

**Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting**  
**700 Kennedy Court**  
**Belton, TX**  
**Wednesday, July 8, 2020**  
**Minutes**

In accordance with Governor Abbott's declaration of the COVID-19 public health threat, action to temporarily suspend certain provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act, and Executive Order, a quorum of CUWCD's Board of Directors held its regular Board meeting by telephonic conference call and, for redundancy, videoconference on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. The meeting originated from the Clearwater UWCD Building, located at 700 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas.

**Board Members Present:**

Leland Gersbach, President, Pct. 1  
David Cole, Vice President, At Large  
Gary Young, Secretary, Pct. 2  
Jody Williams, Director, Pct. 3 (remote)  
Scott Brooks, Director, Pct. 4

**Absent:**

**Staff:**

Dirk Aaron, General Manager  
Shelly Chapman, Admin. Manager

**Guest: (remote)**

Mike Keester – LRE  
Clara Smith-Salgado – Baylor Univ.  
Brian Smith  
Maddi Todd  
Brian Hunt – Barton Springs  
Bobby Whitson – County Comm.

Dr. Joe Yelderian – Baylor Univ.  
William Anderson  
Vince Claus  
Micaela Pedrazas  
David Jones  
Justin Camp

Stephanie Wong – Baylor Univ.  
Sandra Blankenship  
James Beach – WSP  
Allan Standen  
Bill Schumann – County Comm.  
Rohit Goswami

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

Leland opened the workshop and noted for the record that all Board Members were present.

***Workshop Item #1. Receive presentation on the Hydrogeologic atlas of the Trinity Aquifer in Western Travis County by Brian Hunt & Lane Cockrell from the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District.***

Brian Hunt, Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District gave a presentation on work they recently published that was funded by Travis County and just released. His focus today was on Hays County and Southwest Travis County and what they have learned over the last couple of years. He acknowledged the co-authors of the publication.

***Workshop Item #2. Receive information concerning the BCAMC Study of the Edwards BFZ Springshed by Baylor University Geoscience Department.***

Dirk introduced Clara Smith-Salgado, Baylor University Master Student. Her presentation is part of her thesis project that she is doing in Salado titled "The Springshed and Potential Recharge Areas for the Downtown Salado Spring Complex. Clara gave an outline of her presentation and provided some background information on the study area as well as various methods she will be using for the study. Clara provided anticipated results for the research and discussed the project timeline for the next year.

Dirk noted that this is one of three projects being funded by the Coalition that the District participates in.

***Workshop Item #3. Receive information related to FY20 funded studies concerning the DFC trend tools, status of the Trinity Aquifer, well spacing analysis and potential aquifer management areas.***

Mike Keester, LRE Water, gave a brief summary of the projects he is working on. He touched on the DFC trend tool and how it corresponds with the adopted DFC.

***Workshop Item #4. Receive information related to the status of the Bell County Adaptive Management Coalition and the shared strategies related to the development of a special 4(d)rule for the Salado Salamander.***

Dirk briefed the Board on the status of the Coalition and the shared strategies with NRS related to the development of the 4(d)rule for the Salado Salamander. He noted that there is an upcoming Community meeting with the Coalition partners next week to update describing what the Coalition is up against and what the new milestone is. Judge Blackburn is leading the Coalition and fostering the meeting with the help of County Commissioner Bobby Whitson.

Dirk asked James Beach, WSP, to discuss topics of interest tying the DFC model with spring flow and water levels. James gave his presentation touched on their findings.

**Workshop Item #5. Receive information concerning Groundwater Management Area 8 related to Round #3 DFC development.**

James Beach is working on round 3 of the DFC development process as the consultant representing the GMA8 Districts. Dirk reminded the Board that there are a lot of counties that don't have a groundwater district. Dirk, James, and Mike Keester shared pumping data with Williamson and Travis Counties. Dirk has a copy of the report if anyone is interested.

August 7<sup>th</sup> is the next GMA8 meeting. Dirk and Gary will attend virtually.

**Workshop Item #6. Receive information concerning the 2020 Groundwater Management Plan Renewal process.**

Tristin has been assigned to help Dirk prepare the draft of necessary changes to the Management Plan. The first draft will be sent for review by the end of the month. There are no rule changes, but a few of the items will be updated with specificity. In August Dirk will brief the Board on the next steps in the process and convene a stakeholder's group if needed to review any substantive changes recommended. November 11<sup>th</sup> is when they will drop the gavel and accept the final version of the plan.

**Workshop Item #7. Discuss and review items of interest concerning the FY2021 Budget development process.**

Dirk presented and reviewed items of interest concerning the FY2021 Budget development process. He encouraged the Board to review the information he provided.

**Workshop closed and regular Board meeting convened with President, Leland Gersbach, at 4:12 p.m.**

President, Leland Gersbach, requested another roll call. General Manager, Dirk Aaron, conducted the roll call.

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.**

Vice President, David Cole, gave the invocation.

Secretary, Gary Young, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Public Comment.**

No public comments.

**3. Approve minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board meeting and Workshop.**

Board members received the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board meeting and workshop in their Board Packet to review prior to the meeting.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Board meeting and Workshop. Vice President, David Cole, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**4. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to accept the monthly financial report for June 2020 (FY20) as presented.**

Board members received the monthly financial report for June 2020 in their Board Packet to review prior to the meeting.

