

**Minutes of
Regular Meeting
TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS
August 26, 2014
San Marcos Embassy Suites and Conference Center**

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.** President Kathy Turner Jones called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.
- B. Invocation.** Gary Westbrook gave the invocation.
- C. Roll Call.** Secretary Leah Adams called the roll and informed the Chair there were 50 District Members in attendance, comprising a quorum. A list of GCDs represented at the meeting is attached as Attachment 1.
- D. Discussion and possible action on minutes of prior meeting.** Kathy Turner Jones presented the minutes from the last meeting. Joel Pigg made the motion and Steve Walthour seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Discussion and possible action on Financial Reports.** Stacey Steinbach presented the financial reports. Jim Conkwright made the motion and Harvey Everhart seconded to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Discussion and possible action on amendments to Financial Policy.** Steve Walthour gave a discussion of the new Financial Policy. The changes include: (1) an amendment to allow for financial reviews in lieu of financial audits, as recommended by our auditor, and (2) an amendment to allow the Executive Committee to make budget amendments related to grant awards. The F&B made these edits so that the financial policy mirrors our Bylaws and to streamline efforts. Bob Patterson made a motion and Alan Day seconded to approve the amendments to the Financial Policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Discussion and possible action on Employment Policy.** Kathy Turner Jones presented changes to the Employment Policy. She recommended the development of a policy after Sheila Gladstone's employment presentation at the last meeting. Stacey looked at nonprofit employment policies and came up with the draft. The Bylaws and Executive Committees have offered feedback on the draft. Jason Coleman made a motion and Zach Holland seconded to approve the Employment Policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- H. Discussion and possible action on Bylaws amendments.** Zach Holland presented the changes to the Bylaws, including (1) overall clean up, including the addition of an ED section and mirroring the changes to the financial policy, (2) updating TAGD's contracting ability, and (3) incorporating the various adopted policies into the document (now we have: Amicus Brief, Financial, Employment, Legislative). Steve Walthour made a motion and David Van Dresar seconded to approve the amendments to the Bylaws. The motion passed unanimously.
- I. Discussion and possible action on 2014-2015 District Membership dues, Associate Membership dues, and quarterly meeting registration fees.** Steve Walthour presented the Finance and Budget Committee's proposed dues and fees for the upcoming year, and noted that the committee recommended that no changes be made to the 2013-2014 dues for the upcoming year. Janet Adams made a motion and Joel Pigg seconded to approve the dues and fees for the upcoming year. The motion passed unanimously.

- J. Discussion and possible action on Executive Committee's recommendation regarding staff performance evaluation.** Kathy Turner Jones presented the Evaluation Committee's and the Executive Committee's recommendation to raise the TAGD Executive Director's salary by \$10,000 due to her value to the organization to be more competitive in the market. The raise also would include an increase in the cell phone stipend to \$100 and the addition of a matching retirement benefit of at least 6% with a 2 to 1 match to be set up by the Executive Committee. Budgeting these items will be addressed with item K the 2014-2015 Annual Budget item.
- K. Discussion and possible action on 2014-2015 Annual Budget.** Steve Walthour presented the 2014-2015 budget. He expected income for the 2013-2014 budget to be \$182,000 which is \$29,000 more than the adopted budget for that year. The expected income would put TAGD \$4,100 in the black for expenditures. The 2014-2015 income is expected to be \$162,000. The biggest change will be in personnel. Steve predicts a drop in cash reserves for the 2014-2015 budget year due to a need to support growth in the organization. There were no questions or comments on the presented budget. Janet Adams made a motion and David Alford seconded to approve the raise, stipend increase, and retirement for staff, a \$5,000 bonus to President, and the retirement presented in agenda Item J. David Van Dresar made a motion and Alan Day seconded to approve the 2014- 2015 Budget with the prior motion changes. Both motions passed unanimously.
- L. Discussion and possible action on 2015 TAGD quarterly meetings.** Stacey Steinbach noted that TAGD would be surveying members regarding dates and locations for future TAGD meetings after the conclusion of the Summit. After some discussion, Harvey Everhart made the motion and Gary Westbrook seconded to authorize the Executive Committee to determine the locations and dates of the 2015 quarterly meetings based on the results of the online surveys. The motion passed unanimously.
- M. Discussion and possible action on Texas Groundwater Summit 2015.** Stacey noted that TAGD signed a two-year deal with IEM per action at the 2014 Annual meeting, so this item is just to determine whether to execute a contract with the San Marcos Embassy Suites for 2015. After a discussion of the 2015 Texas Groundwater Summit, Zach Holland made the motion and Alan Day seconded to authorize the Executive Committee to approve a contract with the San Marcos Embassy Suites for the 2015 Texas Groundwater Summit. The motion passed unanimously.
- N. Discussion and possible action on legislative proposals.** Stacey Steinbach wanted to bring the draft ASR and brackish groundwater bills being considered by the TWCA Groundwater Committee to the TAGD membership for direction. After some discussion, Greg Sengelmann made a motion and Ron Naumann seconded the motion to vote "No" for TAGD to support the TWCA ASR bill due to a belief that the bill ignores aquifer concerns for pumping and does not allow for adequate landowner protests. Before a vote was taken, Gary Walker made a motion and Harvey Everhart seconded to table the prior motion. The motion passed unanimously. C.E. Williams then made a motion and Steve Walthour seconded to allow for an online poll vote on the bill once TWCA submits a draft of the bill changes that are currently in the works. The motion passed unanimously. Stacey Steinbach then gave a summation of the brackish groundwater bill being considered by the TWCA Groundwater Committee. After some discussion on the bill, Zach Holland made a motion and Steve Walthour seconded to follow the same process as the ASR bill and use an online poll of the membership to determine TAGD's position on the TWCA brackish groundwater bill draft.
- O. Committee Reports.** The report as listed below:
1. Executive Director – Stacey referred to the Executive Directors report included in the agenda packets.
 2. Executive Committee – Kathy Turner Jones referred the membership to the minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting in board packets.

