

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 21, 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 July 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the North Plains Water Conservation Center, 6045 County Road E., Dumas, Texas 79029. The following persons were present:

Members Present at 9:11 a.m.:

Bob B. Zimmer, President;
Danny Krienke, Secretary;
Gene Born, Director;
Harold Grall, Vice-President;
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;
Casey Tice, Compliance Coordinator;
Laura West, Production Monitoring Coordinator; and
Lynsey Meharg, Conservation Outreach Assistant.

Others present during part or all of the meeting:

Leon New;
Stan Spain;
Taylor Brown;
Dr. Charles Hillyer;
C. C. Sysombath, City of Amarillo;
F. Keith Good, Attorney;
Jessica McCallie, Attorney; and
Ellen Orr, Paralegal.

President Zimmer declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m. Director Yoder gave the invocation. President Zimmer led the pledge.

1 – Public Comment

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

2 – Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda, consisting of the review and approval of the Minutes of the April 14, 2015 Board Meeting; the review and approval of the Minutes of the May 12, 2015 Board Meeting; the review and approval of District expenditures for May 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015; and considering approval of payment to Lemon, Shearer, Phillips & Good, P.C. for professional services and out-of-pocket expenses from May 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 was discussed by the Board. Zac Yoder moved to remove the Minutes of the April 14, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting and the review and approval of District expenditures for May 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015 from the Consent Agenda. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Harold Grall moved to approve the Minutes of the May 12, 2015 Board Meeting and payment to Lemon, Shearer, Phillips & Good, P.C. for professional services rendered and out-of-pocket expenses in the amount of \$10,780.09 for May 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Director Justin Crownover arrived to participate in the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Director Zac Yoder stated that there was an error in the draft Minutes of the April 14, 2015 Board Minutes that were in the Board packet on page 12 in the roll-call vote regarding the Conservation Reserve. Mr. Yoder stated that the Minute draft reflected the following:

President Zimmer called for a roll-call vote:

Harold Grall – No
Gene Born – Yes
Justin Crownover – No
Mark Howard – No
Zac Yoder – No
Danny Krienke – Yes
Bob Zimmer – No

The motion failed with four (4) Board members opposing the motion.

Mr. Yoder stated that his roll-call vote on the Conservation Reserve motion was Yes, rather than the No reflected in the draft of the Minutes.

The General Manager stated that the blanks before the last names of Messrs. Baumann and Smulders in the draft Minutes under Others present during part or all of the meeting should be completed to reflect Mike Baumann and Joost Smulders.

Danny Krienke moved to approve the Minutes of the April 14, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting as amended. Mark Howard seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

President Zimmer stated that he wanted to see the detail and numbers on the District's payroll data and wanted the data to be consistently reported to the Board.

President Zimmer moved to approve the summary and detail of the un-audited District expenses from May 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, including the General Manager's expense and activity report. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Action Agenda 3a - Consider Request of Johnny Valenzuela d/b/a Jesus Victory Welding to Waive Penalty and Interest of Moore County Delinquent Taxes.

The General Manager stated:

In June, the Moore County TAC and the District received a request to waive penalty and interest from Johnny Valenzuela dba Jesus Victory Welding. According to the Moore County TAC, The Moore County Appraisal District (MCAD) has received correspondence from Mr. Valenzuela or representative as follows:

- *Correspondence from James Allen's office stating that Jesus Victory Welding was out of business December 31, 2007.*

- *Correspondence from Mr. Valenzuela stating that the business closed January 3, 2008.*
- *Correspondence from Mr. Valenzuela dated April 14, 2009 stating that as of January 3, 2008 Jesus Victory Welding was out of business and all equipment sold or liquidated to Cactus Construction and Justin Crownover.*
- *Correspondence dated March, 2004 that Jesus Victory Welding was out of business and all vehicles, supplies and equipment should be assessed to Johnny Valenzuela personally.*
- *Per motor vehicle registration records the vehicles in question were registered for 2008 in the name of Jesus Victory Welding or Johnny Valenzuela dba J's Victory Welding.*

The Tax Code states that taxes are assessed on January 1 of each year and if you own the property or business on January 1 of the tax year the taxes are due for the full year. It also states that only the governing bodies have the option of waiving penalty and interest.

