

TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 10:00 AM
GoToMeeting Video Conference Call
Minutes

- A. Call to order & roll call.** President David Bailey called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Executive Committee members Amber Blount, Stephanie Keith, Doug Shaw, Zach Holland, Diana Thomas, Janet Guthrie, Dave Mauk, and Kelley Cochran were present, resulting in a quorum. Committee members Haley Davis and Andy Garza were not present. Also present were Executive Director Leah Martinsson and Manager of Administration Annick P. Maddox.
- B. Review and possible action on minutes from prior meetings.** President David Bailey presented the minutes from the November 30, 2023 Executive Committee meeting. There was a correction made in section A. Doug Shaw made a motion to approve the minutes. Amber Blount seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. Executive Director updates.** President David Bailey asked Executive Director Leah Martinsson to provide an update on TAGD activities. Leah provided an update on member renewals, newsletter redesign, TAGD investments, and registrations for the Winter Regular Business Meeting and GCD boot camp. Leah also shared other efforts she has been working on, including submitting the proposed rule changes for groundwater availability certifications, working with the Texas Real Estate Commission on real estate form changes, and recommendations from the Water Conservation Advisory Council for the TWDB Agricultural Grants Program. Dave Mauk left the meeting at 10:13 am. Amber Blount asked a question about Business Meeting registration numbers and Janet Guthrie asked a question about which districts have chosen not to renew their TAGD membership. Leah Martinsson answered both questions. No action was required.
- D. Discussion and possible action on FY24 Q1 finances.** President David Bailey asked Treasurer Janet Guthrie to present the FY24 Q1 finances. Janet requested Executive Director Leah Martinsson provide the groups with an overview of the FY24 Q1 finances. Leah shared that the Finance & Budget Committee met last week to consider and approve the FY24 Q1 finances. She then walked through the budget vs. actuals report and reminded the committee that additional income since 12/31/23 is not reflected in this report, but that income is still tracking as expected. Leah pointed out that expenses are at or below the 25% threshold within each subcategory and total expenses are currently tracking under 20%. Janet Guthrie made a motion to approve taking the FY24 Q1 finances to the full membership for approval. Amber Blount seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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E. Discussion and possible action on FY24 proposed budget amendment. David Bailey asked Treasurer Janet Guthrie to present the FY24 proposed budget amendment as approved by the Finance & Budget Committee last week. Janet explained this proposed budget amendment includes the incentive bonuses for TAGD staff previously recommended and approved in the prior meeting of the Executive Committee. She shared that the additional income in the proposed amendment is from interest to be realized this year and newsletter sponsorships. This will offset the increased expenses for bonuses and associated payroll taxes. Janet pointed out that this amendment results in a slightly lower budget deficit. Leah Martinsson added context at the request of Janet Guthrie that the committee can realistically expect some deficit at the end of the fiscal year as a result of more realistic budgeting combined with including these additional sources of income that were intended to offset the prior proposed shortfall. Amber Blount asked a question about the salary for the new Executive Director. There was a short discussion amongst the committee members regarding overlap with Leah Martinsson and it was agreed this discussion would occur later in the meeting. Amber Blount made a motion to approve the FY24 proposed budget amendment to the full membership for approval. Doug Shaw seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Discussion and possible action on membership application from Michelle Shelton.

President David Bailey asked Leah Martinsson to present the membership application from Michelle Shelton. Leah Martinsson gave some historical context on Goliad County GCD's membership and explained that their board of directors had voted not to renew their TAGD membership solely for financial reasons. However, their General Manager, Michelle Shelton, has found TAGD's resources and communication highly valuable and does not want to lose access to TAGD. Therefore, she has applied for an individual membership that she will pay for herself (not from district resources). Janet Guthrie asked if Goliad County GCD's board of directors would reimburse Michelle. Leah Martinsson explained that from TAGD's conversation with Michelle that it was not our understanding. There was a short discussion thereafter. Kelley Cochran made a motion to approve the membership application from Michelle Shelton. Zach Holland seconded the motion. Zach then asked a question about Michelle's voting status. Leah Martinsson confirmed that as an associate member Michelle Shelton would not be able to vote but would continue to receive communication and resources from TAGD like all members do. There was another short discussion regarding website log-in information, dues, committee involvement, and the potential for Goliad County GCD to change their mind mid

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fiscal year. President David Bailey recounted the first and second motion. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Discussion and possible action on other matters before the committee.

President David Bailey announced that Leah Martinsson has agreed to extend her employment and stay on with TAGD until the end of February to provide an opportunity for a new executive director to benefit from onboarding with Leah. David then gave an update on the upcoming Executive Director interviews. Dave Mauk signed back into the meeting at 10:45 am. David Bailey shared that Vice President Doug Shaw would be presenting the finances during the Winter Business Meeting since Treasurer Janet Guthrie would not be able to attend. Zach Holland had a question about the next Executive Committee meeting. Amber Blount asked a question about salary range for the new Executive Director. There was a discussion thereafter regarding the interview process. No action was taken.

H. Adjournment. President David Bailey adjourned the meeting at 11:03 am.