LONE STAR
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MARCH 4, 2025
MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADOPTION OF GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in regular session, open to the public and held in person in the Lone Star GCD – James B. "Jim" Wesley Board Room located at 655 Conroe Park North Drive, Conroe, Texas, and remotely via the publicly accessible webinar/telephone conference call within the boundaries of the District on March 4, 2025.

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00PM

2. ROLL CALL:

Roll call for participating members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Jim Spigener
Jon Paul Bouché
Janice Thigpen
Kenneth Earnest
John Wertz

Also present:

Name:	Title:
Sarah Kouba	General Manager
Tiffany White	Director of Operations
Smantha Branham	Permitting Manager
Britny Anderson	Administrative Assistant
Iris Mendoza	Administrative Assistant
Stacey Reese	District Counsel
James Beach	District Technical Consultant
Chris Drabek	District Technical Consultant
and members of the public	

Copies of the public sign-in sheets and comment cards received are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

3. PRAYER AND PLEDGES OF ALLEGIANCE:
Vice-President Bouché led the prayer. Secretary Thigpen led the United States and Texas Pledges

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Humbert addressed the board in person regarding the progress of the proposed management plan with a few proposed changes. The District also received seven comments via email proposing changes to the management plan.

5. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE DISTRICT GROUNWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN ADOPTION:

Technical Consultant Mr. Beach arranged a presentation and discussed what is included in the management plan and what

is required. He mentioned other components of estimates that need to be incorporated, which come from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) that include model data on groundwater, the amount of groundwater being used within the district on an annual basis, amount of recharge from precipitation, groundwater resources in the district and the annual volume of water discharge from the aquifer to springs and surface water bodies. Also, the annual flow in and out of the district in each of the aquifers and projected surface water supply in the district according to the most recent adopted 2022 management plan. All of which has been updated in the proposed 2025 management plan. Mr. Beach explains that the District must identify these performance standards and management objectives under which the District will operate and achieve the management goals and specify the actions, procedures, performance and avoidance to affect the plan and imposed rules. The plan must be approved by the TWDB and must consider water supply needs and water supply strategies which is done at the Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 14 meetings. Ms. Reese then mentioned that the seven comments received on the management plan were reviewed by the Desired Future Conditions (DFC) Committee and is recommending a couple of changes. Some of the comments were more anecdotal or recommended stylistic changes so there wasn't anything to incorporate with respect to proposed changes. She elucidated that a number of the comments suggestions raised some legal issues, asking to change language in the DFC statement and she explained that we are not allowed to change the language adopted at the GMA level. We are required to incorporate those statements in the plan until it is changed by the GMA. More suggestions requested that we remove some goals that are required by statute to be included in the plan. Ms. Reese explained that one of the comments suggested we require exempt wells to be metered and that doing so is illegal under Chapter 36. Additionally, a comment related to aquifer storage & recovery (ASR) and reuse suggested we incorporate these strategies in the management plan. That comment was taken to the DFC and technical team, and they do not feel like the District should take those on at this time. However there are ASR and reuse strategies that are already in the current regional water plan and the draft plan that just came out. Those strategies are being addressed as a plan for Region H. Ms. Reese referred to Mr. Humbert's comments regarding well data being presented every two years as opposed to the three years mentioned in the management plan draft. That will be updated to two years. She explains why one year wouldn't be feasible. Another suggestion from Mr. Humbert suggested we incorporate the 2022 data and we will be updating the draft including the 2022 data now that it is available. Mr. Beach addressed some of the comment questions the District received with regard to subsidence monitoring stations. The District is currently collaborating on them and continue to establish the best available science to collect data across the district. He addressed aquifers across the state that are subject to recharge during droughts.

6. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION APPROVING RESOLUTION #25-001 READOPTING DISTRICT GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN:

President Spigener called for a motion to approve the resolution to adopt the Groundwater Management Plan. Treasurer Earnest moved to approve the resolution. Director Wertz seconded the motion. Motion passed to approve the resolution to adopt the Management Plan.

7. ADJOURN:

President Spigener called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Earnest moved to adjourn and Vice President Bouché seconded the motion. President Spigener called for a voice vote, motion passed, Meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF APRIL 2025.

Janice Thigpen, Board Secretary