The Moore County TAC advised the District that Mr. Valenzuela signed a payout agreement with the tax office to pay these taxes on September 25, 2009 and in so doing he acknowledged the fact that he knew he owed the taxes. He never made a payment on that agreement and it was defaulted on March 11, 2010. The Moore County TAC filed a suit against Mr. Valenzuela for delinquent taxes in July, 2010. Now Mr. Valenzuela is coming in and asking for the penalty and interest to be waived because it has gotten out of hand and the penalty and interest is as much or more than the tax. Now Mr. Valenzuela has signed another Payout Agreement with the tax office and he has made the first payment and paid the court costs.

Documentation provided to the District by the Moore County TAC was presented to the Board. According to the Moore County TAC records, Mr. Valenzuela owes the North Plains Groundwater Conservation District \$33.23 as of June 2015. Mr. Valenzuela has been sent a letter via certified mail, regular mail and by email regarding the Board's consideration of this item.

The General Manager recommended that the Board deny the request of Mr. Johnny Valenzuela d/b/a Jesus Victory Welding to waive penalty and interest of Moore County delinquent taxes.

Harold Grall moved to deny the request of Johnny Valenzuela d/b/a Jesus Victory Welding to waive penalty and interest of Moore County delinquent taxes payable to the District. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and the motion passed by the majority vote of the Board with Justin Crownover abstaining from the vote.

Action Agenda 3g - Discussion with Dr. Charles Hillyer, Texas A & M University, regarding Advancing Irrigation Management and Research in the District.

Dr. Charles Hillyer has been recently named assistant professor and irrigation engineering specialist for the Texas A&M AgriLife and Research Extension Center in Amarillo. Dr. Hillyer comes to the Panhandle from Oregon State University where he served as an assistant professor. Dr. Hillyer stated that his research interest "revolves around answering the question: How do we balance the economic goals of agriculture (where agriculture is a source of food, employment, and culture) with the ecological needs of the environment surrounding agricultural production." Dr. Hillyer has worked specifically on irrigation management for the last ten years, focusing on variable rate irrigation (VRI), using zone control VRI in combination with other irrigation technologies

to develop and refine water and energy saving management methods. Dr. Hillyer discussed VRI with the Board.

Action Agenda 3b - Receive Report regarding the District's Conservation Outreach Program and the use of Social Media.

Kirk Welch presented the following report to the Board:

The Board is very aware of the importance of the Conservation Outreach aspect of the District's mission. The best recent examples have included the award-winning "200-12 Project," the annual water festivals reaching more than 6000 students over the last 10 years, and most recently the meter reimbursement program. But the Board also knows that, in addition to excellent outreach programs, an organization must get its story out in a compelling way to its target audiences. The Board and management have recognized that fact and have been progressive in the commitment to engage with the District's stakeholders. The Board and management have given Outreach the freedom to pursue any fiscally responsible means to accomplish this, and we have done so to the best of our ability. We have utilized traditional media; mostly newspapers, radio and television effectively. Over the past few years, the District has also focused on electronic media by revamping its website, and building an email list. The District has even started establishing a presence on some social media, but it seems the District is only scratching the surface of what it could do.

On May 18th, Lynsey Meharg joined the District staff full-time as the District's Conservation Outreach Assistant. Lynsey had been working part-time since February, telecommuting from Lubbock while completing her bachelor's degree in agricultural communications. Lynsey assists in all aspects of the conservation outreach program; and brings a special affinity for electronic and social media to the table, along with many other talents and qualities that will serve the District well into the future.

Lynsey Meharg presented the following information to the Board:

Why are we involved in social media? It's a free tool to distribute information, as well as build relationships with stakeholders.

