.** Kirk summarized a proposed Texas State University research project where a public-private consortium would conduct a pilot study to test the potential of a new water supply from currently unused brackish groundwater. The energy sources proposed for the desalination project would be methane generated by landfills and/or refuse-derived fuel. Dr. Bob Larsen with Texas State asked TAGD to support an application for funding from the National Science Foundation for the project. TAGD would not be required to participate financially in the project, but would offer support and help facilitate the exchange of information between project participants and TAGD-member GCDs. Stacey Steinbach noted that TAGD does not currently have a policy related to TAGD providing support for research projects

and suggested the membership may want to consider a uniform policy in the future. Kirk made a motion to support the project, and Bob Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- H. Discussion and possible action on recommendation from Executive Committee regarding evaluation of Executive Director.** The Executive Committee recommendations concerning contractual provisions for Executive Director Stacey Steinbach, including an extension of the contract term for two years, salary, merit-based bonus, and allowance for healthcare coverage, were enthusiastically supported, and upon a motion by Gary Westbrook, seconded by Joe B Cooper, the recommendations were unanimously approved.
- I. Discussion and possible action on contract for bookkeeping services with Lone Star Groundwater GCD.** Steve Walthour outlined the work that Daphne Walker of Lone Star GCD is currently doing on a contract basis for TAGD. He made a motion to renew the contract for an additional year, and David Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- J. Discussion and possible action on 2013 Texas Groundwater Summit (TGS) and annual meeting.** Stacey Steinbach outlined preliminary numbers for TGS12 and shared that TAGD's event management company, IEM, and TAGD's conference planning committee recommended moving forward with TGS13 in August 2013, based on the incredibly high interest in the conference. Stacey also suggested referring to this TAGD meeting as the "annual meeting" to distinguish it from the other TAGD quarterly meetings. Gary Westbrook moved and Judy Parker seconded a motion to authorize the Executive Committee to pursue TGS13 with IEM. The motion passed unanimously.
- K. Discussion and possible action on 2012-2013 District Membership dues, Associate Membership Dues, and quarterly meeting registration fees.** Steve Walthour summarized the recent work of the Finance and Budget committee, and reported that the committee was recommending no change to District Membership dues, Associate Membership Dues, and quarterly meeting registration fees for FY 12/13. Steve Walthour moved and David Van Dresar seconded a motion to readopt the FY 11/12 District Membership dues, Associate Membership Dues, and quarterly meeting registration fees. The motion passed unanimously.
- L. Discussion and possible action on 2012-2013 Annual Budget.** Steve Walthour and Stacey Steinbach outlined the proposed FY 12/13 budget, prepared by the Finance and Budget committee. Janet Guthrie moved and C.E. Williams seconded a motion to adopt the proposed FY 12/13 budget. The motion passed unanimously.
- M. Discussion and possible action on 2013 TAGD quarterly meetings.** Stacey Steinbach outlined the general, proposed meeting schedule for 2013. The schedule presumes that TAGD would have quarterly meetings sometime in the spring, then early summer, and again

in the fall. The annual meeting, TGS13, would be in late August. Stacey asked the group to think about locations for the fall quarterly meeting and suggested planning for the March meeting as soon as possible. Judy Parker moved and C.E. Williams seconded a motion to set the 2nd quarter meeting for March 26-27, 2013, in Austin, Texas. Stacey Steinbach will work on developing some sort of Capitol component and venue for that meeting.

N. Discussion and possible action on 31 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 356 proposed rules. Stacey Steinbach outlined the content and schedule for adoption of the proposed rules. A handful of GCDs filed comments during the informal comment period, and TWDB is still considering those comments. After the Board hearing September 20th, the rules will be formally proposed through publication in the Texas Register, starting the statutorily-required 30-day comment period. Stacey was asked to notify TAGD members when the rules were published in the Texas Register. No formal action was taken.

