

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2015  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF  
NORTH PLAINS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of North Plains Groundwater Conservation District met in regular session April 14, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Hampton Inn, 2010 South Dumas Avenue, Dumas, Texas 79029. The following persons were present:

**Members Present at 9:04 a.m.:**

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

**Staff Present during part or all of the meeting:**

Steve Walthour, General Manager;  
Kristen Lane, Executive Assistant;  
Dale Hallmark, Assistant General Manager/Hydrologist;  
Kirk Welch, Assistant General Manager/Outreach;  
Casey Tice, Compliance Coordinator;  
Odell Ward, GIS and Natural Resource Tech Lead;  
Paul Sigle, Agricultural Engineer; and,  
Laura West, Production Monitoring Coordinator.

**Others present during part or all of the meeting:**

Jay Moreland;  
Sabrina Leven;  
C. C. Sysombath;  
Ben Weinheimer;  
Ashley Handy;  
Myles Frische;  
Terry Frische;  
Mike Baumann;  
Joost Smulders;  
Mike McCoy;  
Scott Strawn;  
F. Keith Good, Attorney; and  
Ellen Orr, Paralegal.

President Zimmer declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 9:04 p.m. President Zimmer gave the invocation and led the pledge. At 9:07 a.m. President Zimmer recessed the regular Board Meeting to hold a Rulemaking Hearing.

President Zimmer called the Rulemaking Hearing to order at 9:07 a.m. At 9:41 a.m. the Rulemaking Hearing was recessed and the Hearing was reconvened at 9:57 a.m. At 10:09 a.m. President Zimmer closed the Rulemaking Hearing.

## **1 - Consent Agenda**

The Consent Agenda, consisting of the items set forth below, was discussed by the Board:

Board Minutes for the March 23, 2015 Stakeholder Meeting in Perryton, Texas; Board Minutes for the March 24, 2015 Stakeholder Meeting in Dumas, Texas; Board Minutes for the March 25, 2015 regular meeting of the Board of Directors; Board Minutes for the March 26, 2015 Stakeholder Meeting in Dalhart, Texas; review and approval of un-audited District expenditures for March 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015, including the General Manager's expense and activity report; consider approval of payment to Lemon, Shearer, Phillips & Good, P.C. for professional services and out-of-pocket expenses in the amount of \$19,717.02 for March 1, 2015 through March 31, 2015; and to consider approval of a contract to consolidate the assessment and collection of North Plains Groundwater Conservation District property taxes with Moore County.

It was noted that Zac Yoder attended the March 23, 2015 Stakeholder Meeting in Perryton, Texas and that the Board Minutes should be revised to reflect the same.

Danny Krienke moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the noted change to the Board Minutes of the March 23, 2015 Stakeholder Meeting in Perryton, Texas. Gene Born seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

### ***Action Agenda 2a - Receive report and consider action related to selection of a contractor to construct observation wells for the District.***

The North Plains Groundwater Conservation District ran advertisements in the Amarillo Globe News requesting bids to drill water level monitor wells November 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The contract will be valid for a period of two (2) years. The bid specifications were listed as if the wells were to be drilled and completed to a depth of 600 feet. The specifications include drilling to red bed, use of 5" PVC for casing, except for the top 10 feet, which will be steel casing with an installed lockable lid. The casing will be 10 feet of slotted pipe alternating with 10 feet of solid pipe from the bottom of the bore hole to the existing water level. The bore hole then will be gravel packed from the bottom of the bore hole to the existing water level. Bentonite pellets will be used to seal the bore hole from the top of the gravel pack (top of the water) to a depth of 200 feet below the surface. Bentonite flakes will be used from the top of the Bentonite pellets to 10 feet below the surface. Cement will be used from the top of Bentonite chips to the land surface. A 6 foot by 6 foot by 6 inch deep concrete slab will be constructed with steel rebar reinforcement. The slush pit is to be backfilled and the monitor well drill site cleaned.

The District received two (2) bids:

- (1) 3-T Drilling Inc., Dumas, Texas - per monitor well - \$21,075.00; and
- (2) Cascade Drilling L.P., Woodinville, WA - per monitor well - \$118,700.00.

Les Taylor Drilling, presently known as 3-T Drilling, is the contractor that has drilled all of the District's previous monitor wells.

The General Manager recommended retaining 3-T Drilling Inc., Dumas Texas to drill the District's monitor wells.