Potential for social media?

1. Boost public awareness

It's not always easy to let the public know what you're up to, but email and social media can help. If you work to grow your email list and social media following, you'll be able to reach your audience in real time. Awareness is a big piece of any marketing puzzle.

2. Increase involvement

At some point, every organization needs a helping hand. With email and social media marketing your organization can instantly engage with your audience.

3. Stay in front of supporters

By sending emails and being social, you can stay in front of your supporters.

Importance of board interaction?

When we have individuals share our posts we see interactions are 10 times as high as posts without shares. This means 10 times as many people are engaging with the post.

What is engagement?

Engagement rate is the percentage of people who saw a post that liked, shared, clicked or commented on it.

TWITTER

Common terms:

Hashtag- a word or phrase preceded by a hash or pound sign (#) and used to identify messages on a specific topic.

Followers- someone who subscribes to receive your updates.

Favorites- similar to the "like" button on Facebook.

Retweets- the repetition of another user's update, or tweets, on Twitter

Why do we use hashtags?

Hashtags are a way for social media users to tag their posts with keywords, which in turn make them easier for social networks to organize and users to search.

Post Content:

- Twitter is a news platform.
- NPGCD Twitter posts contain information pertinent to producers (metering program, deadlines, events and weather updates) as well as water conservation tips and interesting water news stories.

Post Schedule (approximate times):

- Monday: 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- Tuesday: 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- Wednesday: 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- Thursday: 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- Friday: 9 a.m., 3 p.m. and 10 p.m.
- Saturday: Noon and 10 p.m.
- Sunday: Noon and 10 p.m.

District Hashtags:

#water
#txwater
#txwx
#conservation
#texas
#agriculture

Growth Seen:

Jan 1, 2015 - Jul 13, 2015

Profile Summary



@NorthPlainsGCD
North Plains GCD

North Plains, Texas
@northplainsgcd

*North Plains Groundwater Conservation District:
Maintaining our way of life through conservation,
protection and preservation of our groundwater
resources.*

Followers **339**

Following **283**

Listed **11**

Follower Growth



Most Popular Links

Rank	Date	Post	Clicks
1	May 7, 2015	http://ow.ly/MCWRU http://www.highplainsgardening.com Ange Hanna is the featured speaker for the Annual Water Wise Living Conference in Dumas on Tuesday, May 12 at 7pm. http://ow.ly/MCWRU	2 clicks

Top Interactions:

1. Carlos Rubenstein, TWDB Board Member
2. North Texas Municipal Water District
3. Robert Mace, Water Science & Conservation group of the TWDB
4. Tom Kula, Executive Director of the North TX Municipal Water District
5. Water PR
6. Texas Water Journal
7. Texas Water Infrastructure Network
8. Blake Tregallas, Tregallas Family Farms

FACEBOOK

Post Content:

Likes- easy way for people to let a poster know that they enjoy a status without leaving a comment.

Shares- reposting content from someone else's page.

Common terms:

- NPGCD Facebook posts contain information such as water conservation tips, interesting water news stories, District updates and event features.

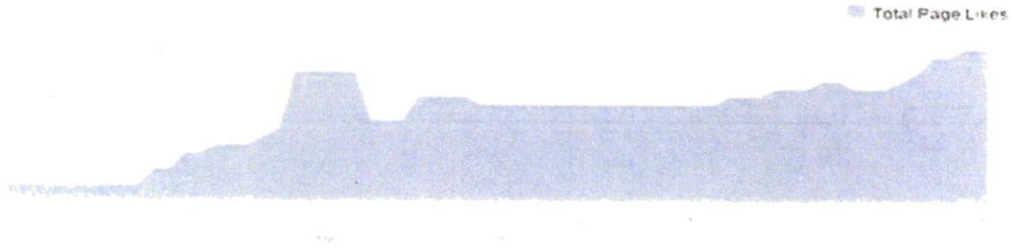
Post Schedule (approximate times):

- Monday: 10 p.m.
- Tuesday: 8 p.m.
- Wednesday: Noon
- Thursday: 10 p.m.
- Friday: 8 p.m.

