

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 24, 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 March 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Hampton Inn, 2010 South Dumas Avenue, Dumas, Texas 79029. The following persons were present:

Members Present:

Bob Zimmer; President
Danny Krienke, Secretary;
Harold Grall, Vice-President;
Gene Born, 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;
Pauletta Rhoades, Finance and Administration Coordinator;
Casey Tice, Compliance Coordinator;
Paul Sigle, Agricultural Engineer; and,
Laura West, Production Monitoring Coordinator.

Others present during part or all of the meeting:

Emmett Autrey;
Sabrina Leven;
Ray Teeter;
Ashley Handy;
Scott Clawson;
David Ford;
Scott Buckles;
Brad Ubbers;
Arbie Taylor;
Paul Stavlo;
Mike McLain;
John Duke;
Casey Kimbrell;
Mike Funk;
Darren Stallwitz;
Jay Goodwin;
Tom Moore;
Marty Jones;
Brantley Jones;
Taylor Brown;
David Reinart;
Kyle Daeley; and,
F. Keith Good, Attorney.

President Zimmer declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Harold Grall gave the invocation and President Zimmer led the pledge.

Zac Yoder moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which includes: the review and approval of the Minutes of the February 10, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting; the review and approval of un-audited District expenditures for February 1, 2015 through February 28, 2015, including the General Manager's expense and activity report; and the review and approval of payment of professional services and out-of-pocket expenses to Lemon, Shearer, Phillips & Good, P.C. in the amount of \$22,553.21 for February 1, 2015, through February 28, 2015. Gene Born seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Schedule of Well Permits set forth below was presented to the Board for its review.

Well Number	Section	Block	Survey	First Name	Last Name	Company Name
DA8737	34	47.5	H&TC	JESS	WILLARD	M & J WILLARD LTD
DA8754	3	48	H&TC			RITA BLANCA ELECTRIC COOP
DA8790	74	1	ME HAYS	LOREN	BECKER	
DA8791	74	1	ME HAYS	LOREN	BECKER	
DA8792	74	1	CSS	LOREN	BECKER	
DA8793	80	1	ME HAYS	LOREN	BECKER	
DA8799	10	CS	PSL	CHARLES	GRICE	
HA0363	OW Logan	NONE	NONE	LARRY	SCHNIEDERJAN	
HA8745	15	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8746	15	15	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8747	15	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8748	14	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8749	27	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8750	27	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8751	27	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8753	JH Lewis	NONE	NONE	WANG	CHANGJUN	GLORY PROPERTY (USA) INVESTMENT LLC
HA8755	26	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8756	26	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8759	125	48	H&TC	ROGER	SYBESMA	SKYWARD DAIRY
HA8761	15	11	CSS	JIM	BARKER	BLF LAND LLC
HA8763	124	48	H&TC			HARTLEY FARMS LLC
HA8779	25	16	CSS	DOUGLAS	LATHEM	
HA8780	21	16	CSS	DOUGLAS	LATHEM	
HA8795	169	44	H&TC	BOBBY	DANIEL	BOBBY DANIEL FARMS INC
HA8797	54	48	H&TC	PHILIP & TWILA	UNRUH	
HN8766	273	2	GH&H	PAT	PATTERSON	TRAY CATTLE CO
LI8735	1171	43	H&TC	JOHN	DUKE	

LI8736	1171	43	H&TC	JOHN	DUKE	
LI8738	151	10	SPRR	JOSE	NAVARRETE	
MO8775	9	M2	NONE	CHANDLER	PRESTON	
OC8765	52	4T	T&NO	STEVEN	GREEVER	
OC8794	83	13	T&NO	J W	DEWITT JR	
SH8757	6	1	PSL	MARK	MILLER	
SH8762	23	3B	GH&H	THOMAS	FERGUSON	
SH8800	44	3T	T&NO	JUSTIN, STEPHANIE & K	CROWNOVER	NEED IT MORE LP

Mark Howard moved to remove Well Permit SH-7285 and Well Permit SH-7457 from the Schedule of Well Permits to be considered by the Board. Danny Krienke seconded the motion and the motion passed by the unanimous vote of the Board.

Zac Yoder moved to approve Well Permit SH-7285 and Well Permit SH-7457 because the Wells are properly equipped and otherwise comply with District Rules. Harold Grall seconded the motion and the motion passed by the majority vote of the Board with Bob Zimmer abstaining from the vote.

Harold Grall 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.

Justin Crownover arrived to participate in the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

Laura West presented a report to the Board regarding Groundwater Production Reporting for 2014. As of March 16, 2015, the District has received 2,717 2014 Annual Production Reports. The District has processed 2276 reports. The District is further ahead entering the production data this year because of an improved way that District staff is using to process the Production Reports. The goal is to bring the Board a preliminary production total by the April Board Meeting. To date, the District has mailed out 1007 Conservation Reserve letters representing the 2276 Properties.

