

# Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District

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## MINUTES of the July 6, 2004 Board of Directors Meeting

**Directors Present:** William P. Kohlleppel, Rodney Willis, Martin Manuel, Clay Rightmer, Carl Wandler  
**Directors Absent:** none  
**Others Present:** District Manager Linda Streicher, Assistant County Attorney Harold Streicher

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The meeting was called to order by President Kohlleppel at 8:30 a.m. on July 6, 2004 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 June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 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. Willis moved to accept the financial statement, in its new format. Mr. Manuel seconded the motion and it was approved. Mr. Wandler moved to pay the bills that were presented, Mr. Willis seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mrs. Streicher reported on the geographic information systems (GIS) software that the District plans to purchase. This software can utilize county property plats and street mapping which can be obtained in graphical formats from local agencies. This software will enable the district to plot all the wells on various maps, such as topographic, geologic, river basins, roads, and property plats. This will enable the District to make informed decisions based on much more accurate data. Some discussion followed concerning the high priority of gathering data and getting it organized into a database. Mrs. Streicher was asked to work on a timeline and to determine if additional help might be needed.

Mr. Willis moved to authorize the purchase of conservation-related bookcovers for county schools. Mr. Rightmer seconded the motion and it was approved. Mr. Willis also moved to authorize the purchase of two GPS receivers so that the District can identify well locations by latitude and longitude.

Mrs. Streicher distributed several sample water wheels, which are conservation education tools popular with other groundwater districts. Board members decided to see if the District could combine an order with other districts to get better pricing.

The Board then discussed a recent visit to the offices of the Gonzales County Groundwater Conservation District by Mr. Kohlleppel, Mr. Willis, and Mrs. Streicher. Although there are some geologic and hydrologic similarities between our Districts, there are differing groundwater management philosophies. The District representatives were particularly concerned with the SAWS project well field located in Gonzales County, and its impact on the Carrizo aquifer, which also extends through Fayette County. Gonzales County has a mitigation policy which has generated some controversy. The discussion then moved into challenges facing districts, particularly single-county districts, and the need for legislative assistance to resolve these issues.

The Board reviewed an application for an exception to the District rule concerning minimum tract size, which was received from Jason and Melissa Hahn of Fayetteville. Mr. Wendler moved to grant the exception, Mr. Willis seconded the motion and it was approved.

Items were identified for the next meetings' agendas. At the next meeting, the Board will consider a resolution calling for an election on November 2, 2004 for the two Board positions representing Precincts 1 and 3.

The next meetings are set for Friday, August 6, 2004 in Room 600 of the Fayette County Agricultural Building. At 8:30 a.m. will be the public hearing on the District's proposed 2004 tax rate. The regular monthly business meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Willis made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. Manuel and approved.

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Wm. Paul Kohlleppel, Jr., President

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Martin Manuel, Secretary-Treasurer