



## Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts

### Special Meeting

January 7, 2021

1:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Draft Minutes

- A. **Call to Order.** President Zach Holland called the special meeting to order at 1:15pm. Executive Director Leah Martinsson reviewed technical logistics for the meeting.
- B. **Roll Call.** Attendees were asked to complete an online form to signify their district's presence, although a quorum was not required for this meeting. President Zach Holland asked Programs & Operations Manager Julia Stanford to open the roll call survey at 1:19pm. When 43 members completed the survey or otherwise noted their presence in the chat feature to establish a quorum, the roll call was closed at 1:21pm. Attachment 1 shows the full attendee list.
- C. **Discussion and action on minutes of previous special meeting.** Zach Holland presented the minutes of the December 2, 2020 special meeting. John McFarland made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. C.E. Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. **Question and answer session regarding Amicus Brief Request in *Neches and Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District vs. Mountain Pure TX*.** Zach Holland gave participants the opportunity to ask any questions related to the Neches & Trinity Valleys GCD vs. Mountain Pure LLC case. No questions were asked.
- E. **Overview of voting process.** Zach Holland provided an overview of the voting process that would be occurring per the TAGD amicus brief policy and considering the virtual nature of the meeting to provide full transparency. Voting would first occur on the question of whether to authorize TAGD to file an amicus brief. Only if approved would pledges be taken and motions regarding attorney details entertained.
- F. **GCD Membership Vote on Amicus Brief Request in *Neches and Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District vs. Mountain Pure TX*.** Zach Holland called for a vote and asked Julia Stanford to launch the Google form voting link in the chat feature of GoToMeeting at 1:31pm. Electronic votes were displayed for all attendees to see. At 1:38pm Zach Holland announced the results, with 38 votes for approval of filing the amicus brief and no votes against approval. Alan Day, Meredith Allen (for Sutton County GCD only), and Mike McGuire abstained. Zach Holland announced that the next order of business would be to collect pledges to fund the brief. Another Google form link was entered into the chat feature of GoToMeeting and members entered their district's pledges. Several attendees joining by phone offered their pledges verbally and in the chat feature. After some time, Zach Holland announced that over \$8,000 had been pledged, sufficient to move forward to resolve the attorney details. Zach noted that additional pledges could still be made after the meeting. Zach Holland stated that he would entertain a motion to authorizing the Executive Committee to contract with Mike



Gershon or another qualified attorney in their discretion to prepare the amicus brief on behalf of TAGD. It was clarified that no brief would be filed unless the petition for rehearing is granted by the Texas Supreme Court. Zach Holland reminded members that this vote would be held to the typical voting standard of a majority of members. Gary Westbrook made the suggested motion and Kathy Turner Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**G. Other TAGD Business.** No other business was discussed.

**H. Adjourn.** David Bailey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andy Garza seconded the motion. Zach Holland adjourned the meeting at 1:53pm.



Attachment 1  
Voting GCD Members Participating in the January 7, 2021 Special Meeting

- 1 Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District
- 2 Brazos Valley GCD
- 3 Brush Country GCD
- 4 Central Texas GCD
- 5 Clearwater UWCD
- 6 Coastal Bend GCD
- 7 Coastal Plains GCD
- 8 Evergreen UWCD
- 9 Guadalupe County GCD
- 10 Hemphill County UWCD
- 11 High Plains Water District
- 12 Irion County WCD
- 13 Jeff Davis County UWCD
- 14 Kenedy County
- 15 Kimble County GCD
- 16 Kinney County GCD
- 17 Lipan-Kickapoo UWCD
- 18 Llano Estacado UWCD
- 19 Lower Trinity GCD
- 20 Menard County UWD
- 21 Mesa UWCD
- 22 Mesquite GCD
- 23 Mid-East Texas GCD
- 24 Middle Pecos GCD
- 25 Middle Trinity GCD
- 26 Neches & Trinity Valleys GCD
- 27 North Texas GCD
- 28 Panhandle GCD
- 29 Plateau UWC&SD
- 30 Post Oak Savannah GCD
- 31 Prairielands GCD



32 Real-Edwards Conservation & Reclamation District

33 Red River GCD

34 Rolling Plains GCD

35 Rusk County GCD

36 Sandy Land UWCD

37 South Plains UWCD

38 Southeast Texas GCD

39 Southwestern Travis County GCD

40 Sterling County UWCD

41 Sutton County UWCD

42 Upper Trinity GCD