

Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting
700 Kennedy Court
Belton, Texas
Tuesday, April 9, 2013
Minutes

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a board meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at the Clearwater UWCD Building, located at 700 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas.

Board Members Present:

Leland Gersbach, President
Wallace Biskup, Vice President
Judy Parker, Secretary
David Cole, Director

Public Advisory Committee:

Henry Bunke
Bradley Ware
Bill Schumann
Tom Madden

Staff:

Dirk Aaron
Shelly Chapman

Workshop was convened with Board President, Leland Gersbach, at 1:30p.m.

Workshop:

1. Discuss the issues and status of the potential listing of the Salado Salamander.

Dirk Aaron mentioned to the Board that he and the other interested parties have been frustrated with USFWS after meeting the March 11th deadline for final comments. It was discovered that USFWS put out a "White Paper". This document was not provided to the Stakeholders. A meeting was planned at the USFWS Headquarters in Albuquerque, NM. The meeting was cancelled. USFWS made contact with Mike Gershon, Tim Brown, and Dirk Aaron. After a lengthy conversation, Dirk Aaron stated that it was his opinion USFWS does not fully understand the Salado springs. Dirk informed the Board that a formal meeting with the decision makers from USFWS and their Hydrologist to meet in the creek in Salado on Thursday April 11th (weather permitting). A dialogue is established and USFWS is looking at the District's data. USFWS think the District's spring flow measurements are inaccurate. The District's new gauge is in place. USGS will be there to answer questions. Ricky Preston, Salado Water Supply has been monitoring the static water level of all the wells he uses. The levels look good. Dirk speculates that USFWS will tell the District it needs to reduce its footprint in the Edwards Aquifer to increase flow in the springs. USFWS thinks that 2 of the 7 springs are dry.

2. Discuss Legislative issues.

Dirk Aaron updated the Board on the Legislative issues of this session. He has been monitoring the Bills that are of interest to the District. There are more Bills in front of the Legislative body relative to groundwater and water as a whole than any time in the history of this state. One Bill that the District needs to be concerned about is the Fracking Bill. Senator Frasier and Senator Aycock are monitoring this Bill closely. There is also a series of Bills about brackish water being looked at. Dirk Aaron explained some of the issues with these Bills. Another Bill that the District is concerned with is the EAS Bill. This Bill is being monitored closely by Jimmie Don Aycock's office and his staff. This will go to committee on Wednesday, April 10th.

3. Discuss upcoming drilling permits.

Linda Fletcher-Long submitted an application for an N1 well for domestic use. The application is not administratively complete at this time. Dirk informed the Board about the particulars of the application.

Armstrong has started the drilling of their new well. The drilling company has been in contact with Dirk.

Jack Hilliard Materials has also submitted an application for a drilling permit through Thornhill Group. Dirk stated that permit will be presented to the Board at the next meeting. The application is not administratively complete at this time. Dirk and Randy Williams, Bar-W Exploration, will be conducting a site visit.

Workshop closed and Board Meeting convened with Board President, Leland Gersbach, at 2:39 p.m.

1. *Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:*

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, gave the invocation.
Secretary, Judy Parker, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. *Public Comment.*²

Public Advisory Committee Member, Bradley Ware, commended the District Staff for the good job they are doing and the progress being made. Mr. Ware stated that he was concerned about information being published on the District website. He requested that the District keep an eye on what they post and private information be kept private. President, Leland Gersbach, thanked him for his comments.

3. *Approve minutes of the March 5, 2013 Board Meeting and Workshop.*

Secretary, Judy Parker, moved to accept the minutes as they stand. Vice President, Wallace Biskup, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 4-0 (1 Director absent).**

4. *Discuss, consider and take action if necessary to accept the monthly financial report as presented.*

General Manager, Dirk Aaron, presented the monthly Financial Report to the Board.

