

**Draft Minutes of
Regular Business Meeting
TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS
June 6, 2023
Courtyard by Marriott Pflugerville**

These minutes are a record of the items discussed, including motions on any matters that involve the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (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 and Welcome Address.** TAGD President Amber Blount called the meeting to order at 10:48 AM on June 6, 2023, and welcomed members. Amber Blount invited Zach Holland to provide an invocation.
- B. **Roll Call.** Secretary Stephanie Keith called the roll and informed the President that 50 District Members were in attendance, comprising a quorum. A list of Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) represented at the meeting is included as Attachment 1.
- C. **Membership Update.** President Amber Blount reported that TAGD currently has 92 GCD members and 43 associate members. GSI Environmental and Texas Ground Water Association were recognized as new TAGD members since the last business meeting. President Amber Blount asked for introductions of first-time business meeting attendees. President Amber Blount shared the sad news that Tom Koenke, Starr County GCD President, passed away.
- D. **Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of Prior Meeting.** President Amber Blount presented the minutes of the last meeting. Jacob Hernandez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Kelley Cochran seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.
- E. **TAGD Report on Activities.** Leah Martinsson presented a summary of TAGD's recent activities, including updates on operations, educational efforts, member communications, legislative session updates, and TAGD Summit updates. No action required.
- F. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve FY23 Q2 Finances.** Treasurer David Bailey presented the FY23 Q2 financials that have been recommended for approval by the Finance & Budget Committee and the Executive Committee. Rhetta Hector asked for an explanation on the monthly charges for OOMA. Executive Director Leah Martinsson explained that this is the voice-over-internet telephone service that TAGD uses rather than a landline. Gary Westbrook made a motion to approve the report as presented. David Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

G. Discussion and Possible Action on FY24 Dues and Fees. President Amber Blount and Treasurer David Bailey presented the proposed FY24 due and fee schedule and FY24 draft proposed budget. Amber explained that a draft of a proposed budget is provided at this time to provide context for considering member dues and fees and that a proposed FY24 budget will be presented to the full membership at the August 2023 business meeting for action. David explained that the Executive Committee is recommending to leave the member and associate member fees and dues unchanged for FY24. David further explained that business meeting rates are proposed to be increased \$30 in FY24, as these have not increased in at least five years. Meredith Allen asked a question regarding the extent to which costs associated with the business meetings have increased. Luis Pena made a motion to accept the member dues and fees as proposed. Britney Britten seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

H. Office and Committee Reports. President Amber Blount called for Officer and Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee – Amber Blount provided a report on activities.
- Legislative Committee – Doug Shaw provided a report on activities.
- Bylaws Committee – Andy Garza had nothing to report.
- Information & Education Committee – Julia Stanford provided a report on activities.
- Finance Committee – David Bailey provided a report on activities.
- Texas Groundwater Protection Committee – Leah Martinsson provided a report on activities.

I. Member and GMA Reports. President Amber Blount invited members to provide updates. No action was taken.

J. Other TAGD Business. President Amber Blount asked members if there was any other TAGD business to discuss. Gary Westbrook shared information on upcoming events and permit hearings at Post Oak Savannah GCD. Greg Perrin of Reeves County GCD shared an update regarding his assistant retiring and hiring a new assistant, Amber Redd, who will also attend the Texas Groundwater Summit in August. Greg Perrin also shared information about a seminar in October concerning produced water. Meredith Allen shared an update on staffing, Lydia Damon is the new office manager for Menard County GCD. Amy Bush shared that Permian Basin is looking for a General Manager. No other business was reported.


K. Speaker Series. Executive Director Leah Martinsson introduced speakers invited for the afternoon Speaker Series. The following presentations were provided: *“Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART Program”* by Trent Parish; *“Panel: Grant Funding for GCD Projects”* by Julia Stanford, Britney Britten, Trey Gerfers, and Gary Westbrook; *“Texas Water Development Board Updates”* by Natalie Ballew; *“Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Updates”* by Abiy Berehe; *“USGS Water Use*

Survey and Models" by Natalie Houston; *"Texas Runs of Water Toolkit"* by Brianna Fuller; *"From Drizzle to Downpours: GCD Rainwater Harvesting Programs"* by Adeline Fox and Jill Garcia; *"Driller Guidance Tool"* by Michael Redman; *"Legislative Debrief Panel"* by Leah Martinsson, Greg Ellis, and Madison Huerta.

L. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 5:31 PM by President Amber Blount.

Prepared and submitted by Leah Martinsson, Executive Director, and Stephanie Keith, Secretary.

Approved by the Members on August 29, 2023.


Amber Blount, President


Stephanie Keith, Secretary

Attachment 1
Voting GCD Members Present at March 2023 TAGD Business Meeting

- 1 Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
- 2 Bee Groundwater Conservation District
- 3 Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
- 4 Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District
- 5 Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 6 Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District
- 7 Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 8 Crockett County Groundwater Conservation District
- 9 Duval County Groundwater Conservation District
- 10 Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District
- 11 Gateway Groundwater Conservation District
- 12 Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District
- 13 Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District
- 14 Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 15 Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District
- 16 High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
- 17 Irion County Water Conservation District
- 18 Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District
- 19 Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District
- 20 Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District
- 21 Live Oak Underground Water Conservation District
- 22 Llano Estacado Underground Water Conservation District
- 23 Lower Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 24 McMullen Groundwater Conservation District
- 25 Menard County Underground Water District
- 26 Mesa Underground Water Conservation District
- 27 Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District
- 28 Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 29 Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 30 North Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 31 Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
- 32 Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 33 Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District
- 34 Pineywoods Groundwater Conservation District
- 35 Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District
- 36 Plum Creek Conservation District
- 37 Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
- 38 Red River Groundwater Conservation District
- 39 Reeves County Groundwater Conservation District
- 40 Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 41 Rusk County Groundwater Conservation District
- 42 San Patricio County Groundwater Conservation District
- 43 Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District

- 44 South Plains Underground Water Conservation District
- 45 Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 46 Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District
- 47 Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District
- 48 Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 49 Uvalde County Underground Conservation District
- 50 Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District