

Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting
700 Kennedy Court
Central Texas Council of Governments
Belton, Texas
Tuesday, December 11, 2012
Minutes

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a board meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 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

Public Advisory Committee:

Henry Bunke

Staff:

Dirk Aaron
Shelly Chapman
Todd Strait

Guest:

Meghan Roussel – USGS
George Ozuma – USGS

Workshop was convened with Board President, Leland Gersbach, at 1:31p.m.

Workshop: 1. Discuss the issues and upcoming event pertaining to the potential listing of the Salado Salamander.

Dirk Aaron re-capped the Stakeholders meeting in Austin and to hear from the Comptroller's office. Kristen Fancher drafted a letter to USFWS to reopen the public comment period on the Salado Salamander in light of the economic analysis being prepared as part of USFWS's proposed designation on the Species. The letter will be signed by the contributing stakeholders and be sent certified mail to all recipients.

The meeting Wednesday in Salado will be conducted by Tim Brown. Cary Dupuy from the Comptroller's office will be there and so will Jimmie Don Aycock and his staff. The agenda will follow that of the meeting held in Austin. USFWS intends to have representatives at the meeting.

Board Meeting convened with Board President, Leland Gersbach, at 1:43 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 Comment.²

None

3. Approve minutes of the November 19, 2012 Board Meeting to Canvas Nov 6th Election Results.

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

4. Approve minutes of the November 20, 2012 Board Meeting.

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, moved to accept the minutes as they stand. Director, David Cole, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

5. Discuss, consider and take action if necessary to accept the monthly financial report as presented.

Director, David Cole, moved to accept the October Financial Report as presented. Secretary, Judy Parker, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0**

6. ***Discuss, consider and take appropriate action necessary on proposed Holiday Schedule for 2013.***

Dirk Aaron presented the proposed Holiday Schedule for 2013. The schedule presented is identical to 2012 Holiday Schedule. Staff recommends the Board continue with the same holiday that the Board decided on in 2012.

Secretary, Judy Parker, moved to approve staff recommendation for 2013 Holiday Schedule. President, Wallace Biskup, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

7. ***Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary to elect District Officers for calendar year 2013.***

Dirk Aaron and Judy Parker spoke about the rules regarding the election of Board Officers and the selection of an Assistant Secretary. Dirk recommended that the Board elect the CUWCD Board of Directors Officers for the 2013 calendar year per the District Rules and then appoint the Assistant Secretary. Leland Gersbach asked for nominations for President. Judy Parker nominated Leland Gersbach for President.

Wallace Biskup moved that nominations cease and the President currently serving be re-elected to serve as President for 2013. Judy Parker seconded the motion. **Motion carried 4 -0, President abstained from vote.**

David Cole nominated to keep current Vice President - Wallace Biskup, and Secretary – Judy Parker as currently appointed.

Bill Bartlett moved to accept the nominations as stated by acclamation for Vice President and Secretary. David Cole seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Judy Parker moved to appoint General Manager, Dirk Aaron, as Assistant Secretary. David Cole seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

8. ***Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary on proposed line item transfers to the FY12 Budget.***

Dirk Aaron presented the request for line item transfers to close out FY12. All invoices for FY12 have been paid. The District is currently showing over-expenditures in several line items. Dirk Aaron presented the proposed re-classification of line items in the amount of \$8,060.24. He also presented the proposed amendments to the remaining line items with over expenditures in the amount of \$21,865.49.

Dirk informed the Board that there is a balance of \$24,551.96 in the contingency fund and \$11,881.67 in the “reserve for uncollected tax” line item fund. Dirk recommended the District utilize the contingency fund to offset the \$21,865.49 over expenditures presented. If the reclassification and amended line item transfers are approved, the District will still come in **under** budget by **\$43,884.03.**

Wallace Biskup moved to approve staff recommendation to the reclassification of \$8060.24 between line items and proposed amendments of \$21,865.49 with \$11,881.67 coming from the “reserve for uncollected taxes” and the balance of \$9983.82 to be taken from the contingency fund. Bill Bartlett seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

9. ***Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary on a request for tax abatement with Panda Temple Power, LLC.***

Dirk Aaron presented the request for tax abatement for Panda Temple Power. This same request was presented back in July and the Board voted not to participate. He recommended the Board review the facts and estimates presented before making a decision. Over a 10 year period, the tax generated would amount to approximately \$71,130.

Wallace Biskup moved that the District disallow and not participate in the tax abatement for Panda Temple Power, LLC. Judy Parker seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

10. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary to confirm District Scientific Studies based on strategic plan presented by General Manager.