O. Committee Reports

- 1. Executive Director – Stacey Steinbach.** Stacey previously submitted a written ED report that provided the members more detail of her activities. She noted that most of her recent work related to TGS12, and said that her priority over the next two months would be to prepare a detailed summary of the GCD survey responses that may be helpful in answering questions from the public and Legislature. She gave a website update and reminded the membership that the October TAGD meeting would be held October 30-31st in Conroe, at Lone Star GCD's offices.
- 2. Executive Committee – Kathy Turner Jones.** Kathy summarized the minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting, noting that a telephone meeting would be held in September to address post-Summit matters.
- 3. Legislative Committee-David Van Dresar.** David followed up on the Chapter 356 proposed rules discussion and noted that a legislative committee meeting would be scheduled soon.
- 4. Groundwater Protection and Drought Preparedness Council-David Van Dresar.** David noted that though it has been raining some across the state, much of the area is still within a drought. The Drought Protection Committee had met and developed recommendations for the State Legislature and sent it to groundwater conservation districts for comment.
- 5. Bylaws Committee-Cindy Weatherby.** No report.
- 6. Information and Education-Deanya Williams.** No report.
- 7. Railroad-Bob Patterson.** Bob noted that the proposed Chapter 356 rulemaking is very important for GCDs, and encouraged GCDs to continue sharing their experiences with

hydraulic fracturing operations and brainstorm to create creative partnerships and solutions.

8. Aquifer Storage and Recovery-David Mauk. No report.

9. Soil and Water Conservation. No report.

P. Member and Group Reports

1. GCD reports. Roy Rodgers noted that Jimmy Terrell, Director at Neches and Trinity Valleys GCD, has been appointed as a new representative for the Region I RWPG.

2. GMA reports. No reports.

3. RWPG Reports. C.E. Williams noted that GMA 1 and Region A have amended their bylaws to incorporate the changes from Senate Bill 660 during the 82nd Legislative Session.

4. Texas Environmental Flows and Advisory Group Reports.

- a. Trinity: Zach Holland noted that the process is complete and the group is working on voluntary monitoring efforts.
- b. Sabine: no report.
- c. Guadalupe: no report.
- d. Colorado: no report.
- e. Brazos: Judy Parker noted that the group has reached consensus on the main issues and continues to move ahead in the process, including installation of three upper stream gauges.

Q. Other TAGD Business. None.

R. Adjournment. At 11:05 AM, Steve Walthour made, and Mike McGuire seconded, a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Steinbach, Executive Director, and Kirk Holland, Secretary

Approved by the Membership on _____, 2012

Kathy Turner Jones, President

Kirk Holland, Secretary

Attachment 1

Members Attending the TAGD Quarterly Business Meeting August 28, 2012 Austin, TX

1. Bandera County RA&GCD
2. Barton Springs/Edwards
Aquifer CD
3. Bee GCD
4. Bluebonnet GCD
5. Brazos Valley GCD
6. Central Texas GCD
7. Clearwater UWCD
8. Coastal Bend GCD
9. Coastal Plains GCD
10. Duval County GCD
11. Evergreen UWCD
12. Fayette County GCD
13. Gonzales County GCD
14. Hemphill County UWCD
15. High Plains UWCD #1
16. Jeff Davis County GCD
17. Kenedy County GCD
18. Kinney County GCD
19. Live Oak UWCD
20. Llano Estacado UWCD
21. Lone Star GCD
22. Lower Trinity GCD
23. McMullen GCD
24. Medina County GCD
25. Mesa UWCD
26. Mid-East Texas GCD
27. Middle Trinity GCD
28. Neches & Trinity Valley GCD
29. North Plains GCD
30. North Texas GCD
31. Panhandle GCD
32. Pecan Valley GCD
33. Permian Basin UWCD
34. Plum Creek CD
35. Post Oak Savannah GCD
36. Prairielands GCD
37. Real-Edwards Cons. & Recl.
District
38. Red River GCD
39. Rolling Plains GCD
40. Santa Rita UWCD
41. South Plains UWCD
42. Southeast Texas GCD
43. Texana GCD
44. Upper Trinity GCD
45. Victoria County GCD
46. West-Tex GCD