

TEXAS ALLIANCE OF GROUNDWATER DISTRICTS

Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 20, 2024, 2:00 PM
GoToMeeting Video Conference Call
Minutes

- A. Call to order & roll call.** President David Bailey called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm. Executive Committee members Amber Blount, Stephanie Keith, Doug Shaw, Zach Holland, Diana Thomas, Andy Garza, Kelley Cochran, Dave Mauk, and Janet Guthrie were present. Also present were Executive Director Adam Foster, Director of Programs & Communications Julia Stanford, 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 May 2, 2024 Executive Committee meeting. Kelley Cochran made a motion to approve the minutes. Zach Holland seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- C. Discussion and possible action on FY25 member dues.** Executive Director Adam Foster shared that it was brought to his attention after the business meeting on June 6, 2024 that the motion to raise dues introduced by Greg Perrin only specified GCD members and not associate members. Adam explained that this was confirmed by Greg Perrin and the meeting minutes provided by Secretary Stephanie Keith. Adam further explained that this issue requires the attention of the Executive Committee and a decision on how to move forward. He shared that he saw three potential options; 1) to raise only GCD membership dues and not associate membership dues, 2) to bring the vote again to the membership in August on whether or not to raise associate membership dues, or 3) to disregard the vote altogether based on the lack of clarity. Parliamentarian Kelley Cochran stated that the Executive Committee cannot disregard a vote approved by the membership. Zach Holland shared concerns about not knowing members' intention of voting, and how it might have affected their vote had they known it was for both GCD and associate membership dues. Doug Shaw expressed that it was his understanding that the vote was clear and included both GCD and associate membership levels. Andy Garza stated that both the posted meeting materials and the projector screen at the meeting at the time of the vote included the raising of dues for both GCD and associate members. David Bailey confirmed Andy's comment. Diana Thomas shared concerns similar to Zach Holland's and also voiced the need to be forthright and minimize confusion for our members. Zach Holland shared that in an effort to minimize additional confusion it might be best to consider option 3 and provide a clearer and more comprehensive path moving forward during the long-term planning discussion at the Executive Committee and Finance & Budget Committee Retreat this fall. Parliamentarian Kelley Cochran shared again that a vote happened and it cannot be disregarded, but agreed that clarification was needed for the associate membership dues. Amber

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Blount agreed with Kelley's comments and there was a short discussion of the possibility of bringing another vote to the membership regarding associate membership dues and when that would take place. There was also a discussion about Greg Perrin's intent on making the first motion, and confirmation that it was only for GCD membership dues. Janet Guthrie shared that during her presentation of this agenda item at the spring business meeting she stated that TAGD has always raised association membership dues in proportion with GCD membership dues. David Bailey shared that TAGD's bylaws require that dues and fees be adopted at the spring business meeting. A brief discussion regarding the bylaws and timeline of setting dues and fees followed. Janet Guthrie shared that the membership will have the chance to vote on the proposed budget for FY25 and that any further confusion could be addressed at that time. Doug Shaw explained that the motion approved at the spring business meeting to increase the GCD membership dues cannot be undone without another motion by the full membership. Amber Blount expressed her desire for transparency to the membership to show that the draft budget proposed at the spring business meeting included both GCD and associate membership dues increases, but that the motion did not include associate membership dues, so the proposed FY25 budget reflects that. Janet Guthrie agreed. Amber Blount made a motion to move forward with option 1 to raise only GCD membership dues and not associate membership dues. Zach Holland seconded the motion. There was a short discussion regarding TAGD's robust savings and investments and differences in opinion on what a deficit budget means. Diana Thomas expressed her desire to be clear about what happened and why this couldn't be addressed at the next business meeting. Several committee members agreed. The motion carried unanimously.

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

President David Bailey asked the committee for discussion and possible action on any other matters. David said that an email with proposed potential dates for the Executive Committee retreat would be sent out in the near future. He also thanked Andy Garza for offering to host, but shared that after a discussion with Zach Holland that he decided the retreat would be in College Station as it is more centrally located and closer to TAGD staff. Zach Holland made a recommendation to the committee to remain in close contact and collaboration with Adam Foster to support him as he continues to settle into his new role as Executive Director.

E. Adjournment. President David Bailey adjourned the meeting at 2:54 pm.