Danny Krienke moved that the District retain 3-T Drilling, Inc., Dumas, Texas to drill the District's monitor Wells. Mark Howard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

**Action Agenda 2b - Consider Approval of Water Well Permits as Active and Complete Wells.**

District staff processed 13 water Wells that are ready for Board consideration and approval. These permits, listed in the attached table, represent completed Wells that have been inspected and are in compliance with District Rules. The inspections verify that the Wells were completed as required by their permits, including proper well location, well classification, maximum yield, and proper installations of check valves and flow meters. Copies of the individual permits were presented to the Board. DA4998 and HA5441 are Well permits which were permitted prior to January 15, 2013 and may be metered at the Well or at the Pivot.

| Well   | Class | Qtr | Sec | Blk | Sur  | NS   |
|--------|-------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|
| DA4998 | C     | SW  | 68  | 4   | CSS  | 442S |
| HA5441 | C     | SW  | 4   | 11  | CSS  | 450S |
| HA7781 | C     | NE  | 16  | 5   | CSS  | 314N |
| HU8322 | C     | NW  | 116 | 5T  | T&NO | 602N |
| HU8323 | D     | SE  | 116 | 5T  | T&NO | 126S |
| HU8324 | D     | SE  | 116 | 5T  | T&NO | 625S |
| HU8461 | C     | SW  | 116 | 5T  | T&NO | 160S |
| MO6027 | C     | SW  | 305 | 44  | H&TC | 872S |
| MO7882 | B     | SE  | 273 | 44  | H&TC | 728S |
| MO8223 | B     | SE  | 425 | 44  | H&TC | 872S |
| SH7146 | C     | NW  | 12  | 2   | GH&H | 579N |
| SH7655 | B     | NE  | 73  | 1T  | T&NO | 448N |
| SH8191 | D     | NE  | 181 | 1C  | GH&H | 272N |

Director Harold Grall announced that Well Permit MO8223 was his Well and moved to remove the Well Permit from the Schedule of Well Permits to be considered by the Board. Mark Howard seconded the motion it was unanimously passed by the Board.

Mark Howard moved to approve Well Permit MO8223 because the Well is properly equipped and otherwise complies with District Rules. Danny Krienke seconded the

motion and the motion passed by the majority vote of the Board with Harold Grall abstaining from the vote.

Zac Yoder moved to approve the remaining Well Permits on the Schedule presented to the Board because the Wells are properly equipped and otherwise comply with District Rules. Mark Howard seconded the motion and the motion passed by the unanimous vote of the Board.

***Action Agenda 2c - Receive Report Regarding Groundwater Production Reporting for 2014.***

As of April 7, 2015, District staff have reviewed and entered 2700 of the 2014 Annual Production Reports. So far, the 2014 groundwater usage numbers are lower than the numbers in 2013. The preliminary production number for the year 2014 is 1,767,843.64 acre-feet as compared to 1,847,733.71 acre-feet in 2013. The General Manager stated that these numbers are provisional and subject to review. Mr. Walthour stated that District staff will bring new preliminary production numbers to the Board once all of the Annual Production Reports have been reviewed and entered.

***Action Agenda 2d - Receive Report and Consider Action Regarding GMA-1 and Panhandle Regional Water Planning.***

Steve Walthour presented the following report to the Board:

The Groundwater Management Area 1 Joint Planning Committee meeting for April 17<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. The reason for the meeting was to review preliminary groundwater availability model (GAM) runs from the new High Plains Aquifer Model developed by Intera and the Texas Water Development Board. However, representatives from Intera said that the preliminary runs would not be completed until April 14<sup>th</sup> instead of the March 31<sup>st</sup> schedule. The General Manager and the other District managers need time to evaluate the results before presenting the preliminary results to the Joint Planning Committee. Once the GAM runs are evaluated by the Districts' technical personnel, a meeting of the committee will be scheduled for either May or June of this year.

In July 2012, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) contracted with Intera, Inc. to develop a groundwater availability model (GAM) for the High Plains Aquifer System (Ogallala aquifer, Dockum aquifer, Edwards-Trinity (High Plains) aquifer, and Rita Blanca aquifer). By combining these aquifers into one model, the TWDB expects to better evaluate how future pumping may affect the interaction between these aquifers as demands change through time.

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, the TWDB posted online the Final Conceptual Model Report and the Draft Numerical Model Report, for the High Plains Aquifer System, for public review and comment. The District staff will review any written submitted comments, concerning the draft numerical model report or supplemental information to the TWDB, on or before Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

Panhandle Regional Water Planning Group (PWPG) is scheduled to meet in the offices of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission at 1:30 on Monday, April 20, 2015. In addition to filling vacancies and general business of the PWPG, agenda items include: