

PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

September 16, 2024

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (the "District" or "Prairielands GCD") met in a regular board meeting, open to the public, within the boundaries of the District at 208 Kimberly Dr, Cleburne, TX, on September 16, 2024.

CALL TO ORDER AND DECLARE REGULAR MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

President Charles Beseda presided and called to order the regular Board of Directors Meeting at 9:16 a.m., announcing the meeting open to the public.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Charles Beseda
Brad Daniels
Barney McClure
Paul Tischler

John Curtis
Maurice Osborn
Marty McPherson
Kathy Tucker

All members of the Board were in attendance with the exception of Director Osborn and Director Tucker, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also present at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; District staff; and members of the public. Brad Neighbors, Legal Counsel; and Wade Oliver, Hydrogeologist, participated via video conference. *Copies of the public sign-in sheet(s) are attached hereto as Exhibit "A."*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Director Daniels to approve the consent agenda. Director Curtis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all those who were present.

FINANCE REPORT – Brian Watts, Comptroller

- a) Presentation of unaudited financials for the month of August 2024. – Mr. Watts reported ending cash balances for August 31, 2024, of \$2,024,072.79. This represents a 2.07%

increase compared to the ending cash balances for August 31, 2023. The Profit & Loss Report for August reflects gross revenue of \$32,054.31, with a refund allowance of \$809.24, resulting in a net revenue of \$31,245.07.

- b) Review of cash flow and cash projection for year-end 2024. Mr. Watts provided an overview of the 2024 Schedule and Cash Flow and Cash Forecast to the Board. Mr. Watts projected the available cash for the close of business on December 31, 2024, to be \$1.855 million. This positive projection indicates a favorable financial position for the District.

POLICY AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – Marty McPherson, Committee Chair

On behalf of Director McPherson, Ms. Jones updated the Board on the Policy and Personnel Committee meeting held September 6, 2024.

- a) Review and action as necessary regarding Texas County District Retirement System’s Plan Assessment for Plan Year 2024-2025 – Kathy Turner Jones – Ms. Jones presented the TCDRS plan assessment, containing the District’s contribution rate information as a resource document for the Board to review and consider any benefit adjustments. She reported that the District’s plan indicates an overfunded balance of \$29,353 and is eligible to decrease its elected funding rate from 10.64% to 10.21% for 2025. However, it is the Personnel Committee’s recommendation to maintain the current employer funding rate of 10.64% for 2025 along with employee deposit rate of 5%. Following the recommendation, Director Tischler motioned to retain the employer 2024 funding rate of 10.64% and the current employee deposit rate of 5% for 2025. Director McPherson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all who were present.
- b) Report and recommendations from Board’s Policy and Personnel Committee to consider adoption of Resolution #24-005 authorizing revisions to the District’s personnel policies and procedures and to further authorize the General Manager to take any and all action necessary for the implementation of this Resolution – Kathy Turner Jones – Ms. Jones reported that the Policy and Personnel Committee reviewed and recommends the proposed amendments to the District’s Personnel Policy Procedures Manual, as identified in Appendix A. Director McClure made a motion to adopt Resolution #24-005, authorizing proposed revisions to the Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual, and further authorize the General Manager to take any and all action necessary for its implementation. Director Curtis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all those who were present *Copy of Resolution #24-005 attached hereto as Exhibit “B”.*

HYDROGEOLOGIST REPORT – Wade Oliver, INTERA, Inc.

Mr. Oliver provided a brief update to the Board on INTERA’s progress with the dedicated monitoring well under development in Ellis County. He noted that the driller expects to commence drilling in October.

Mr. Oliver shared an overview of the Groundwater Management Area 8 (“GMA 8”) joint planning meeting that was held at the District’s offices on September 5th where he presented an update on the Northern Trinity Groundwater Availability Model draft results and their continued efforts on calibrations.

Mr. Oliver concluded his report by informing the Board that GMA 8 must submit its DFC proposals by May 1, 2026, and expects more frequent GMA 8 meetings to be scheduled.

UPDATE ON WELL MONITORING AND FIELD OPERATIONS – Michael Heath, Field Operations Coordinator

Mr. Heath provided an overview of recent field activities since the last board meeting. These activities involved ongoing meter verifications and confirming exempt well locations. Field staff are actively identifying wells to include in the well monitoring program, which involved installing equipment that measures continuous water level data in the Glen Rose formation. Furthermore, the monitoring well program has been expanded with the addition of two Woodbine wells.

UPDATE ON PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, EDUCATIONAL, AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS – Kaylin Garcia, Public Relations/Education Director

Ms. Garcia provided an update on the District’s recent public relations and educational activities, highlighting collaboration efforts with Tinker LLC to design a curriculum flyer for homeschool educators and county Ag Extensions, and to finalize the 2024-2025 school year program list. She added the District co-hosted an after-hours business social with Johnson County SUD focusing on water conservation and rainwater harvesting. Ms. Garcia concluded her report by presenting topics for the upcoming e-line newsletter, social media analytics and discussing the upcoming events in which the District plans to participate.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT AND UPDATE – Kathy Turner Jones

Ms. Jones briefed the Board on Mr. Brian McMath’s appointment as Texas Water Development Board’s new Executive Administrator.

Ms. Jones further provided an update to the Board on District activities regarding groundwater production for August 2024, noting that both monthly and year-to-date production had decreased compared to the previous year, despite continued drought conditions. She also provided updates on current total permits and total annual permitted authorization. Additionally, Ms. Jones reported that the number of well registrations approved by the District during last month was relatively low compared to last year.

Ms. Jones concluded her report outlining upcoming meetings. She noted that the Budget & Finance Committee needs to be scheduled soon to prepare for the 2025 Budget. The Region G Planning Group is set to meet September 24th in Waco, and the Region C Planning Group meeting will take place on September 30th in Arlington. Additionally, the District office will be closed on October 14th in observance of Columbus Day.

At 9:45 a.m. President Beseda announced the Board of Directors will recess into a closed executive session under Section 551.074 and 551.071, Government Code, to consult with the District’s legal counsel on items on today’s agenda. No final action will be taken during the closed

session, the Board will reconvene in an open public session and announce that the board meeting is again open to the public.

At 10.17 a.m. President Beseda announced the meeting is reconvened into an open session and was open the public.

DISCUSS, CONSIDER, AND TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY TO APPROVE CHANGES TO GENERAL MANAGER'S COMPENSATION PACKAGE AND PERFORMANCE REVIEW – Marty McPherson

Based on recommendations from the Personnel and Policy Committee, Director McPherson moved to approve changes to the General Manager's compensation package and performance review as discussed in closed session. Director Curtis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by all those who were present.

BRICE V. PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ET AL., CAUSE NO. 114412, 40TH DIST. CT., ELLIS COUNTY; DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AS MAY BE NEEDED – Brad Neighbor, Legal Counsel

Mr. Brad Neighbor, Legal Counsel, reported no further discussion was necessary following the matters addressed during the executive session.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT — Brian L. Sledge

General Counsel, Brian L. Sledge, was not present; therefore, no report was provided.


OPEN FORUM / DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS

None.

ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING

There being no further business, Director McPherson made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Director Daniels. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10.19 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 21ST DAY OF OCTOBER 2024.


Maurice Osborn, Secretary/Treasurer