LONE STAR
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

July 14, 2020

MINUTES OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in regular session, open to the public held via a publicly accessible webinar/telephone conference call, within the boundaries of the District on July 14, 2020.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Harry Hardman presided and called to order the Public Workshop meeting at 3:00 PM, announcing that it was open to the public.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Jon Paul Bouché
Harry Hardman
Jonathan Prykryl
Larry A. Rogers
Jim Spigener
Stuart Traylor

All members of the Board were present, except Director(s) Bouché, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. In attendance at said meeting were Samantha Reiter, General Manager; Stacey V. Reese, District Counsel; Jim Thornhill and James Beach, District consultants; District staff and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets and comment cards received are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

PRAYER AND PLEDGES:

President Hardman called on Director Rogers for the opening prayer and Director Spigener to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge of Allegiance to the state flag.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None were received.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON DRAFT OF DISTRICT RULES:

Ms. Stacey Reese, District Counsel, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the District Rules development. She discussed the time frame of March 2019 to the present and the combined process used to produce the District Rules draft. The five Town Hall meetings were platforms for the public to offer revisions to the rules. With the additional information gathered by the Technical Study Group and the Non-Technical Study Group; Ms. Reese compiled the findings into a Draft of the District Rules.

Ms. Reese explained that the preamble and rules had been revised significantly including renumbering and addressing the TWDB judgment, repealing and abolishing the District Regulatory Plan (DRP). This development ensured all invoicing and payment will be done directly by the District, not through a GRP Sponsor and new permittees will not be required to join a GRP. Also, one new rule expresses the process for a permittee to appeal the decision by the GM or Board.

Ms. Reese highlighted changes to the rules in Section 2: Well Registration and Permitting. All exempt wells will need to be registered, and there continues to be conditions that may cause exempt wells to lose their exempt status ie. change in purpose. Non-exempt wells will now be issued according to three aquifer groupings: Chicot and Evangeline, Jasper, and the Catahoula. Further, non-exempt well applications will now require certain wells to provide a hydrological report. This report aides in the collection of valuable aquifer information. The permitted well's criteria for submitting the report, is yet to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Rule 2.11 Renewals states the Board will decide the length of permits and time frame of renewals. In Section 3: Spacing and Location of Wells, the consultants have suggested a simple formula by which to space wells. Within the area of the Chicot and Evangeline aquifers will measure 2 feet per every GPM and within the Jasper aquifer will measure 1.5 feet per every GPM.

Ms. Reese discussed Rules 4 thru 13 noting minimal changes and consisted primarily of memorializing current policy with specifics. Section 14: Aquifer Storage and Recovery discusses a new part of the rules that protects the aquifer storage in which no pumping can exceed the amount of recovery. *A copy of the PowerPoint Rules presentation is hereto attached as Exhibit "B".*

Ms. Reese noted that no decision would be made on the District Rules at the workshop but could be taken at the regular July Board of Directors meeting later in the day.

RECEIVE QUESTIONS AND INPUT FROM WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS:

Director Rogers asked for clarification of an exempt well to which Ms. Reese defined as a well having a domestic or agricultural use and does not exceed pumping 25,000 gallons a day. Conversely, a non-exempt well produces in excess of 25,000 gallons a day and has commercial use.

Director Spigener asked for interpretation regarding any future planning of cutbacks in water allocation. Ms. Stacey Reese responded that the reduction rule was deemed invalid and no longer holds authority within groundwater district rules or regulations. Director Spigener also wanted additional information on the well-spacing rule. Ms. Reese explained that the well-spacing rules were intended to protect a smaller well from the impact of being too close in proximity to the larger well, thereby insuring reduction of pressure through pumping.

Director Traylor prompted the group in decision making regarding the GPM threshold amount that wells would reach before requiring a hydrogeological report with permit application and the term of a permit.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, President Hardman adjourned the public workshop at 4:33 PM.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 11th DAY OF AUGUST 2020.

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Larry A. Rogers, Board Secretary

Attachment “A”

Rules Workshop Attendees

Panelist

Stacey Reese

Samantha Reiter

Harry Hardman

James Beach

Jonathan Prykryl

Larry Rogers

Jim Spigener

Jon Bouche

Attendees

936-441-7833

936-682-3835

Bob Lux

Chris Meeks

John Yoars

Jonathan Smith

Kandice Cabets

Mark Smith

Marty Jones

Matt Corley

Michael Sullivan

Mike Thornhill

Ron Kelling

Tina Felkai

Sue Ellen Myers