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, moved to accept the monthly Financial Report as presented. Director, David Cole, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 4-0 (1 Director absent).**

5. *Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary proposed budget amendments to the FY13 budget*

Dirk Aaron presented FY13 budget amendments to the Board for approval. The District is currently showing over-expenditures and needs to make adjustments. Mr. Aaron explained that there had been some additional cost with the ESA Studies and the District has exceeded the original budgeted amount by \$6,669.58. He recommended that the Board increase the line item to \$10,000. Secretary, Judy Parker, recommended increasing the line item to \$15,000 with the funds coming from the contingency fund. President, Leland Gersbach, suggested we transfer the excess \$4,500 on the audit line item and then take the balance from the contingency fund to bring the budgeted amount for ESA Studies to \$15,000.

Adjustments also need to be made to Janitorial Services for an additional \$1,380 and Lawn Maintenance for \$920. The budgeted amount was entered based on the FY12 6 month budget (April 1, 2012 thru Sept 30, 2012) and not recalculated for the FY13 12 month budget.

Mr. Aaron stated that the Contingency Fund has a balance of \$63,455.04. The District can utilize those funds to offset the \$11,074.25 as discussed.

Vice President, Wallace Biskup, moved to increase the budget by \$15,574.25 of which the District will take \$4,500 from the Audit line item and the balance of \$11,074.25 from the Contingency Fund. Secretary, Judy Parker, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 4-0 (1 Director absent).**

6. *Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary to approve Addendum to Interlocal Agreement with Bell County, Village of Salado, and Salado Water Supply Corporation to provide for Stakeholders' funding of legal work on Endangered Species Act/Salado Salamander.*

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that the Stakeholder group has been looking for a "project manager" replacement for Dr. Gulley. After speaking with several individuals, it had been determined that the Districts Legal representative, Mike Gershon, would be the best fit. He is well versed in this issue and has been involved in the process from the start.

Secretary, Judy Parker, moved to approve the Addendum to the Interlocal Agreement as presented. Vice President, Wallace Biskup, seconded the motion. **Motion carried 4-0 (1 Director absent).**

7. General Manager's Report concerning office management and staffing related to District Management Plan.

Dirk Aaron informed the Board that Todd Strait had completed his 6 month probation period. Dirk had set several goals for Todd to meet with-in the first year of employment. Todd has already met many of those goals. Budgeted amount for Todd's position was set at \$35,000. Todd's current salary is \$32,500. Based on Todd's performance review, Dirk increased Todd's salary by \$1,250 bringing his new salary to \$33,750.

The District will begin drilling the first of 3 approved monitor wells this month. Everything has been coordinated with Bell County, the County Engineer, and Tommy Lovelace.

Dirk informed the Board that he had been trained on the Synoptic Testing. Hope to begin the testing at the end of the month.

8. Receive monthly report and possible consideration and Board action on the following:

a. Salado Creek stream flow gauges

Dirk Aaron presented information on stream flow gauges and drought status reports

b. Education Outreach Update

Todd Strait submitted his report on Education Outreach. Dirk Aaron touched on some of the highlights. Posters were displayed around the room from the Poster Contest conducted this month.

c. Monitoring wells

Dirk Aaron presented the measurements of the monitor wells.

d. Rainfall

Dirk Aaron discussed the rainfall totals in conjunction with the drought status report.

e. Well registration

Shelly Chapman informed the Board that 2 new exempt wells were registered.

f. Non-exempt Monthly well production

Dirk Aaron presented the monthly well production information to the Board.

Copies of the Monthly Staff Reports were given to the Board Members to review. No action required. Informational items only.

9. Public Advisory Committee comments.³

None

10. Director comments.³

None

11. Discuss agenda items for next meeting.

Drilling permit from Jack Hilliard Materials

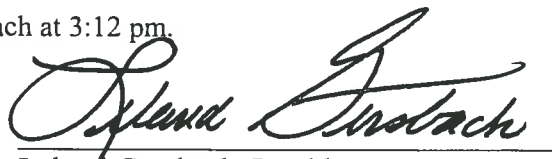
N1 Permit for Linda Fletcher-Long.

12. Set time and place of next meeting.

May 14, 2013 @ 1:30

13. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned by President, Leland Gersbach at 3:12 pm.


Leland Gersbach, President

ATTEST:


JUDY PARKER, Secretary

(A compact disc of this meeting is available upon request.)