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**MINUTES**

**Of the November 6, 2023**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

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| **Directors Present:** | Harvey Hayek, Leo Wick, Cynthia Rodibaugh, Mark Heinrich, Robert Leer |
| **Directors Absent:** | None |
| **Others Present:** | David Van Dresar, General Manager, Wendi Labus, Administrative Assistant; Monique Norman, Legal Counsel, Paul Kirby, DBSA |

The meeting was called to order by President Wick at 9:30 a.m., on November 6, 2023, 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 October 2, 2023 Board of Directors meeting were presented by Mr. Van Dresar. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Leer seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the September 2023 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.

The board considered action on revisions to the district Management Plan. Mr. Van Dresar discussed the required changes that were made regarding the most recently adopted desired future conditions for both GMA 12 and GMA 15. Mr. Van Dresar stated that required information from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) was also included during the revision process. Mr. Van Dresar informed the board that the draft revised Management Plan was submitted to the TWDB in August for review, but there has been no reply from the TWDB as of the meeting. Mr. Van Dresar requested that the board set a date for a public hearing to adopt the proposed revisions to the Management Plan to maintain statutory requirements of adopting the plan, with or without comment from the TWDB. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to set a public hearing at the next board meeting on December 4, 2023. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The board considered action on the bylaws for GMA 15. Mr. Van Dresar discussed the purposed of the bylaws for GMA 15 and informed the board that there were no changes from previous versions of the bylaws. After a brief discussion, Mr. Leer made the motion to approve the bylaws for GMA 15. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The board considered action on the Resolution for Inter-Local Agreement for Cost Sharing by Member Districts of GMA 15. Mr. Van Dresar presented the inter-local agreement and stated that cost sharing for the consulting hydrologist occurs every planning session. Mr. Van Dresar stated that the Fayette County GCD, having only half the district within GMA 15, would only be required to pay half that of districts totally located within GMA 15. Discussing the cost matrix, Mr. Van Dresar stated that the cost for Fayette County GCD would be $3,750.00, which is similar in cost to the last inter-local agreement. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the inter-local agreement. Mr. Leer seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The board considered action on the 2024 FCGCD Board of Directors meeting schedule. Mrs. Labus presented the proposed meeting dates to the board. Mr. Leer made the motion to approve the meeting schedule. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

The board considered action on the 2024 Holiday schedule. Mrs. Labus presented the proposed holiday schedule to the board stating that is follows the county offices schedule. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the holiday schedule. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Van Dresar presented the District Manager’s report to the board:

**Complaints:**

No complaints received in the month of October. Pipe that was crossing from Gonzales County to Fayette County has been removed.

**Meetings and Public Education:**

October 25, Texas AgriLife Extension Service conducted their annual water, soil, and hay collection day. Staff assisted with receiving water samples from the public and answering questions related to water and water wells. Participation was good with approximately 50 water samples received during the collection period.

**General Business**

1. **Update on GMA 12 and GMA 15** 
   * GMA-15 – On October 12, GMA 15 held a meeting in Victoria. The main purpose of the meeting was to select the consultant agency that will assist the GMA in this round of DFC planning. INTERA was selected to assist the GMA. General business items were also discussed. Paul Kirby and I attended.
   * GMA-12 – On October 26, GMA 12 held a meeting in Milano. General items were discussed by the member districts. A presentation was made by Carlos Rubinstein and Vanessa Puig-Williams on the relationship between Desired Future Condition and State Water Planning. The member districts discussed three of the nine factors required for DFC planning: aquifer uses and conditions, water supply needs and water management strategies in the state water plan, and hydrogeological conditions. There was discussion of what exempt use is and how it can vary in each district. Additionally, there was discussion over what production values were being used for exempt wells in each district. It was asked that each district provide that information to the GMA. Other data that each district was asked to provide included: any environmental needs in the district, strategies in the state water plan for each district, and calculations of future water needs for each district. Other topics of discussion included: total financial costs to each district for DGC planning in the last planning cycle (this was asked from each district for the next meeting), a comment was made that the bookends to be used for production by considered soon, and a discussion was had regarding a GMA-wide summit to educated the public and the boards of the member districts. A virtual meeting will be set up for a committee of board members to try and plan this summit.
2. **Update on Permit Approval**
   * + One permit was approved by the General Manager in the month of October.
       - P-2023-006 to Steve Hillhouse for 45 acre feet per year to be used as irrigation water.
3. **Drought Conditions**
   * As of October 31, most of Fayette County is under D2 (Severe Drought) conditions, with a small area in the northern corner of the county under D3 (Extreme Drought) conditions.
   * Rainfall averaged 4.37 inches total. The gauge at Colorado River above La Grange collected the most with 5.56 inches and the gauge at Lake Fayette Power Plant collecting the least with 3.12 inches.
4. **Update Legislature and News Articles**

* Legislative update as available

1. **Unsold Properties Update**

* One bid for unsold property in the month of October being:
  + 47715: Clear Lake Pines, Section 2, Lot 190, a bid of $2,000.00 was accepted from James McGraw

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 10:55 a.m.

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