

**Minutes of
Regular Business Meeting
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts
June 6-7, 2024
Embassy Suites, Round Rock, Texas**

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.** President David Bailey called the meeting to order at 2:15PM, June 6, 2024. David extended thanks to the meeting participants and Greg Ellis for the PFI training. President David Bailey introduced TAGD's new Executive Director Adam Foster to the membership. Alan Day was asked to provide the invocation. Following the invocation, David Bailey invited attendees to attend the networking reception sponsored by KT Groundwater, LRE Water, Resource Monitor, and RMBJ Geo.
- B. **Roll Call.** Secretary Stephanie Keith, called the roll. 43 district members were present, constituting a quorum and allowing the organization to conduct business. Proxy voters were designated for the following districts: Ashley Ausbrooks for Panhandle GCD, Kelley Cochran for Gonzales County UWCD, and John Martin for Lower Trinity GCD. A list of districts present at roll call is attached to these minutes.
- C. **Membership Update.** President David Bailey announced that there are currently 89 GCD members and 44 associate members. This includes two new associate members since the last meeting in January - KT Groundwater and Resource Monitor. David Bailey invited Mike Keester to provide a brief summary about KT Groundwater. David recognized first-time business meeting attendees.
- D. **Discussion and possible action on minutes of prior meeting.** President David Bailey presented the minutes from the Winter Regular Business Meeting in January and asked for any changes. Alan Day made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Rhett Hector seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. **TAGD Report on Activities.** TAGD Executive Director, Adam Foster, provided a detailed report on recent TAGD activities.
- F. **Discussion possible action to approve FY24 Q2 Finances.** Treasurer Janet Guthrie presented the FY24 Q2 Finances to the membership, which were previously reviewed and recommended for membership approval by the Finance & Budget Committee and Executive Committee. Andy Garza made the motion to approve the FY24 Q2 Finances as presented. Amber Blount seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

G. **Discussion and possible action to approve the Agreed Upon Procedures Report.** Treasurer Janet Guthrie explained that an independent accountant reviews TAGD's internal processes every two years in accordance with the Agreed Upon Procedures report. This report has been reviewed and recommended for approval by both the Finance & Budget Committee and the Executive Committee. All concerns raised were minor and have been addressed. Dirk Aaron moved to approve the Agreed Upon Procedures Report, and John Martin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

H. **Discussion and possible action on FY24 dues and fees.** Treasurer Janet Guthrie presented the proposed FY25 membership dues and fees, along with the draft FY25 budget for discussion. A new tier category was introduced for GCD and Associate memberships for those with budgets of \$1.5 million or more. The affected tiers include the following number of GCDS:

- Tier 4: 16 GCDS
- Tier 5: 6 GCDS
- Tier 6: 10 GCDS

Adam Foster noted that the dues increase is proportional to the FY25 budget line items, except for the previously established staff bonuses. Janet explained that the primary purpose of the proposed dues increases is to generate sufficient income to cover rising operating expenses. She also mentioned that FY24 staff bonuses will be covered by withdrawal from TAGD's reserves, and the FY25 budget includes funding for the remaining bonus amounts. The membership discussed the proposal, expressing both support and opposition. Greg Perrin made a motion to approve the proposed FY25 GCD membership dues as presented. The motion passed with 34 votes in favor and 4 against (Wintergarden GCD, Prairielands GCD, Sterling County UWCD, Crockett County GCD).

I. **Discussion and possible action on WCAC nomination.** President David Bailey shared that historically, the TAGD Executive Director has held a seat on the statewide Water Conservation Advisory Council, representing the interests of groundwater conservation districts. Adam Foster, Executive Director, has been nominated for a position on the council. David proposed issuing a member resolution supporting Adam Foster's nomination. Louie Peña made a motion to approve such a resolution. Zach Holland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

J. **Speaker Series.** Executive Director, Adam Foster, introduced speakers for the speaker series. The following presentations were provided:

- "Abandoned Well Program" by Mariah Bonham, Senior Regulatory Inspector, Edwards Aquifer Authority and Richard Gonzalez, Groundwater Protection Coordinator, Edwards Aquifer Authority;

- “Productivity and Project Management for GCDs” by Adam Conner, Central Texas Water Supply Lead, Freese & Nichols; Ashley Ausbrooks, Hydrogeologist, Panhandle GCD;
- “Best Practices in Developing 3D Geological Models” by Michelle Sutherland, Principal, Envision Water;
- “TAGD GCD Index Update” by Julia Stanford, TAGD Director of Programs & Communications.