1. Dirk Aaron opened the conversation with examples of spring flow gauge problems we are currently having with the data logger. Dirk pointed out on the website that one of the gauges has been down since Dec. 2nd. Dirk contacted Karl Hamson to correct the problem and has had no response. Concern is that this system is not dependable. Dirk Aaron recommended efforts based on the need to have elevated standards and dependability of the equipment, analysis and timeliness of response and results.

Dirk Aaron has been working with USGS and Randy Williams to prioritize District Studies for FY13. The District needs a gaging system that works and is more dependable. Installation would be **\$10,000**. and O&M of **\$10,200**. USGS personnel would install and maintain the equipment. It could be operational by January 2013. USGS staff would monitor the equipment and if they see problems they will be on top of it right away. George Ozuma informed the board that they are out there on a regular basis and they send people out same day and get thing back up and running within 24 hours. The USGS technicians monitor the site daily and should know before anyone else if there is a problem. USGS does measurements every 6-8 weeks. Currently the General Manager and Randy Williams with Bar-W did the measurements once a year.

2. USGS will also perform water quality sampling at the springs. Water quality analysis will include quality control samples. Cost for this will be **\$26,000**. Meghan, with USGS, explained how the sampling would work.

3 & 4. Synoptic water level measurements for the Edwards Aquifer need to be done. The project would involve Staff working with Bar-W and making field visits to the wells previously measured. Bar W will then provide a contour map of the water-level surface based on staff measurements. Dirk recommends this be conducted twice a year for 3 years. The data will provide in-depth understanding of the Edwards Aquifer which will assist the District with the ESA issue and the DFC process. Cost of this will be **\$6,000**. George Ozuma stated that this is important information to have. Bar-W suggested the District conduct pumping tests as well. Bar-W will provide analysis of the test results and estimated aquifer parameters for the tested wells and technical memorandum describing the tests, test results and analytical results. Cost for this would be **\$4500**.

5. The DFC for the Edwards Aquifer in Bell County is based largely on the Pumping Distribution used by CUWCD in the 2004 assessment of the groundwater availability from the Edwards Aquifer. Bar-W will make an assessment and develop recommendations regarding possible amendments to the Edwards Aquifer pumping distribution to be used in the next round of DFC development by GMA8 that will need to be completed by 2014. Cost for comparison of the Edwards Aquifer Pumping Distribution will be **\$5,000**.

6. Dirk Aaron presented information to the Board regarding the need to drill, construct and install continuous monitor wells along the south boundary of the District. The need to assess and document the drawdown of the Middle Trinity is vital to determine the level of drawdown. The opportunity for the District to provide these wells to the TWDB monitor well program as the District has done on previous wells. Dirk also asked that the Board to table this item to give him time to obtain more information.

Dirk Aaron recommends that items 1-5 be completed by September 30, 2013 and that the expenditures for these items be taken from the Contingency Fund for up to \$70,000. Items 1 & 2 will equip the District with a "gold standard" and provides the District with continued water quality data and gives the District a defendable DFC. Items 3, 4, & 5 are all about modeling that was never completed. Discussion continued regarding the studies and maintenance of equipment.

Judy Parker moved that the Board approve items 1-5 as presented by staff for a total of **\$65,000** to be transferred to the line items from the contingency fund and **\$13,500** of that amount will be for O&M. Item 6 to be tabled at this time. Wallace Biskup seconded the motion. **Motion carried 5-0.**

11. General Manager's Report concerning office management and staffing related to District Management Plan.

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that the District is starting the process for permit renewals. These will be going out before the end of the month.

Bell-Milam-Falls well be coming to the Board to request an amendment to their permit. Nothing has been submitted at this time.

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that he is working with the Salado Village Voice to put articles and possibly the Drought Status reports in the paper each week.

TDLR has new rules published as of Dec 7th. Dirk will research these rules further.

12. Receive monthly report and possible consideration and Board action on the following:

a. Salado Creek stream flow gauges

Dirk Aaron reviewed the stream flow gauge information with the Board.

b. Education Outreach Update

Todd Strait gave an update on educational events and other projects he is currently working on.

b. Monitoring wells

No monitor well information at this time. TWDB site is being updated and not on-line at this time.

c. Rainfall

Shelly Chapman presented the Rainfall map for November.

d. Well registration

Shelly Chapman reported 4 new exempt well registered in November 2012.

e. Non-exempt Monthly well production

Dirk Aaron & Todd Strait presented the monthly production reports.

13. Public Advisory Committee comments. ³

None

14. Director comments. ³

None

15. Discuss agenda items for next meeting.

Monitor wells

Permit for MWSC

FY13 Budget line item amendments

16. Set time and place of next meeting.

January 8, 2013 @ 1:30

17. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned by President, Leland Gersbach at 4:20 pm.



Leland Gersbach, President

ATTEST:



JUDY PARKER, Secretary

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