

Fayette County

Groundwater Conservation District

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MINUTES

of the May 2, 2005 Board of Directors Meeting

Directors Present: William P. Kohlleppel, Carl Wendler, Eddie Schneider
Directors Absent: Rodney Willis, Lloyd Brunner
Others Present: District staff Linda Streicher and Andrea Polasek, Assistant County Attorney Harold Streicher

The meeting was called to order by President Kohlleppel at 8:30 a.m. on May 2, 2005 at the District Office in Room 600 of the Fayette County Agricultural Building at 254 N. Jefferson in La Grange, Texas. A quorum to conduct business was declared to be present.

No members of the public were present.

Minutes from the previous meeting of April 4, 2005, which were mailed out to the directors in advance of the meeting, were approved with no corrections.

The financial statement was distributed for review, and all outstanding bills were listed to be paid. Mr. Schneider moved to accept the financial statement and pay the bills that were presented. Mr. Wendler seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mrs. Streicher distributed drafts of the Summer quarterly newsletter and a newspaper article on the District's proposed Rules revisions. The Board approved the draft of a newspaper article on a recently held meeting with area water suppliers. Streicher also presented an estimate for a computer for office staff. Mr. Schneider moved that the Board approve up to \$2500 to be spent on the computer equipment and software. The motion stipulated that Streicher obtain 3 quotes but left the final decision up to the manager. Mr. Wendler seconded the motion and it was approved.

Streicher gave an update on Senate Bill 3, which has been approved by the Senate, with the water tax removed, but many amendments added. She also updated the Board on the controversy with the Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District. That District has much in common with the Fayette County district, and what is happening there could happen in Fayette County as well. The Board authorized her to write a letter to Senator Ken Armbrister and Representative Robby Cook stating that the District disagrees with the lack of due process and lack of State support being given to the Kinney County district.

The Board then discussed various options concerning implementation of a water conservation educational program in the schools, which is required by the District's management plan. Mr. Wendler moved to

sponsor in full a pilot water conservation educational program for fifth graders in the La Grange ISD. The District will evaluate the success of that educational program and also look at other available programs in order to expand the water conservation education to all school districts within Fayette County. Mr. Wendler's motion also included the purchase of water conservation bookcovers for all other school districts within Fayette County. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion and it was approved.

At the previous meeting, Mr. Kohlleppel had appointed a committee to review and approve any changes to the proposed rules amendments which were recommended by the District's attorney Harold Streicher. The committee has completed that review and presented its findings to the entire Board. Mr. Schneider moved to approve the revisions and schedule a public hearing on May 20th, after proper notice has been published in the newspaper. Mr. Wendler seconded the motion and it was approved.

Some discussion was held on the proposed amendment to the District By-laws concerning setting time limits on speakers to be imposed if necessary at District Board meetings. The District encourages public input, but needs to insure that it has time to get its business completed at the Board meetings. The Board asked the District's attorney to draft an appropriate provision.

Mr. Willis has drafted a proposal on water quality testing, as monitoring water quality is another requirement of the District. After some discussion, Mr. Wendler moved that the Board defer any consideration of water testing until a future date. Mr. Schneider seconded the motion and it was approved.

Applications for exceptions to the District Rule concerning minimum tract size were received from Nancy Jean Hay for a property on Hertel Road in Schulenburg, and from Amy Bargas for a property on East Old Hwy 71. After review, Mr. Wendler moved to approve the exceptions, Mr. Schneider seconded the motion and it was approved.

The Board discussed the District's 2006 budget, a draft of which had been prepared by President Kohlleppel and Mrs. Streicher in advance. The June Board meeting will be devoted primarily to finalizing the budget.

Mr. Wendler reported on the public investment training he recently undertook and the TAGD quarterly meeting he also attended.

Items were identified for the next meeting's agenda. The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. at the La Grange City Hall, immediately following the public hearing at 8:30 a.m. on the proposed rules revisions. The next regular Board meeting will be a joint meeting held with the Board of Directors and manager of the Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District on Monday, June 6, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. at the Stockman's Restaurant in Flatonia.

Mr. Wendler made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Schneider and approved.

Wm. Paul Kohlleppel, Jr., President

Carl Wendler, Secretary-Treasurer