After the concluding speaker, Adam Foster announced that the meeting and speaker series would reconvene Friday, June 7 at 8:00AM. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM.

J. **Speaker Series, continued.** Executive Director, Adam Foster, reconvened the meeting at 8:00AM and introduced speakers for the speaker series. The following presentations were provided:

- “BVWaterSmart: A Targeted, Data-Driven Conservation Program” by Neel Gopal, Texas A&M University
- “What’s Coming Down the Pipe at TWDB? by Heather Dodson, Groundwater Technical Assistance, Data Team Lead
- “TPWD Updates: Environmental Flows, Texas Water Trust” by Marty Kelly, Water Resources Program Coordinator
- “TCEQ Updates” by Abiy Berehe, Groundwater Team Leader
- “Assessment of Nitrates in Groundwater and Public Water Systems” by Bob Reedy, Research Scientist Associate, UT Austin Bureau of Economic Geology
- “Safety and Environmental Impacts of Geologic CO₂ Storage” by Katherine Romanak, Research Professor, UT Austin Bureau of Economic Geology

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

- Executive Committee – David Bailey provided a report on activities.
- Legislative Committee – Doug Shaw provided a report on activities.
- Bylaws Committee – Kelley Cochran had no updates to report.
- Information & Education Committee – Stephanie Keith provided a report on activities.
- Finance & Budget Committee – Janet Guthrie had no updates to report.

L. **Member and GMA Reports.** President David Bailey invited members to provide updates. No action was taken.

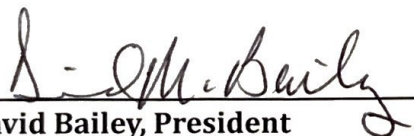
M. **Other TAGD Business.** President David Bailey asked if there was any other TAGD business to discuss. Zach Holland notified the membership that a records request could be in the future regarding drillers, Gerardo Garcia Sanchez and Gerry Garcia, for unlawful apprenticeship. Gary Westbrook announced to the membership that the

June 2024 business meeting would be the last for Jon Cartwright due to his retirement at the end of August. Gary Westbrook made a motion to honor Jon with a lifetime honorary TAGD membership. Kathy Turner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

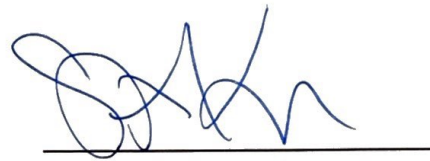
N. **Adjourn.** Executive Director, Adam Foster, thanked everyone for their attendance and support. The meeting was adjourned at 12:01PM.

Prepared and submitted by Adam Foster, Executive Director, and Stephanie Keith, Secretary.

Approved by the members on August 20, 2024.



David Bailey, President



Stephanie Keith, Secretary

Attachment 1
Districts Present at Roll Call – June 6, 2024

- 1 Bandera Co. River Authority and Groundwater District
- 2 Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
- 3 Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District
- 4 Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 5 Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District
- 6 Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 7 Clearwater Underground Water 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 High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
- 15 Hill Country Underground Water Conservation District
- 16 Irion County Water Conservation District
- 17 Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District
- 18 Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District
- 19 Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
- 20 Lower Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 21 Mesa Underground Water Conservation District
- 22 Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District
- 23 Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 24 Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District
- 25 Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 26 North Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 27 Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
- 28 Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 29 Plateau Underground Water Conservation and Supply District
- 30 Plum Creek Conservation District
- 31 Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
- 32 Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District
- 33 Real-Edwards Conservation and Reclamation District
- 34 Reeves County Groundwater Conservation District
- 35 Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 36 Rusk County Groundwater Conservation District
- 37 Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District
- 38 Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 39 Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District
- 40 Trinity Glen Rose Groundwater Conservation District
- 41 Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 42 Uvalde County Underground Conservation District
- 43 Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District