

Minutes

Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors Meeting May 12, 2021

The Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District (the District) held their regular meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 201, at 12:00 p.m. at the District Office, 2881 Hwy. 277 West, Carrizo Springs, Texas. Attendance was in-person as well as Zoom meeting.

1. President Bill Martin called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.
2. Introduction of visitors: Diana Nichols, Kelly Hart representing Panther City Cattle Company; Norma Carrillo, Chief Appraiser-Dimmit Central Appraisal District; Ron Green-Technical Consultant for the District; and Peter Gregg, Legal Counsel for the District.

Directors participating: President Bill Martin (in-person;) Secretary Chris Meyer (in-person;) Vice-President J. R. Ramirez (Zoom video;) and Treasurer Mario Escobar (telephonic.) Directors not present were Director Jack Rutledge, Director Martin Kruger; and Director Sunny Fitzsimons.

Staff present were General Manager Debbie Farmer and Field Technician Paul VanCleve, new hire for the District.

3. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
4. The minutes of the April 14, 2021, board meeting were reviewed. Vice-President Ramirez made a motion to approve the minutes as reviewed. Treasurer Escobar seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. The April 2021 Bills for Payment and Financial Statements for all accounts were reviewed. Secretary Meyer made a motion to approve the bills for payment and financial statements as reviewed. Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
6. General Manager Farmer presented the April 2021 Manager's Report. Following a question of the well monitor level for the Cargil location, GM Farmer corrected the rate for the Cargil and the Hinojosa wells by referring to office records. The levels were entered into the wrong column.
7. A Brush Control Application for Frank Harris to aerial spray 137 acres of mesquite for a cost of \$46.65 per acre in Zavala County was reviewed. Treasurer Escobar made a motion to approve the application as reviewed. Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion, and the motion passed with President Martin, Vice-President Ramirez, and Treasurer Escobar voting for approving the application, and Secretary Meyer voting against approving the application.
8. The proposed budget amendment by the Dimmit Central Appraisal District's (DCAD) Board of Directors to retain the 2020 surplus in the amount of \$62,556.54 for the purpose of the aerial county flyover purchase was reviewed. This will be an additional amount to the previous approved \$47,079.27 designated for this project. Secretary Meyer asked DCAD Chief Appraiser Norma Carrillo when the last flyover was conducted, and she replied in the year 2015. Following further discussion, Secretary Meyer made a motion to approve the proposed amendment for the 2020 surplus in the amount of \$62,556.54. Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
9. President Martin introduced to the Board the need to discuss La Salle County's endeavor to conduct an investigation to ascertain the presence, extent, and source of groundwater contamination in La Salle County. In addition, President Martin stated that La Salle County has once again requested the District's contracted Technical Consultant Dr. Ron Green to engage in this endeavor.

Dr. Green explained La Salle County's desire to engage him in efforts to investigate occurrences of groundwater degradation. Dr. Green discussed his communication with the County attorney, Mike Chauncey. Dr. Green's recommended course of action would be to use previously prepared preliminary datasets and maps prepared in 2019 by SwRI to investigate the occurrence