

Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District

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MINUTES of the November 6, 2006 9:00 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Directors Present: Eddie Schneider, Lloyd Brunner, Leo Kainer, Carl Wendler
Directors Absent: L.J. Calley
Others Present: Interim District manager Linda Streicher, new General Manager David Van Dresar, Assistant Fayette County Attorney Harold Streicher

The meeting was called to order by President Schneider at 9:00 a.m. on November 6, 2006 at the District Office in Room 600 of the Fayette County Agricultural Building at 254 N. Jefferson Street in La Grange, Texas. A quorum to conduct business was declared to be present. No members of the public were present.

Mr. Schneider welcomed David Van Dresar, the District's new General Manager. The Board suggested that Van Dresar develop a process for continued support and consultation from Linda Streicher, as needed.

Mr. Wendler updated the Board on his efforts to encourage a rural water supply system for the area just south and east of Schulenburg.

Minutes from the previous meeting of October 2, 2006 were presented. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

The financial statement was distributed, and all outstanding bills were listed to be paid. Adjustments were made to the annual budget, due to the increase in fees for the Fayette County Appraisal District and other increased costs. Mr. Kainer moved to accept the financial statement with the discussed changes, and pay the bills that were presented. Mr. Brunner seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mrs. Streicher gave the District Manager's report to the Board, including updates on the groundwater management area (GMA) planning process, the status of complaints still under investigation, and the status of obtaining employee health insurance. She reported that PureTex is putting in a bottled water company near Eagle Lake, which plans to pump 1500 acre feet of water per year. It will utilize 3 wells, each about 1200 feet deep. PureTex has stated that they would be willing to follow guidelines set by groundwater districts in the surrounding area.

Mr. Wendler moved to adopt the revisions to the District's employee policy, which were presented at the last meeting. Mr. Kainer seconded the motion and it was approved. The board approved the draft of the District's Winter newsletter issue, and approved sending the new manager, Mr. Van Dresar, and one

board member to an upcoming groundwater law seminar in Austin. Mr. Kainer updated the board on the County's plans to remodel the Agricultural Building, including the District's office space. Mr. Van Dresar reported to the board on the GMA training on conflict resolution which he attended last week.

Mr. Brunner made a motion to approve and adopt the proposed amended and new District Rules, as presented in the earlier Public Hearing, to be effective immediately. Mr. Wendler seconded the motion and it was approved by all Directors. The District's attorney was asked to record the newly adopted amended and new District Rules in the county's deed records.

The Board discussed its current moratorium on the drilling of non-exempt water wells (e.g., public supply, commercial, industrial, and irrigation wells) that would be permitted to pump more than fifty acre-feet per year. The moratorium is set to expire on November 15, 2006. Since the District has now revised its rules in light of the findings of the District's aquifer study, the board agreed to allow the moratorium to expire.

The District has received the final report of the District's 2004 financial records from Urban, Thielemann, Olive and Company. Their conclusion was that the District's financial affairs were all in order and that the District was operating in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Mr. Wendler moved to accept the report as presented, Mr. Brunner seconded the motion and it was approved. The District will now begin seeking bids for the audit of the 2006 financial records.

Mr. Kainer moved that the District adopt the same holiday schedule as Fayette County for 2007. Mr. Brunner seconded the motion and it was approved.

An application for an exception to the District rule concerning minimum tract size was received from Robert and Julie Maffei for a 2.04 acre tract on Andreas Road near Round Top. Upon review and finding the tract had been divided prior to the effective date of the District Rules, and is therefore grandfathered, Mr. Brunner moved to grant the exception. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kainer and approved.

Lori Hefner, the District's administrative assistant has been with the District for six months and was recently given an excellent performance evaluation. Therefore, Mr. Brunner moved to give her a pay increase, effective November 1, 2006. Mr. Kainer seconded the motion and it was approved.

Items were identified for the next meeting's agenda. The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2006 at 8:30 a.m. at the District office.

Mr. Brunner moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Mr. Kainer, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.

Eddie L. Schneider, President

Carl Wendler, Secretary-Treasurer