

TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 10:00 AM
GoToMeeting Video Conference Call
Minutes

- A. **Call to order & roll call.** President Amber Blount called the meeting to order at 10:02am. Bobby Bazan, Andy Garza, Diana Thomas, Janet Adams, David Bailey, Kelley Vickers, and Zach Holland were present. Ron Fieseler joined the call at 10:04am. Drew Satterwhite was not on the call. Also present were Executive Director Leah Martinsson and Programs & Operations Manager Julia Stanford.
- B. **Review and possible action on minutes of the August 10, 2021 meeting.** President Amber Blount presented the minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on August 10, 2021. Janet Adams moved to approve the minutes. Zach Holland seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. **Executive Director updates on TAGD activities.** Executive Director Leah Martinsson provided an update on recent TAGD activities, including a financial overview of FY21 and updates on speaking engagements and conference attendance, salary study, communications toolkit, executive committee retreat, legislative matters, committee signups, and membership renewals.
- D. **Discussion and possible action on venue/dates for FY 22 Winter Business Meeting.** Executive Director Leah Martinsson briefly outlined the four hotel options set forth in a separate document that was provided to the committee, along with possible dates for the winter business meeting. She explained that the dates were slightly later than usual in order to avoid conflicts with GMDA and TGWA conferences in January. Kelley Vickers expressed a preference for the February 8-9 dates to allow a week between TGWA and TAGD's meeting. After Leah outlined the pros and cons of the various options, Janet Adams moved TAGD contract with Sonesta Bee Cave for February 8-9. Diana Thomas seconded the motion. Ron Fieseler expressed concerns over traffic in Bee Cave and indicated he did not support that venue. Motion carried with Ron Fieseler and Andy Garza opposed.
- E. **Debrief on the 2021 Texas Groundwater Summit.** Executive Director Leah Martinsson provided a debrief on the Summit, including information set forth on a one-page summary sheet on survey results, revenue, and attendance. She summarized the feedback TAGD received on the event, which was overall very positive. She explained that profit for the event was higher than usual due to the large number of livestream participants, which

TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 12, 2021, 10:00 AM
GoToMeeting Video Conference Call
Minutes

we don't anticipate continuing to the same degree in future years. It was also the most successful Summit in terms of registration with 382 registrants.

- F. Discussion and possible action on venue/dates for 2022 Texas Groundwater Summit.** Leah Martinsson explained the venue and date options for next year's Summit. She explained that TAGD/IEM have looked around at other locations in the San Antonio area due to some frustrations in operations with the Hyatt Regency Hill Country during 2021. Based on some feedback from the conference planning committee, TAGD plans to query attendees next year about their desire/willingness to see the event move outside of the San Antonio area, but she explained that neither TAGD nor IEM were confident that we would be able to locate a suitable venue and host a successful event without more information and longer lead time. She also indicated that there were a few requests to avoid conference dates that overlap with September 1, which is the opening of dove hunting season. After discussion on the pros and cons of various dates and venues, Bobby Bazan moved that TAGD direct IEM to contract with the Hyatt Hill Country for August 30-September 1, 2022. Andy Garza seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Discussion and possible action on engaging Halff Associates to build updates GCD Index database.** President Amber Blount reminded the committee about prior discussions to date regarding updating the GCD Index database. TAGD staff had previously investigated options and presented those to the Executive Committee, recommending that TAGD contract with Halff Associates. After direction from the Executive Committee, TAGD then issued a request for proposals from other members, though none were received. The Halff contract would allow TAGD to pay the costs over two fiscal years and would provide for no annual hosting fee in exchange for the Halff logo to appear on the database. David Bailey moved to authorize TAGD to execute the contract with Halff Associates. Diana Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- H. Discussion and possible action on other matters before the committee.** There were no other matters for the committee.
- I. Adjournment.** President Amber Blount adjourned the meeting at 10:55 am.