- Saturday: 9 p.m.
- Sunday: 2 p.m.

Growth Seen:

Total Page Likes as of Today 249



Our Fans:

Page Messages Notifications **Insights** Publishing Tools Export Settings Help

Overview Likes Reach Visits Posts Videos **People**

Your Fans People Reached

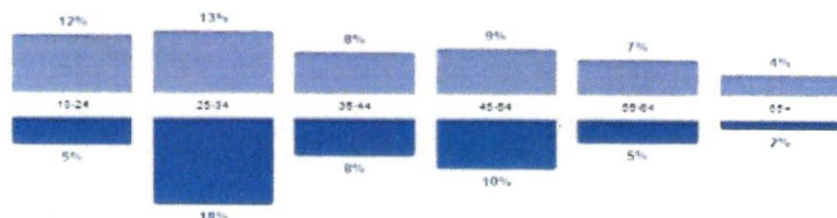
The people who like your Page

Women

53% Your Fans

Men

47% Your Fans



Country

Country	Your Fans
United States of America	224
Mexico	1
India	1
Canada	2
Mexico	1
Philippines	1
United States	1
United States	1
United States	1

City

City	Your Fans
Dallas, TX	6%
Waco, TX	2%
El Paso, TX	1%
Wichita, TX	1%
Carroll, TX	1%
San Antonio, TX	1%
San Antonio, TX	1%
San Antonio, TX	1%
San Antonio, TX	1%

Language

Language	Your Fans
English (US)	224
English (UK)	1
French (Canada)	1
Spanish	1
Italian	1
Indonesian	1
Vietnamese	1
Kurd	1
German	1
English (India)	1

Your Fans

Your Fans
224
1
1
1
1
1
1
1
1

See More

The Board recessed at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened at 10:56 a.m.

Action Agenda 3c - Consider Approval of Water Well Permits as Active and Complete Wells.

District staff processed 49 Water Well permits 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. HA-4927 and HA-5443 are Well permits which were permitted prior to January 15, 2013 and may be metered at the Well, or at the pivot. It was noted that permits SH-8436 and SH-8437 were Well permits of Director, Justin Crownover.