3. Legislative Committee – Bob Patterson reported no other legislative issues other than the ASR and brackish groundwater issues discussed during the meeting.
4. Bylaws Committee – Zach Holland expressed appreciation to all those that helped with the Bylaw amendments and update.
5. Drought Preparedness – None.
6. Groundwater Protection – None.
7. Information & Education – Carolyn Cadena asked everyone to check out the feature article on Texas Water and let everyone know featuring a GCD on the website was going to begin again. She also presented the formation of the following subcommittees: 1) GCD Index Committee; 2) GCD Manual Committee which will hopefully include a 101 Handbook for New GCDs or General Managers; 3) Salary Survey Committee; and 4) Outreach Tools Committee. Carolyn then provided a presentation of the new online GCD Index.
8. Railroad – None.
9. Aquifer Storage and Recovery – None due to prior ASR discussion.
10. Soil & Water Conservation – None.

O. Member and Group Reports. The reports are as follows:

1. GCD Reports – Paul Weatherby from Middle Pecos GCD asked if other GCDs were having casing failure issues with older O&G wells due to water flood injection and asked for any GCDs to contact him if they have a casing integrity checking policy or dealt with the RRC on such issues. Panola County reported the beginning of a County wide aquifer study as a collaborative effort between local oil and gas companies and the District.
2. GMA Reports – None.
3. RWPG Reports – None.
4. Environmental Flows Advisory Group Reports – None.

P. Other TAGD Business. No other business.

Q. Adjournment. Zach Holland made a motion and Slate Williams seconded to adjourn the meeting. Kathy Turner Jones adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

Prepared and submitted by Stacey Steinbach, Executive Director, and Leah Adams, Secretary.

Approved by the Members on _____, 2014.

Kathy Turner Jones, President

Leah Adams, Secretary

Attachment 1
Members Attending the TAGD Quarterly Business Meeting
August 26, 2014
San Marcos Embassy Suites and Conference Center

1. Bandera Co. River Authority and Groundwater District
2. Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
3. Bee Groundwater Conservation District
4. Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
5. Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District
6. Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District
7. Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District
8. Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District
9. Coke County Underground Water Conservation District
10. Crockett County Groundwater Conservation District
11. Culberson County Groundwater Conservation District
12. Duval County Groundwater Conservation District
13. Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District
14. Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District
15. Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District
16. Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District
17. Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District
18. High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
19. Irion County Water Conservation District
20. Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District
21. Jeff Davis County Underground Water Conservation District
22. Live Oak Underground Water Conservation District
23. Llano Estacado Underground Water Conservation District
24. Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
25. Lone Wolf Groundwater Conservation District
26. McMullen Groundwater Conservation District
27. Medina County Groundwater Conservation District
28. Mesa Underground Water Conservation District
29. Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District
30. Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District
31. Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
32. Neches and Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District
33. North Plains Groundwater Conservation District
34. North Texas Groundwater Conservation District
35. Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
36. Panola County Groundwater Conservation District
37. Pineywoods Groundwater Conservation District
38. Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District
39. Plum Creek Conservation District
40. Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
41. Prairelands Groundwater Conservation District
42. Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District
43. Red River Groundwater Conservation District
44. Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District
45. Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District
46. South Plains Underground Water Conservation District
47. Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
48. Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District
49. Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District
50. Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District