

MINUTES
EVERGREEN UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
July 28, 2017 – REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District, pursuant to notice, at the District Office, 110 Wyoming Blvd., Pleasanton, Atascosa County, Texas.

Directors Present: Blaine Schorp, President
Frank Kruciak, Vice-President
Diane Savage, Secretary/Treasurer
Clifton Stacy
Jason Peeler
Larry Fox
Jay Troell
Thomas Moy III
Sherman Posey

Employees Present: Christopher McFarlane, Assistant Manager
Melissa Gonzalez, District Secretary/Bookkeeper
Matthew Pope, Field Technician

Employees Absent: Russell Labus, General Manager

Guests Present: Attached
Agenda: Attached.

Declaration of Quorum and Call to Order:

President Schorp declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. The meeting was posted and filed as required by law.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments on Agenda Items or Other District Business, Limited to 5 Minutes Each:

Larry Bartek voiced his concerns in regard to sand mining plants and other similar industries being a potential threat to groundwater. He mentioned how vital it is to determine a baseline measurement of water quality in order to detect possible changes in water levels, chemical, and mineral compositions. Mr. Bartek said that several wells have been identified as potential monitoring sources but no sampling has been implemented at this time and feels that if a baseline is not done immediately that the accuracy of future sampling will diminish.

Morris Cowley said that the sand mining plants are moving into the recharge zone in northern Atascosa County with the increase risk of chemical spills and contamination. Mr. Cowley feels because of previous comments made by TCEQ that they are useless when it comes to this problem and said that the Evergreen UWCD needs to step up on protecting the recharge zone.

Recess to Public Hearing

Public Hearing- Water Well Drilling and Production Permit Applications

a. Call to Order

President Schorp called the Public Hearing to order at 9:19 a.m.

b. Drilling/Production Permit Applications:

Public Comments:

Tina Sherman said that the permit for the City of Kenedy states that there are no existing wells on the property they are wanting to drill the test well on. Ms. Sherman said that she has leased this property for 20 years and that there are 2 wells on the property and she is concerned that once this well starts producing that it will dry up the surrounding water wells in the area.

Assistant Manager, Chris McFarlane stated that a walk-through of the property will be done after the meeting and because of conflicting schedules this was not able to be done before this public hearing.

Kaveh Khorzad with Wet Rock Groundwater Services, consultant for the City of Kenedy, stated that this is only a test well and will not be used as a public supply production well and if the well pans out that it will be given to the property owner as a domestic well since the well will not be drilled to public supply standards. Mr. Khorzad mentioned that this well will be used to test the aquifer, water quality and to obtain the yield to understand the impact on the surrounding area. Mr. Khorzad their intentions are not to dry out any wells in the area, which would affect them as well, but to find a water source for the City of Kenedy.

Larry Franke mentioned that he lives near the property where the proposed well for City of Kenedy will be drilled and is concerned that when this well goes into production that this will affect their only water source.

Art Dohman, Director for the Goliad County GCD stated that there is a lot of information that has been available through the GMA process and within the Explanatory Report that includes hydrological modeling that has been done. Mr. Dohman shared some information from the Explanatory Report and said that we need to look at the hydrological conditions and determine what kind of impact this will have on the DFCs.

Carl Hummel said that he is concerned this well that the City of Kenedy wants to drill will dry up all other surrounding wells in the area which in turn will make their property values go down and affect their livestock. Mr. Hummel stated that he is mainly here to seek knowledge and answers and wanted to know what will he and his neighbors do if they run out of water if their wells dry up because of the amount of water the City of Kenedy is pumping from the new well.

Cletus Grady stated that he is from Choate which is within the same aquifer as the proposed well for the City of Kenedy and is concerned that his and his neighbors' wells will go down once this well is in production.

David Morgan said that he would like to live without concern that one day he will not have water and feels that there is no way that his well will not be affected once the City of Kenedy's well is in full production and is relying on the Evergreen UWCD board to prevent this from happening.

Patrick Hundley, attorney for Carl Hummel, suggested that before the permit for the City of Kenedy is approved, further investigation needs to be done in regards to finding out if there are any other wells on the property and a hydrological study needs to be done as well. