

**Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting**  
**700 Kennedy Court**  
**Central Texas Council of Governments**  
**Belton, Texas**  
**Tuesday, August 27, 2012**  
**Minutes**

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a board meeting on Tuesday, August 27, 2012 in the Clearwater UWCD Building, located at 700 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas.

**Board Members Present:**

Leland Gersbach, President  
Wallace Biskup, Vice President  
Judy Parker, Secretary  
Bill Bartlett, Director  
David Cole, Director At-Large

**Public Advisory Committee Members:**

Bill Schumann  
Henry Bunke

**Staff:**

Dirk Aaron  
Shelly Chapman

**Guest:**

Geoff West – Temple Daily Telegram  
Tim Fleischer – Salado Village Voice

**Clearwater UWCD Workshop convened at 1:33**

**1. Discuss the November 6, General Election and Update on Candidate Filings.**

General Manager, Dirk Aaron, updated the Board on the upcoming election. Precincts 1 & 3 will run unopposed, while the At-Large position is a contested race. There are 4 candidates running for the At-Large position. Dirk informed the Board that since the At-Large position is a contested race, Precincts 1 & 3 are required to be listed on the ballot. According to Shelley Coston's office, there should be no change in cost.

Dirk reviewed the deadlines to be met by the candidates. All of the Candidates were sent a packet, via certified mail, with the information in it.

**2. Discuss the announced public hearings by US Fish and Wildlife related to the Salado Salamander.**

Dirk discussed the news release from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). They will be holding a hearing for public comment on the proposal to list 4 Central Texas Salamanders as endangered species. The meetings will be held September 5<sup>th</sup> in Williamson County and September 6<sup>th</sup> in Travis County. Dirk mentioned that USFWS has not recognized any of the work done by CUWCD or the regulatory mechanisms that CUWCD has in place. Dirk stated that CUWCD needs to reaffirm their statutory role. The role of CUWCD is to protect and maintain spring flow. Discussion continued on how to handle the public hearing. President, Leland Gersbach, gave Dirk direction to draft a response and represent CUWCD at the public hearing.

**3. Discuss the FY13 future studies and presentations in September and October by Bar-W Exploration and the USGS-Water Science Group.**

President, Leland Gersbach, gave Dirk Aaron, some direction that since CUWCD will have some extra money due to the move from CTCOG, he would like to see us focus on additional

science. He directed Dirk to work with Dr. Yeldeman and Hydrologist, Randy Williams, to determine what avenues of science we might need to pursue. Mr. Gersbach also asked the Board to think about what areas of science Clearwater might want to pursue. He mentioned that a few more monitor wells might be a possibility. Dirk Aaron will work with Tommy Lovelace for location recommendations.

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that Randy Williams will be making his formal presentation on the current studies at the meeting in September. Along with that presentation, he will also give his recommendations on possible future studies. USGS will give their updates at the meeting in October.

**Clearwater Board meeting was convened with Board President, Leland Gersbach, calling the meeting to order 2:29 p.m.**

**1. *Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:***

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, gave the invocation.  
Director, Bill Bartlett, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. *Public Comments:***

None

**3. *Approve Minutes of the August 14, 2012 Workshop and Board Meeting:***

Secretary, Judy Parker, moved to accept the minutes as they stand. Director, David Cole, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**4. *Hold public hearing on proposed tax rate for tax year 2012.***

**President, Leland Gersbach, opened the public hearing 2:30p.m.**

No public comments or interested parties in attendance. General Manager, Dirk Aaron, informed the Board that the public hearing notice on the tax rate had been published, as required, in the proper newspapers. Director, David Cole, stated that he had several people approach him about our proposed tax rate, and they were happy that CUWCD chose not to raise the tax rate this year.

**Leland Gersbach closed the public hearing at 2:32 p.m.**

**5. *Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary to adopt District budget for FY13.***

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that the proposed budget is in their handout. Leland Gersbach stated that he would like to see CUWCD pursue the Education Coordinator position proposed be General Manager, Dirk Aaron. Dirk reminded the Board that this position would also serve as a field tech and webmaster. Director, David Cole, commented that this position would free up the General Manager to focus on other tasks that the Board is requiring of him. The proposed position will also allow the Board to better fulfill requirements of the management plan. Leland Gersbach reminded everyone that CUWCD is not adding a person, but cutting back a 30 hour employee and adding a 40 hour employee that will also take on some duties that are currently being outsourced.

Secretary, Judy Parker, moved to adopt proposed budget option B for FY13. Director, David Cole, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**6. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary to adopt District tax rate for tax year 2012.**

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, moved to keep the existing tax rate of \$0.0040/\$100 valuation for tax year 2012. Director, David Cole, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

**7. General Manager's Report**

Dirk informed the Board that he attended the TWDB meeting last week. There are changes coming in the rules. He is working with the Attorneys to make sure we do everything correctly.

Dirk Aaron, Shelly Chapman, Judy Parker, and Leland Gersbach will be attending the TAGD Water Summit in Austin, August 27-29.

CUWCD will remain at stage 2 drought status on Trinity and Edwards (BFZ) aquifers for the time being.

**8. Public Advisory Committee Comments:**

No Comment

**9. Director Comments and Reports:**

Judy Parker attended a Brazos G meeting last week. Nothing new to report.

Wallace Biskup complimented Dirk Aaron on his diligence doing what needs to be done.

David Cole commented that he is glad the Board approved budget option B. This will free staff up to do greater things and that as a District we will be able to fulfill a greater portion of our management plan. David also mentioned that the drilling has begun on Moffat WSC's new well and should be completed soon.

**10. Discuss agenda items for next regular meeting in September.**

Employee handbook

Annual Report

RFQ for Auditing Firm

**11. Set time and place of next meeting.**

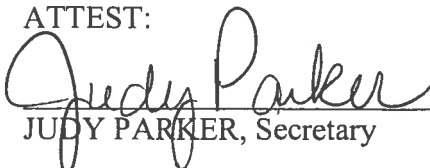
Next meeting is set for September 11, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at CUWCD

**12. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.

  
Leland Gersbach, President

ATTEST:

  
JUDY PARKER, Secretary

(A compact disc of this meeting is available upon request.)