Well Num	Class	Max Yield	QTR	Sec	Blk	Sur	NS	EW
DA-6374	B	400	NE/4	19	47.5	H&TC	51N	739E
DA-7006	C	800	SE/4	88	M E Hays	CRL	756S	577E
DA-7007	D	1800	NW/4	89	M E Hays	CRL	315N	230W
DA-7008	D	1800	SE/4	88	M E Hays	CRL	573S	128E
DA-7437	B	400	NE/4	38	6	CSS	911S	46E
DA-7438	B	400	NW/4	39	6	CSS	490N	373W
DA-7439	B	400	NW/4	39	6	CSS	581S	456W
DA-7440	B	400	SE/4	38	6	CSS	730S	645E
DA-7441	B	400	SW/4	39	6	CSS	692S	115W
DA-7593	B	214.8	NW/4	3	2	SPRR	175N	418W
DA-7652	D	1800	NE/4	5	W H Pardue	NONE	455N	427E
DA7794	C	800	NW/4	5	W H Pardue	NONE	451N	476W
DA-7848	C	800	SE/4	8	W H Pardue	NONE	842S	759E
DA-7898	C	800	NE/4	25	2	GH&H	158N	110.5E
DA-7941	C	800	NW/4	18	M27	H&TC	474N	84E
DA-7944	C	800	SE/4	3	M27	H&TC	664S	843E
DA-8070	C	800	SE/4	8	W H Pardue	NONE	173S	222E
DA-8072	C	800	SE/4	9	W H Pardue	NONE	214S	206W
DA-8219	C	800	NE/4	8	W H Pardue	NONE	142N	273E
DA-8250	C	800	NW/4	73	M E Hays	CRL	51N	841W
DA-8277	C	800	NW/4	8	W H Pardue	NONE	200N	435W
DA-8282	C	800	SW/4	57	5	CSS	472S	434W
DA-8307	C	800	NW/4	8	W H Pardue	NONE	526N	737W
DA-8369	C	800	SE/4	11	J C Patton	NONE	290S	175E
DA-8377	C	800	NE/4	34	NONE	ME HAYS	425 N	83 E
DA-8430	B	400	NE/4	1	1	B&B	811N	137E
DA-8474	D	1800	SW/4	59	M E Hays	BLK 1	78 S	675 W
DA-8493	C	800	NW/4	11	J C Patton	NONE	598 S	137 W
HA-4927	C	800	SE/4	0	0	GW CARLISLE	103S	752E
HA-5443	C	800	SW	5	11	CSS	438S	436W
HA-6140	B	400	SE/4	298	44	H&TC	101S	456E
HA-6171	C	800	SE/4	19	11	CSS	44S	220E
HA-6190	C	800	SE/4	40	15	CSS	132S	394E
HA-6352	C	800	NW/4	5	11	CSS	838N	659W
HA-6596	C	800	NE/4	40	15	CSS	120N	363E
HA-7702	D	1800	NE/4	81	4	CSS	114N	131E
HA-7940	B	400	NW/4	379	44	H&TC	880N	529W
HN-8617	C	800	SE/4	19	2	SA&MG	720 S	341 E
HU-8370	C	800	SE/4	35	3	GH&H	111	446
LI-8460	D	1800	NE/4	979	43	H&TC	372 N	487 E
MO-8415	D	1800	SW/4	433	44	H&TC	16 S	410 W
MO-8446	C	800	NE/4	149	3T	T&NO	18 N	392 E
SH-6593	C	800	NE/4	194	1C	GH&H	802N	416E
SH-6859	B	400	SW/4	440	1T	T&NO	126S	21W
SH-7962	D	1800	NE/4	12	1	PSL	639N	634E
SH-8060	D	1800	NE/4	94	1C	GH&H	128N	102E

SH-8372	B	400	NW/4	12	2B	GH&H	447 N	519 W
SH-8436	C	800	SW/4	136	1T	T&NO	807 S	445 W
SH-8437	C	800	SW/4	136	1T	T&NO	100 S	755 W

Director Danny Krienke moved to remove Well permits SH-8436 and SH-8437 from the Schedule of Well Permits to be considered by the Board and to approve the remaining permits on the Schedule because the Wells are properly equipped and otherwise comply with District Rules. Zac Yoder seconded the motion it was unanimously passed by the Board.

Danny Krienke moved to approve Well Permits SH-8436 and SH-8437 because the Wells are properly equipped and otherwise comply with District Rules. Zac Yoder seconded the motion and the motion passed by the majority vote of the Board with Justin Crownover abstaining from the vote.

Action Agenda 3d - Receive Report Regarding the District's Irrigated Agriculture 3-4-5 Demonstration Program.

Steve Walthour presented the following report to the Board:

Participants in the current "3-4-5" project will utilize variable rate irrigation to apply 3, 4, and 5 gallons per minute per-acre in side-by-side, production-field scale demonstrations. The "3-4-5" participants will not only apply the techniques and technologies used in the "200-12 project," but will utilize even more advanced individual grower remote irrigation management to demonstrate their applications under the different levels of irrigation selected for the new project. Early season rains have delayed planting for most participants in the "3-4-5" project. Once the crops are planted they will have the advantage of a full soil profile, because of the recent rains and the opportunity for some to leave water in the ground last year for the first time since 2011.

The 3-4-5 Project will consist of five different producers from this area. Harold Grall, Danny Krienke, Zac Yoder, Stan Spain and Hartley Feeders/Dennis Buss have all provided acres to perform the 3-4-5 project. In addition to the 3-4-5 Project, the District is performing a study comparing Precision Mobile Drip Irrigation (PMDI) to LEPA.

