

**Minutes of
Regular Business Meeting
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts
August 20, 2024
Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort, San Antonio, 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.** President David Bailey called the meeting to order at 9:31AM. He provided a brief overview of the meeting objectives. Dirk Aaron was asked to provide the invocation.
- B. Roll Call.** Secretary Stephanie Keith conducted the roll call, confirming the attendance of 63 members, which established a quorum necessary for conducting official business. A list of districts present at roll call is attached to these minutes.
- C. Membership Update and Announcement of New Members.** President David Bailey announced that we currently have 90 GCD members and 45 associate members. New members include Red Sand Groundwater Conservation District and EcoKai. First time summit attendees were also recognized.
- D. Discussion and Possible Action on Minutes of Prior Meeting.** David Bailey presented the minutes from the June Regular Business Meeting and asked for any changes or discussion. Alan Day motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Gary Westbrook seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- E. Discussion and Possible Action on FY24 Q3 Finances.** Treasurer Janet Guthrie presented the FY24 Q3 financial report to the membership, expressing her gratitude to the finance and budget committee members. She briefly outlined the budget and finance review process, noting that all relevant documents are available online. The current income figures stand at 101.64% of the projected values, with most of the Summit revenue included. As of the end of Q3, 63.58% of the budget has been expended, with several Summit-related expenses still pending.

David Bailey invited comments or discussion. Dirk Aaron moved to approve the FY24 Q3 financials as presented, and Kathy Turner Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. Discussion and Possible Action on FY25 Budget.** Treasurer Janet Guthrie presented the proposed FY25 Budget to the membership. Janet clarified a point from the June Business Meeting regarding the proposed changes to associate and district membership dues. Specifically, the motion and vote at that meeting

addressed only the district membership dues, and did not include changes to associate membership dues. The proposed FY25 budget reflects adjustments based on historical and projected year-to-date values for both current and future memberships. Janet reminded the membership that the dues increase will affect only the higher-tiered district members.

Janet then discussed the increased financial stability of TAGD, and the importance of the Summit event as a major source of income. She continued to present a comparative view of FY24 budget to the proposed FY25 budget, and noted the budget was approved by both the Finance and Budget Committee and Executive Committee. Total income is increasing to \$489,250 and total expenses are increasing to \$489,217. Noted items were the remaining staff retention bonuses, previously approved by membership, and a \$22,000 salary increase for staff. An increase of \$8,900 in the Executive Director salary line item was also noted for a potential salary increase, following a performance evaluation and approval by the Executive Committee. The retention bonuses are not part of the normal operating budget and will be withdrawn from reserves.

David Bailey invited questions and discussion. One member asked if there was an established goal or target amount for the reserve fund. Amber Blount answered that the previously set goal is to maintain a reserve equal to one year of operating expenses. Gary Westbrook motioned to approve the FY25 budget as presented. Alan Day seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- G. Office and Committee Reports.** TAGD Executive Director Adam Foster began his report by expressing appreciation for the dedicated efforts of the staff and the Summit planning committee. He noted that the 2024 Summit has attracted over 100 new participants and anticipates that the Summit's income will exceed projections. He also mentioned that the HR webinar series, co-hosted with the Texas Groundwater Association, will resume in the coming weeks. Cybersecurity training is due by August 31, 2024, with 364 participants from 70 different districts having completed the training so far.

Adam continues to be involved in the Water Data Initiative and serves as a member on the Water Conservation Advisory Council, with Julia Stanford as the alternate member. He is also now a member of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee and participates in the TWCA Legislative Committee. Additionally, Foster reminded members that TAGD membership renewals will be sent out on October 1, 2024.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee - David Bailey noted that the Executive Committee had met previously with regards to the FY25 budget. Bailey noted that a sponsored leadership retreat is planned for October for the Finance and Budget Committee and the Executive Committee.

