

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2016
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF
NORTH PLAINS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of North Plains Groundwater Conservation District met in regular session March 8, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the North Plains Water Conservation Center, 6045 County Road E., Etter, Texas. The following persons were present:

Members Present at 9:07 a.m.:

Bob B. Zimmer, President;
Danny Krienke, Secretary;
Gene Born, Director;
Harold Grall, Vice-President;
Justin Crownover, Director;
Mark Howard, Director; and
Zac Yoder, Director.

Staff Present during part or all of the meeting:

Steve Walthour, General Manager;
Dale Hallmark, Assistant General Manager/Hydrologist;
Kirk Welch, Assistant General Manager/Outreach;
Kristen Lane, Executive Assistant;
Casey Tice, Compliance Coordinator;
Odell Ward, GIS and Natural Resources Tech Lead;
Karen Mannis, Natural Resource Specialist;
Curtis Schwertner, Natural Resource Specialist; and,
Lynsey McAnally, Conservation Outreach Assistant.

Others present during part or all of the meeting:

Scott Clawson;
C. C. Sysombath;
F. Keith Good, Attorney;
Jessica McCallie, Attorney; and,
Ellen Orr, Paralegal.

President Zimmer declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Director Harold Grall gave the invocation. Justin Crownover led the pledge.

Casey Tice, Compliance Coordinator, was recognized by the District for ten years of service.

1 – Public Comment

President Zimmer asked if there were persons present who desired to make public comments. No public comments were received.

2 – Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda was discussed by the Board and consisted of: the review and approval of the Minutes of the regular February 8, 2016 Board Meeting; the review and approval of un-audited District expenditures for February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016, including the General Manager's expense and activity report; and the review and approval of payment to Lemon, Shearer, Phillips & Good, P.C. for professional services and out-of-pocket expenses from February 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016 in the

amount of \$6,802.18. Gene Born moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Harold Grall seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Action Agenda 3a - Report from Agriculture Committee regarding agriculture water conservation demonstration programs.

The Agricultural Committee and the General Manager presented the following report:

3-4-5 Project

3-4-5 Project preliminary results were presented at the annual Pioneer Crop Production Clinics on January 11-13, 2016. The final published report will be completed following an opportunity for the Board to have input. After the report is completed, Leon New will begin the 3-4-5 Project for calendar year 2016.

WCC Update

Stan Spain strip-tilled the location for the drip on February 26, 2016. Caliche was delivered on March 1, 2016, for the filter station. District staff continue to monitor field conditions to allow for drip installation as soon as possible. Curtis Schwertner continues to perform winter maintenance.

Master Irrigator Program Update

District staff is working to finalize all speakers and a flyer/brochure for the program. The District was contacted by the Natural Resource Conservation Service regarding funding for the program. NRCS has allocated \$400,000 per-year for four years for the program. District staff met with NRCS agents after the last Project Advisory Committee meeting. It was reported that the first-year program would be limited to 25 producers.

Master Irrigator Project Advisory Committee

At the second meeting of the Project Advisory Committee on February 22, 2016, Steve Amosson led the committee through a strategic planning process to finalize the curriculum and schedule for the Master Irrigator Program. These tentative meeting dates were set for the first season of the Master Irrigator Program:

April 13, 2016;
April 20, 2016;
July 13 and 14, 2016; and
July 20, 2016.

People attending the February 22nd meeting were:

Committee members: Danny Krienke, Leon New, Cameron Turner (via phone), J. R. Sprague, Keith Sides, Charles Hillyer, Stan Spain, Bryce Howard and David Reinart; and,

Others: Steve Walthour, Steve Amosson, Kirk Welch, and Paul Sigle.

Kirk Welch reported that the release of the District's interactive map website is set for April 20, 2016.

Action Agenda 3b - Groundwater production report.

Well owners had until March 1, 2016, at 5:00 p.m. to hand-deliver or mail their 2015 annual production reports to the District. It was reported that District staff has fully processed and checked the amounts in over 1,800 (two thirds) of the reports due for

2015. Groundwater production for 2015 still appears to be at least 20 percent lower than 2014.

County	2012	2013	2014	2015 est.
Dallam	371,965	399,272	393,624	298,687
Hansford	218,793	201,914	211,634	146,781
Hartley	458,696	458,998	442,058	337,040
Hutchinson	72,230	69,716	73,992	56,335
Lipscomb	55,572	42,519	48,791	39,236
Moore	230,688	228,297	209,907	155,164
Ochiltree	109,213	98,280	106,278	78,928
Sherman	348,012	346,685	361,336	260,333
Total	1,865,169	1,845,681	1,847,620	1,372,504

It was reported that approximately 800 annual production reports remain to be processed and checked by District staff.

Action Agenda 3c - Groundwater Management Area 1 and Panhandle Regional Water Planning report.

Groundwater Management Area 1 met on February 25, 2016, at the offices of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. The districts planned two additional meetings for March 17, 2016, and April 20, 2016. The General Manager anticipated that the joint planning committee would propose DFCs on April 20, 2016. A 90-day public comment period will be triggered when the proposal is distributed to the district offices, along with a summary outlining the proposed DFCs. The districts will hold hearings, take public comment during the comment period, and report back to the GMA-1 Joint Planning Committee after the hearings. It was reported that the High Plains Groundwater Conservation District's representative had announced to the GMA-1 Joint Planning Committee, that the High Plains District may desire to set its DFCs on a county-by-county basis.

Action Agenda 3d - Recognition of Richard S. Bowers' contribution to the District.

The General Manager met with members of the executive committee to discuss an appropriate recognition of the contributions of Richard S. Bowers to the District. As a result of that meeting, the General Manager recommended that the District name the existing office and education building at the Water Conservation Center, the Richard S. Bowers' Water Conservation Learning Center. The General Manager suggested that the District coordinate with our local legislators, to create an appropriate dedication event. This could coincide with a ribbon cutting at the Center. The event could also possibly coincide with the May or June Board meeting. Gene Born moved to name the existing office and education building at the Water Conservation Center, the Richard S. Bowers' Water Conservation Learning Center, and to permit District staff to create an appropriate dedication event. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Action Agenda 3e - Compliance matters before the District.

The General Manager attended the Railroad Commission hearing wherein the Harold Courson family was opposing a Latigo application for a saltwater disposal well permit. The proposed saltwater disposal well is to be located on property which Harold Courson owns in Roberts County, Texas.

District staff is currently working with late annual production report filers to get the remaining 2015 production reports filed. Thereafter, District staff will analyze data to determine if there was any 2015 overproduction by producers.

Agenda 5 -

Future Board Meeting Agendas and Next Meeting Date and Time.

By consensus, the Board set its next regular Board meeting on April 12, 2016, at 9:00 a.m.

Discussion Agenda 4c - General Manager's Report.

Steve Walthour presented the General Manager's Report, which included information concerning upcoming meetings and conferences, the General Manager's activity summary and the District activity summary.

Discussion Agenda 4b - Committee Reports.

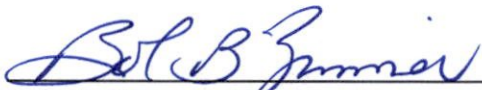
None, other than previously reported herein.

Discussion Agenda 4a - Director Reports.

District Directors reported to the Board regarding meetings and/or seminars attended, weather conditions and economic development in each Director's precinct.

Agenda 6 - Adjournment.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, President Zimmer declared the meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.


Bob B. Zimmer, President


Daniel L. Krienke, Secretary