**FAYETTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**MINUTES**

**Of the February 5, 2024**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

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| **Directors Present:** | Harvey Hayek, Leo Wick, Cynthia Rodibaugh, Mark Heinrich |
| **Directors Absent:** | Robert Leer |
| **Others Present:** | David Van Dresar, General Manager; Wendi Labus, Administrative Assistant; Monique Norman, Legal Counsel; Paul Kirby, DBSA; Jay Kolbe, resident |

The meeting was called to order by President Wick at 9:30 a.m., on February 5, 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.

The presentation from Trlicek & Co. was postponed until March.

Minutes from the January 8, 2024 public hearing and Board of Directors meeting were presented by Mr. Van Dresar. Mrs. Hayek made the motion to approve the minutes. Mrs. Rodibaugh seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

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

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

**Complaints:**

No complaints received in the month of January.

**Meetings and Public Education:**

January 30-31, Wendi, Paul, and I attended the winter meeting for TAGD in Round Rock. Basic aquifer terms, structure and hydrology were presented and several speaker panels were heard over the two day meeting.

**General Business**

1. **Update on GMA 12 and GMA 15** 
   * On January 11, GMA 15 held a meeting in Victoria. General items of business were discussed. Cost sharing payments were discussed and I asked for an invoice for our records, one was provided. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) gave a report, of note, the Railroad Commission of Texas now has jurisdiction over geothermal wells. Additionally, the use of the new Central Gulf Coast GAM was discussed. Concerns of the new models accuracy were brought up and members discussed using the old model for this round of planning as information from TWDB that was due in December 2023, has not been received.
2. **Update on Permit Approval**
   * + No permit was approved by the General Manager in the month of January.
3. **Drought Conditions (see attachments)**
   * As of January 30, all of Fayette County remains under no drought conditions.
   * Rainfall averaged 14.02 inches total. The gauge at La Grange collected the most with 15.31 inches and the gauge at Muldoon collecting the least with 13.08 inches.
   * January 16, the district office was closed due to freezing weather.
   * January 24, county offices were closed due to heavy rain and flooding.
4. **Update Legislature and News Articles**

* Legislative update as available

1. **Unsold Properties Update**

* Three unsold property was processed in the month of January, being:
  + 27971: .500 Acre A076. A bid of $500.00 was accepted from Molly Ladner.
  + 47715: Clear Lake Pines, Sec. 2, Lot 190. A bid of $2,400.00 was accepted from Molly Ladner.
  + 37811: Hilltop Addn., Blk. 1, 0.0907 Acres, Vacant. A bid of $500.00 was accepted from Molly Ladner.

The board considered action on an Application for Exception submitted by Jay and Takona Kolbe. Mr. Van Dresar presented the application for exception to district rule 7.1 (a) in which Mr. and Mrs. Kolbe were requested an exception to have their replacement water well closer to the property line than what is required by district rules. Mr. Van Dresar stated that the property was small and the current water well, which is the only water source for the property, was inoperative and too close to the septic system of the property. Mr. Van Dresar stated that he and Mr. Kolbe met at the property and, after discussion and observation, the only location for a replacement water well, which met setback requirements for the septic system, would place the well approximately five feet from the property line in the front of the property. A plat of the property was submitted with the application and reviewed by the board of directors. Mr. Wick asked if the well was going to be pressure cemented to the TDLR requirement for being that close to the property line. Mr. Kolbe stated that yes it would. After a brief discussion, Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the application for exception with the added requirement that all TDLR regulations be followed in the wells construction. Mrs. Rodibaugh seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

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 10:05 a.m.

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