

**COASTAL BEND GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

AGENDA PREPARED AND POSTED: May 8, 2009
DATE OF MEETING: May 12, 2009
TIME OF MEETING: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE WHERE MEETING WAS HELD: Texas AgriLife Extension, 210 S. Rusk,
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488.

I. In Attendance:

Ronald Gertson – President; L.G. Raun, Jr. – Vice President CBGCD; Leonard Wittig – Director CBGCD; Edmund Weinheimer – Secretary CBGCD; Arthur Priesmeyer – Director CBGCD; Neil Hudgins – Manager CBGCD; Mandy Bain – Administrative Assistant CBGCD; Grady Allen.

II. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 A.M.

III. Public Comments:

None.

IV. Approval of Minutes:

Vice President Raun made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Secretary Weinheimer seconded. All voted for; motion carried.

V. Manager's Report:

Financial Report – Mr. Hudgins reported a checking account balance of \$ 121,772.52 and a money market balance of \$519,818.77. A budget vs. actual and a list of total District investments was also presented. After discussion and review, Secretary Weinheimer made a motion to approve the checking account balance, the money market account balance, the investment report, and a list of detailed checks and deposits for the month of April as presented. Director Priesmeyer seconded. All voted for; motion carried.

Well Registration Update – Mr. Hudgins presented the Board with a detailed breakdown of current Exempt and Non Exempt Well Information. The current information sheet represents the 2008-2010 permit term water numbers. There are a total of 4,227 wells registered. 745 of the 4,227 are non exempt wells.

Well Monitoring Update – Mr. Hudgins presented the Board with the water level readings for the month of May. Water levels are on average at the same level as last month's reporting.

GMA 15 – GMA 15 will schedule a meeting in the near future so that GMA 15 members can submit their approved DFC's. GMA 15 will then submit the approved DFC's to the Texas Water Development Board for a GAM run to produce MAG numbers for GMA 15.

TAGD Update – See Attached.

VI. District Management Plan: The District's Management Plan is due for renewal in September of 2009. Mr. Hudgins presented the Board with a copy of the current approved and adopted District Management Plan and a copy of the revised copy of the District Management Plan that follows the guidelines given by the Texas Water Development Board. The Board will take the copies home for review and submit their comments to Mr. Hudgins before the June meeting.

- VII. **Water Quality Monitoring Plan:** Mr. Hudgins presented the Board with a map of strategically placed water wells for a possible water quality monitoring plan. Each test site has 2 wells that are in close proximity of each other. One well is a shallower well and one well is a deeper well. Mr. Hudgins will collect water from the well sites and have the water quality tested on an annual basis at a lab in Victoria.
- VIII. **GeoTrans Review of LCRB Groundwater Model:** Mr. Hudgins will email GeoTrans a list of questions that the District would like addressed during their review of the final report submitted to them pertaining LCRB Groundwater Model.
- IX. **Budget Amendments:** Vice President Raun made a motion to decrease the budget item “Groundwater Modeling” by \$11,200 and increase the budget items “Furniture and Fixtures” by \$1,200, and “Small Tools and Equipment” by \$10,000. Director Wittig seconded. All voted for; motion carried.
- X. **Hosting Region K Meeting in Wharton County:** After discussion, Vice President Raun made a motion to host the June Region K meeting in Wharton County with expenditures not to exceed \$600. Secretary Weinheimer seconded. All voted for; motion carried.
- XI. **Agreement for Assessment and Collection Services:** After discussion and review, Secretary Weinheimer made a motion to accept the proposed new Agreement for Assessment and Collection Services between Wharton County and Coastal Bend GCD. Director Wittig seconded. All voted for; motion carried.
- XII. **Entered into Executive Session – 10:03 a.m.:** Annual performance and salary evaluation of General Manager and Administrative Assistant.
Executive Session ended at 10:45 a.m.
- XIII. **Executive Session** – No action taken on Executive Session.
- XIV. **Unfinished Business:** None.
- XV. **Next Meeting:** The next general board meeting was set for Tuesday, June 16, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. at the District Office, 109 E. Milam, Wharton, Texas.
- XVI. **Adjournment:** Vice President Raun made a motion to adjourn. Director Wittig seconded. All voted for; motion carried. Adjournment at 10:55 a.m.

Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) Meeting Report April 28, 2009

On April 27, 2009, Ronald Gertson and I traveled to Austin to meet with Lisa Craven (chief of staff for Senator Glenn Hegar) to discuss a bill authored by the Senator that could affect GCDs. His original bill SB 1714 had language that tries to clear up the definition of beneficial use. The Committee Substitute of SB 1714 had additional language that created an option for districts to permit groundwater before it was to be used, called "pre-production permits." The intent was to give Districts another way to permit up to the Managed Available Groundwater amount once received from the TWDB. Lisa said their main goal was to give GCDs another tool in management, for example, in a case where there is substantial in-district population anticipated, those Municipalities could apply for a permit now to sure up their demand in the future. We felt the intent was good, but this option of permitting given to GCDs seems like it would be more beneficial to exporters; giving them the chance to apply for a permit now and then give them 5 years to shop around for a buyer. The current language states that this is only an option for GCDs, but we expressed to our fear of that option turning into a requirement. She let us know that bill was probably not going to pass out of committee. She also said to look for Senator Hegar to be at the forefront of water legislation next session as a pro-groundwater district legislator and to always feel free to contact her with any future issues we have with any legislation.

On April 28, the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts met at the Thompson Conference Center on the UT campus. After minutes and financials were approved, new voting members of TAGD were approved: Corpus Christi Aquifer Storage and Recovery Conservation District, Red Sands GCD, and the Upper Trinity GCD. Three new Associate Members were also voted into membership: Haynes and Boone, LLP, LBG-Guyton Associates, and URS.

There was a new committee approved by the membership which their duty was to be looking ahead at possible future legislation and other issues that GCDs might be faced with in the future. Harvey Everhardt, Mesa UWCD, was to chair this committee with others that have spent a number of days in Austin monitoring legislation such as C. E. Williams, Panhandle GCD, Mike Mahoney, Evergreen UWCD, Scott Holland, Irion Co. UWCD, among others.

Jim Conkwright, High Plains GCD, gave a very brief legislative update. Ronald and I thought this report should have taken the majority of the meeting, but only a few bills were covered. HB 43 was not discussed but we heard that it was going nowhere likely to die in committee. HB 43 was the bill that tried to give everyone 30 yr permits, disabled GCDs from being able to amend permits unless there were severe aquifer conditions that needed to be addressed, and if permits were amended, it could only be decreased by 5% or less. Most of the discussion was on SB 2120. The original SB 2120 talks about training requirements for GCD Managers and Board Members, makes clear that only one Mgmt Plan is required and requires oil and gas water wells to report their exempt use to us each year. No one really had a problem with this bill until the committee substitute CSSB 2120. In this substitute, other legislators tried to tack on other language from their bills that looked like they were never going to get out of committee. The substitute added language regarding a complete new study of the Carrizo Study and other language that sets up a review process by the TWDB that gives them authority to audit/review each GCD's Mgmt Plan to make sure the GCD is achieving their DFC. TAGD voted to oppose CSSB 2120 as written.

Robert Bradley, TWDB, presented just a few announcements to the group and was basically there to answer questions about the joint planning process. Below are some of the announcements he made:

- Bill Hutchinson was hired by TWDB to replace Dr. Robert Mace as division leader for Groundwater Resources.
- TWDB will begin to post GMA meeting notices on their website
- There will be a Carrizo Aquifer conference in College Station – look for an email regarding date.

- TWDB representatives will not be available to attend any outside meetings through May 15 due to the recent Swine Flu