**FAYETTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

**Of the July 15, 2024**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

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| **Directors Present:** | Leo Wick, Mark Heinrich, Harvey Hayek, Alan Brothers, Cynthia Rodibaugh |
| **Directors Absent:** |  |
| **Others Present:** | Wendi Labus, Acting General Manager; Paul Kirby, DBSA |

The meeting was called to order by President Wick at 9:35 a.m., on July 15, 2024, at the Fayette County Agricultural Building Conference Room 104 located at 255 Svoboda Lane, in La Grange, Texas. A quorum to conduct business was declared to be present.

President Wick asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

Minutes from the June 3, 2024 Board of Directors meeting were presented by Mrs. Labus. Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Brothers seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the June 2024 financial statements. Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the financial statements and to pay the outstanding bills. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the budget adjustments/amendments for the FY 2023/2024 budget. Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the budget amendments/adjustments. Mrs. Rodibaugh seconded the motion and it was approved.

The Board of Directors considered action on compensation for Wendi Labus during David Van Dresar’s leave of absence. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to compensate Mrs. Labus a salary equal to the General Manager’s salary as Acting General Manager until further discussion at the next board meeting. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the On Call contract with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, noting the increase due to more extended work required. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the contract. Mr. Brothers seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The FY 2024-2025 budget was presented by Mrs. Labus for review and workshop.

Mrs. Labus presented the District Manager’s report to the board:

**Complaints:**

One complaint in the month of June. On June 17, a resident on Hwy 77 at Petter Rainosek Loop contacted the office stating that her neighbor has been irrigating plants and that the runoff was flooding her property. I made a site visit to the property on June 17 and noted the flooded area extending approximately 30 yards along the property line then following a low contour area onto the complainant’s land approximately 19 yards. Photos were taken. After reviewing the database, and finding no water wells being located on the actor’s property, I contacted the Fayette Water Supply Corporation who verified that the property was serviced by their PWS. I emailed Monique to inquire as to our jurisdiction regarding purchased water encroachment onto adjacent land. She advised to contact the regional TCEQ office for guidance.

**Meetings and Public Education:**

No public education events held in the month of June.

**General Business**

1. **Update on GMA 12 and GMA 15** 
   * No GMA meetings were scheduled for the month of June
2. **General Update**

Wendi received a call about a well being drilled in the High Meadows Court subdivision that was too close to the property line. Wendi called the well driller to discuss and schedule a site visit. Wendi and Paul went to the property since they were already out in the field. Wendi called the landowner to determine where the property line was since there was no clear distinction and the well driller was told it was where the property was shredded. The landowner gave the information, Wendi and Paul measured and found the well to be too close to the property line. Wendi called Monique to discuss options. Wendi called well driller and landowner and told them the well had to be plugged and moved, both agreed. The well driller plugged the well and the new well was being given to another driller to drill. Wendi spoke with the new driller and gave them information and requirements for placement of the new well. The new driller stayed in touch with Wendi and sent pictures and coordinates for the new location.

1. **Update on Static Well Monitoring**

On June 25-26, Wendi and Paul visited all the installed WellWatch units and our two quarterly eline-only wells this week. Paul updated the database with photos and water level readings and will start on updating the hydrographs. Notes from Paul:

Everything went well, especially on Thursday, with the following exceptions:

* 14879 (104) – Unit was off. No power. No indication that there was power from the solar. Needs maintenance.
* 22742 (107) – Unit off. No power. Tried different battery – nothing. Checked all connections to controller – still nothing. Needs maintenance.
* 19039 (115) – Battery not charging/holding a charge. Red light on controller indicates it was getting power from the solar – it was flashing, but not charging the battery. Tried swapping battery – nothing. Current battery was installed on May 1st.

Other items to note:

* 12529 (117) – This unit was cycling in March and May and not working properly. I had planned to replace the controller, but could not find the ones I thought got ordered and had none with me on the first day. However, the unit was working fine when we showed up except that it would not connect properly to the computer. We swapped the SD card out – I’ll try to get data off that.
* 22556 (113) – We swapped this unit out with a new unit. The old one will be sent back to Eno for refurbishing. The depth-to-water readings are still quite different between the unit and the eline. When I was gauging it with the eline, it felt like there was something in the well.
* I put heavy duty Velcro on lots of the solar controllers on both days to try to keep them from falling into the doors. If this doesn’t work, I’m out of ideas.

1. **Update on Permit Approval**
   * + No permit was approved by the General Manager in the month of June.
2. **Drought Conditions (see attachments)**
   * As of June 25, all of Fayette County remains under no drought conditions.
   * Rainfall averaged 3.80 inches total. The gauge at Carmine collected the most with 5.61 inches and the gauge at Muldoon collecting the least with 2.74 inches.
3. **Update Legislature and News Articles**

* Legislative update as available

1. **Unsold Properties Update**

* One unsold property were processed in the month of June

President Wick asked for any applications for exception to consider. There were none.

Items were identified for the next meeting’s agenda.

There being no further business, Mr. Heinrich made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Mrs. Rodibaugh seconding the motion and the motion was approved. President Wick adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Leo Wick, Sr., President Cynthia Rodibaugh, Secretary/Treasurer