On February 10, 2015, the Board approved a motion to adopt the ad valorem tax exemptions for a homestead which the County Commissioners Court of each respective County within the boundaries of the District adopted for 2015. Based upon the advice of the District's General Counsel, the General Manager recommended that the Board reconsider the following Residential Homestead Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions throughout the District for 2015:

Ten percent (5%) of the appraised value of the homestead, or Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), whichever is higher;

Over sixty-five (65) years of age: Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00);

Disabled Person (as defined in the Texas Tax Code): Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00); and,

Disabled Veterans: The maximum percentages provided under the relevant Sections of the Texas Tax Code.

Gene Born moved to retract the Ad Valorem Homestead Exemptions granted by the Board on February 10, 2015 and to approve the following Homestead Ad Valorem Tax Exemptions for calendar year 2015:

Ten percent (10%) of the appraised value of the homestead, or Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), whichever is higher;

Over sixty-five (65) years of age: One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00);

Disabled Person (as defined in the Texas Tax Code): One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00); and,

Disabled Veterans: The maximum percentages provided under the relevant Sections of the Texas Tax Code.

Harold Grall seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

The General Manager presented a report to the Board regarding GMA-1 and Panhandle Regional Water Planning. The General Manager stated that Groundwater Management Area 1 met Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the offices of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. Keith Good, the District's General Counsel, presented an overview of the considerations required for joint planning regarding the impact on the interest and rights in private property, including ownership and the rights of management area landowners and their lessees and assigns in groundwater as recognized under Texas Water Code §36.002. At the end of the presentation, other GMA-1 representatives from other groundwater conservation districts commented that they may wish to have additional presentations on this issue to the joint planning committee from their respective legal counsel.

Intera provided a brief presentation to GMA-1 regarding their progress relating to the High Plains Aquifer Model that the Joint Planning Committee will use to evaluate groundwater availability to consider desired future conditions. The model provides a more interactive hydrologic analysis of all of the aquifers in the High Plains and specifically the Rita Blanca aquifer, Ogallala aquifer, and Dockum aquifer within the North Plains GCD. Some of the significant changes in the data and the analyses provided in the model are as follows:

- Each model cell has been reduced from approximately one square mile to quarter square mile increments;
- Initially the model set the maximum water level decline to 30 feet above the base of the Ogallala aquifer;
- The model has the ability to more easily apply regional pumping scenarios to analyses aquifer reactions;
- The base of the Ogallala aquifer is reset to a higher elevation in Moore County and parts of Hartley, Dallam and Sherman Counties where the aquifer directly overlies the producing strata in the Dockum aquifer; and
- The base of the Ogallala aquifer was raised where the aquifer rests on top of the Rita Blanca aquifer in northwest Dallam County.

The General Manager met with Intera, and requested the initial model run as follows:

- Using the measured production in 2011 as a starting point show 40% of the aquifer in storage and saturated thickness remaining in 50 years in Dallam, Hartley, Moore and Sherman Counties for the Ogallala aquifer using the 30' above the base of the aquifer as the maximum decline limit;
- Using the measured production in 2011 as a starting point show 50% of the aquifer in storage and saturated thickness remaining in 50 years in Hansford, Hutchinson, Ochiltree, and Lipscomb Counties for the Ogallala aquifer using the 30' above the base of the aquifer as the maximum decline limit;
- For the Rita Blanca aquifer, 50% drawdown in 50 years; and
- For the Dockum aquifer, 50% drawdown in 50 years.

In the previous model, the Dockum was set to achieve an average 30 feet drawdown over the 50-year period. No model was available to separate the Rita Blanca from the Ogallala aquifer during the previous series of joint planning. Once this initial model run is completed, the District and the other members of the joint planning committee will be able to evaluate and adjust the parameters in the model for a second run.

The Panhandle Regional Water Planning Group met Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in the offices of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.

Danny Krienke presented the following draft report for the Panhandle Regional Water Planning Group:

Regional Water Planning Guidelines specified in the Texas Administrative Code call for the regional water planning groups to make recommendations regarding ecologically unique river and stream segments; unique sites for reservoir construction; and regulatory, administrative, or legislative actions that will facilitate the orderly development, management, and conservation of water resources.

Recommendations of the PWPG and the reasons for them are presented in this section in the following order:

Summary of recommendations;

Recommendations for ecologically unique river and stream segments;

Recommendations for unique sites for reservoir construction; and

Policy and legislative recommendations.

Summary of Recommendations

Recommendations for Ecologically Unique River and Stream Segments