As of July 13th, the District has installed gypsum blocks at all sites except at Hartley Feeders. AquaSpy has installed all probes and all are fully functional. Better Harvest is collecting samples and providing reports for the fields. PivoTrac has installed all equipment and it is fully functional. On July 7th, Karlyle Haaland provided a training session for the new features PivoTrac is offering. These new features will help producers better manage their pivots.

Leon New presented a Cooperators' report to the Board which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and is incorporated herein for all purposes.

Action Agenda 3e - Receive Report Regarding Agriculture Demonstrations at the North Plains Water Conservation Center.

Stan Spain and Leon New presented the following report to the Board:

Stan Spain and Crop Production Service planted corn in the east and west circles on May 29th and 30th. A total of 13 hybrids where planted in the east circle and a total of 12 hybrids where planted in the west circle. The east circle was planted at 32,000 seeds per acre and the west circle was planted at 24,000 seeds per acre. Table 1 and Table 2 list the hybrids planted in each circle. Mr. Spain presented a map and information from Mr. Spain's FieldView.

Table 1: East Pivot Hybrids

	Brand	Hybrid	Acres
1	Dyna-Gro	D55VP77RIB	29.7
2	Dyna-Gro	D58QC72	8.2
3	Dyna-Gro	D55QC73	7.7
4	Dyna-Gro	D54DC94RIB	7.3
5	Dyna-Gro	D53VC47RIB	6.8
6	Dyna-Gro	D52SS91RIB	6.4
7	Pioneer	P1690AM	5.9
8	Pioneer	P1266AM	5.5
9	DeKalb	DKC66-40	4.5
10	DeKalb	DKC62-98	4.1
11	Syngenta	N78S-3111	3.6
12	Syngenta	N75H-5122A	3.2
11	Channel	209-85VT3PRIB	3.2
Total			97.9

Table 2: West Pivot Hybrids

	Brand	Hybrid	Acres
1	Dyna-Gro	D55VP77RIB	19.2
2	Dyna-Gro	D58QC72	8.8
3	Dyna-Gro	D55QC73	8.3
4	Dyna-Gro	D54DC94RIB	7.7
5	Dyna-Gro	D53VC47RIB	7.2
6	Dyna-Gro	D52SS91RIB	6.7
7	Pioneer	P1690AM	6.2
8	Pioneer	P1266AM	5.7
9	DeKalb	DKC66-40	5.1
10	DeKalb	DKC62-98	4.6
11	Syngenta	N78S-3111	4.1
12	Syngenta	N75H-5122A	4.4
Total			88.0

The North one-half of the West circle is Crop Production Service's fertility program and the South one-half is Stan's normal fertility program. The West circle is designated for limited irrigation. The South one-half of the East circle is the District's 3-4-5 project.

The wheat planted by the District was harvested July 1st and yielded 16 bushels per acre. A total of 100 acres of wheat was harvested and about 2.5 acres of the 100 acres was irrigated. Texas A&M AgriLife harvested their wheat during the week of June 29th.

Action Agenda 3f - Receive Report and Consider Action as Necessary Regarding Implementation of Drip Irrigation at the North Plains Water Conservation Center.

NRCS has agreed to partially fund Stan Spain to install subsurface drip irrigation for the Water Conservation Center. The contract with NRCS will include planting 29.2 acres of grass and installing 42.6 acres of drip irrigation. The grass must meet NRCS guidelines on planting grass. In total, the drip irrigation system is estimated to cost \$105,000 and NRCS may possibly cost-share up to \$68,000. The contract presented to the Board indicates that the total NRCS contract obligation is \$40,630. \$5,460 is for planting grass in 2015 and \$35,140 is for drip irrigation installation. The cost-share is about \$824.88 per acre for drip spaced 60 inches apart. The proposed plan is to install drip lines spaced 30 inches apart. The cost-sharing for drip lines spaced 30 inches apart is about