

**Minutes of  
Regular Business Meeting  
TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS  
January 30 – 31, 2024  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Round Rock  
Round Rock, TX**

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.** President David Bailey called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. David invited Gary Westbrook to provide an invocation.
- B. Roll Call.** Secretary Stephanie Keith called the roll, and Director of Programs and Communications Julia Stanford confirmed that there were 55 members in attendance, ensuring a quorum was met. A list of Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) represented at the meeting is include as Attachment 1.
- C. Membership Update.** President David Bailey announced that we currently have 89 GCD members and 44 associate members. Michelle Shelton was recognized as a new TAGD associate member since the last business meeting. President David Bailey asked for introductions of first-time business meeting attendees.
- D. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of August 2023 Meeting.** President David Bailey presented the meeting minutes from the August Regular Business Meeting. Luis Peña made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. David Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. TAGD Annual Report.** Julia Stanford, Director of Programs & Communications, presented the 2023 Annual Report. The report can be viewed on the TAGD website.
- F. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve FY23 Q4 Finances.** President David Bailey asked Vice President Doug Shaw to present the FY23 Q4 finances to the membership in the absence of Treasurer Janet Guthrie. Doug Shaw presented the Q4 finances, which had been reviewed and endorsed for approval by both the Finance & Budget Committee and Executive Committee. Dirk Aaron proposed a motion to approve the FY23 Q4 financial report as presented. Alan Day seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed FY24 Q1 Finances.** Vice President Doug Shaw presented the FY24 Q1 finances to the membership, which had been reviewed and approved by the Finance & Budget Committee and Executive Committee. Dirk Aaron made a positive remark regarding the organization's

solvency, which was clarified by stating that TAGD is in a strong financial position. Jason Coleman proposed a motion to approve the FY24 Q1 finances. Paul Sigle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**H. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed FY24 Budget Amendment.** Vice President Doug Shaw presented the proposed FY24 budget amendment to the membership. The amendment had been reviewed, recommended, and approved by both the Finance & Budget Committee and Executive Committee to provide staff with retention bonuses considering Executive Director, Leah Martinsson's resignation. Doug Shaw explained that the Executive Committee approved bonuses in the amount of 20% of the annual salary for the current staff, Julia Stanford and Annick Maddox. 30% of the total bonus amount, for each employee, would be paid at the conclusion of February 2024 and the remainder to be paid at the conclusion of October 2024. The proposed budget amendment is to facilitate the FY24 30% payment. The additional revenue included in the budget amendment reflects newsletter sponsorship dollars that have been received by TAGD at the time the amendment was prepared and an additional \$5,000 in interest income, which TAGD will realize based on the organization's current investment portfolio. Alan Day proposed a motion to approve the FY24 budget amendment. The motion was seconded by Dirk Aaron. The motion passed unanimously.

**I. Speaker Series.** President David Bailey asked Julia Stanford to introduce the speakers invited for the afternoon Speaker Series. The following presentations were provided: *"Borehole Magnetic Resonance for Brackish Aquifer Characterization"* by Jordan Furnans, Vice President, LRE Water; *"Lessons Learned in Workforce Management"* a panel discussion by Paul Babb (Blanco-Pedernales GCD), Jason Coleman (High Plains Water District), David Van Dresar (Fayette County GCD), JJ Weatherby (Santa Rita UWCD), and Julia Stanford, TAGD Director of Programs & Communications, as moderator; *"Working with Your County on Groundwater Availability Certifications"* a panel discussion by Dirk Aaron, General Manager, Clearwater UWCD, Zach Holland, (Bluebonnet GCD), Dave Mauk (Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District), Doug Shaw (Upper Trinity GCD), and Madison Huerta (Lloyd Gosselink) as moderator; and *Litigation Updates*, by Stacey Reese (Stacey Reese Law).

*At the conclusion of the speaker series, President David Bailey recessed the meeting at 5:30PM and invited members to the TAGD reception.*

*President David Bailey reconvened the meeting at 8:30AM on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.*

**I. Speaker Series, continued.** Julia Stanford introduced the speakers invited for the morning Speaker Series. Agency updates were provided by the following: Natalie Ballew, Groundwater Division Director, Texas Water Development Board; James Harcourt, Engineering Specialist II, Railroad Commission of Texas; Abiy Berehe, Groundwater Team Leader, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

**J. GMA Coordinator Reports.** President David Bailey invited the Groundwater Management Area (GMAs) representatives to provide updates.

**K. Office and Committee Reports.** President David Bailey asked for Officer and Committee reports:

- a. Executive Committee – David Bailey summarized the Executive Director hiring process. He stated that out of thirteen applicants, four interviewees were chosen by the Executive Director Review Committee. The Executive Committee met Monday, January 29, to conduct interviews and the finalist was chosen unanimously, with more details to come.
- b. Legislative Committee – Doug Shaw provided a report on activities.
- c. Bylaws Committee – Kelley Cochran had nothing to report at this time.
- d. Information & Education Committee – Stephanie Keith provided a report on activities.
- e. Finance Committee – Doug Shaw provided a report on activities.

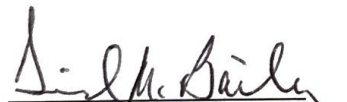
**L. Member Reports.** President David Bailey invited members to provide updates.

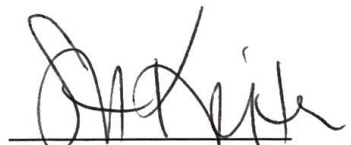
**M. Other TAGD Business.** President David Bailey asked members if there was any other TAGD business to discuss.

**N. Adjournment.** President David Bailey adjourned the meeting at 10:35AM and reminded the membership about the Legislative Committee meeting to follow.

Prepared and submitted by Stephanie Keith, Secretary.

Approved by the Members on June 6, 2024.

  
David Bailey, President

  
Stephanie Keith, Secretary

## Attachment 1

Voting GCD Members Present at January 2024 TAGD Business Meeting  
Districts present and voting by proxy signified with an asterisk (\*)

- 1 Bandera Co. River Authority and Groundwater 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 Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District
- 9 Crockett County Groundwater Conservation District
- 10 Culberson County Groundwater Conservation District
- 11 Duval County Groundwater Conservation District
- 12 Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District
- 13 Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District
- 14 Gateway Groundwater Conservation District
- 15 Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District
- 16 Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 17 Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District
- 18 High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
- 19 Irion County Water Conservation District
- 20 Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District
- 21 Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District
- 22 Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District
- 23 Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District
- 24 Llano Estacado Underground Water Conservation District
- 25 Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
- 26 McMullen Groundwater Conservation District
- 27 Menard County Underground Water District
- 28 Mesa Underground Water Conservation District
- 29 Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District
- 30 Mid-East Texas 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 Northern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 36 Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
- 37 Panola County Groundwater Conservation District
- 38 Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 39 Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District
- 40 Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District
- 41 Plum Creek Conservation District
- 42 Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District

- 43 Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District
- 44 Red River Groundwater Conservation District
- 45 Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 46 Rusk County Groundwater Conservation District
- 47 San Patricio County Groundwater Conservation District
- 48 Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District
- 49 Santa Rita Underground Water Conservation District
- 50 Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 51 Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District
- 52 Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District
- 53 Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 54 Uvalde County Underground Conservation District
- 55 Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District