- Legislative Committee – Doug Shaw explained that TWCA is hosting upcoming legislative committee meetings. Shaw requested members to review the TWBD proposed amendments to Ch. 356 for discussion purposes, and to sign up for TAGD Legislative Committee subcommittees of interest.
- Finance & Budget Committee - Janet Guthrie had no updates, but asked the membership to communicate any concerns, requests, or ideas to the appropriate TAGD Area Representative for discussion at the upcoming leadership retreat.
- Bylaws Committee - Kelley Cochran had no updates.
- Information & Education - Stephanie Keith provided a brief report, stating that the subcommittees will continue working on the updated publications soon.

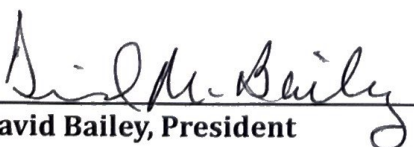
H. GMA and Member Updates. President David Bailey invited the GMA representatives to provide updates. Bailey provided updates and highlights within the membership.

I. Other TAGD Business. David Bailey announced that the 2025 Business Meeting dates have been approved by the Executive Committee. The meetings will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott in Pflugerville, Texas, on January 15-16, 2025, and June 10-11, 2025. Adam Foster extended his thanks to the TAGD Conference Planning Committee. Gary Westbrook encouraged TAGD members to reach out to staff for additional event support and recognized past General Manager Scott Holland, who was in attendance. Julia Stanford acknowledged the presence of Honorary TAGD Members Greg Singleman and Ron Fiesler.

Dirk Aaron made a motion to nominate Layne Marlow for Honorary TAGD Membership, which was seconded by Amber Blount. The motion was unanimously approved by the membership. Following the vote, David Bailey adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM.

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

Approved by the members on January 15, 2025.


David Bailey, President


Stephanie Keith, Secretary

Attachment 1
Voting Districts Present at Roll Call – August 20, 2024

- 1 Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District
- 2 Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
- 3 Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District
- 4 Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District
- 5 Brazoria County Groundwater Conservation District
- 6 Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 7 Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District
- 8 Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 9 Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District
- 10 Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District
- 11 Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 12 Coke County Underground Water Conservation District
- 13 Cow Creek Groundwater Conservation District
- 14 Crockett County Groundwater Conservation District
- 15 Duval County Groundwater Conservation District
- 16 Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District
- 17 Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District
- 18 Gateway Groundwater Conservation District
- 19 Glasscock Groundwater Conservation District
- 20 Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District
- 21 Guadalupe County Groundwater Conservation District
- 22 Headwaters Groundwater Conservation District
- 23 Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District
- 24 High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1
- 25 Hill Country Underground Water Conservation District
- 26 Irion County Water Conservation District
- 27 Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District
- 28 Kimble County Groundwater Conservation District
- 29 Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District
- 30 Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District
- 31 Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
- 32 Lower Trinity Groundwater Conservation District* (John Martin)
- 33 Medina County Groundwater Conservation District
- 34 Menard County Underground Water District
- 35 Mesa Underground Water Conservation District
- 36 Mesquite Groundwater Conservation District
- 37 Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 38 Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District
- 39 Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 40 Neches and Trinity Valleys Groundwater Conservation District
- 41 North Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 42 Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District
- 43 Panola County Groundwater Conservation District

- 44 Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District
- 45 Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District
- 46 Plum Creek Conservation District
- 47 Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District
- 48 Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District
- 49 Presidio County Underground Water Conservation District
- 50 Red Sands Groundwater Conservation District
- 51 Reeves County Groundwater Conservation District
- 52 Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District
- 53 Rusk County Groundwater Conservation District
- 54 Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District
- 55 Santa Rita Underground Water Conservation District
- 56 South Plains Underground Water Conservation District
- 57 Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District
- 58 Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District
- 59 Sterling County Underground Water Conservation District
- 60 Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District
- 61 Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District
- 62 Uvalde County Underground Water Conservation District
- 63 Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District