Vice President, David Cole, moved to accept the monthly financial report for May 2020 as presented. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**5. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to accept the monthly investment fund account report for June 2020 (FY20) as presented.**

Board members received the monthly investment fund account report for June 2020 in their Board Packet to review prior to the meeting.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to accept the monthly investment fund account report for May 2020 as presented. Vice President, David Cole, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**6. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to accept the Quarterly Deferred Compensation Employee Retirement Program account report as presented.**

Board members received the Quarterly Employee Retirement Program account report in their Board Packet to review prior to the meeting.

Director, Scott Brooks, moved to accept the Quarterly Deferred Compensation Employee Retirement Program account report as presented. Secretary, Gary Young, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**7. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to approve the FY20 line item budget amendment as requested.**

Dirk Aaron presented the request for budget amendments for the purpose of:

- Adjusting line item 50605 (GMA8 – Tech Support) for work related to GMA8 Joint Planning.
- Adjusting line item 53732 (Permit Review – Legal) for work related to AW Hines permit.
- Adjusting line item 53703 (Legal – GMA/DFC/MAG) for work/support related to GMA8 Joint Planning.

Dirk noted that this is simple adjustment between line items.

Vendor	Line Item	Invoice Amount	Available Funds	Amount Requested	New Balance	From	Available Funds	New Balance
LRE	50605-GMA8-Tech Comm	\$3,937.50	\$1,439.95	\$6,250.00	\$3,752.45	53130.5-GeoLogging	\$10,000.00	\$3,750.00
Lloyd Gosselink	53732-Permit Review -Leg	\$3,025.05	\$993.00	\$2,032.05	\$0.00	53731 Permit Review-GeoScience	\$8,526.25	\$6,494.20
Lloyd Gosselink	53706-GMA/DFC/MAG	\$1,762.50	\$0.00	\$1,762.50	\$0.00	53701 Drought Contingency Plan	\$4,455.08	\$2,692.58

Vice President, David Cole, moved to approve the line item budget amendments as requested. Secretary, Gary Young, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**8. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action by resolution, to accept the Technical Memorandum Report by Mike Keester, PG LRE Water, titled “Evaluation of Groundwater Pumping in the Travis and Williamson Counties” and “Evaluation of Groundwater Drawdown Trends in the Middle and Lower Trinity Aquifer.”**

Dirk noted that this item is not available yet and made the recommendation to table it at this time.

Vice President, David Cole, moved to table item #8 at this time. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**9. Discuss, consider and take appropriate action if necessary, to conduct the annual performance review of the General Manager, in accordance with District Bylaws Article VI, Section 6.**

**Executive Session convened with President, Leland Gersbach, at 4:23 p.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel.**

**Executive Session closed and regular Board meeting reconvened with President, Leland Gersbach, at 4:47 p.m.**

**10. General Manager’s Report concerning office management and staffing related to District Management Plan<sup>3</sup>.**

- Covid-19 protocols are still in place.
- The Intern, Will Anderson, is now working with Dr. Joe and his team. He is a real asset to the office.
- Election packets for Precinct 1 and 3 will be ready to for pick up on July 17<sup>th</sup>.
- ASR Coalition had their first workshop to layout things.
- Would like to participate/support the Travis County Study in some way. Will have more information on that.
- Preparing notices for Stage 1 drought status to go out next week.

- Water Summit has been cancelled. TAGD is working out details for a “Virtual” Summit. They are working out the details for registration fees/refunds. Sponsorship will stay in place and be adjusted to fit the event. Dirk encouraged everyone to attend the Summit online.

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

- Drought Status Reports**
- Education Outreach Update**
- Monitoring Wells**
- Rainfall Reports**
- Well Registration update**
- Aquifer Status Report & Non-exempt Monthly Well Production Reports**

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

Dirk touched on some of the topics and pointed pertinent information related to the reports.

**12. Director comments and reports<sup>3</sup>.**

- **Gary Young:** Commended the staff for “stepping it up” and making things work during this time. Dirk has been a great leader. Thanked staff for making all the necessary adjustments.
- **David Cole:** Reiterated what Gary said. The District is fortunate to have Dirk as the GM. He understands the technical side of things. He understands the complexities involved and can understand all the technical aspects of groundwater.
- **Jody:** CUWCD is probably one of the premier groundwater districts because of the GM and staff. Thanked everyone for their hard work.
- **Scott Brooks:** Thanked the staff for being flexible and adjusting to these weird times. Thanks for the hard work.
- **Leland Gersbach:** Salamander issue is going to be big on the budget this year. Its going to cost us a lot of money.

**13. Discuss agenda items for next meeting.**

- Receive Trinity Sensitivity GAM run from WSP
- Presentation from Allan Standen
- Discuss status of BCAMC efforts with USFWS
- Set preliminary tax rate for tax year 2020
- Order the General Election for November 3<sup>rd</sup>

**14. Set time and place of next meeting.**

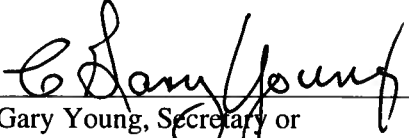
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 via telephonic/video conference

**15. Adjourn.**

**Board meeting adjourned with President, Leland Gersbach, at 5:05 p.m.**

  
Leland Gersbach, President

ATTEST:

  
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Gary Young, Secretary or  
Dirk Aaron, Assistant Secretary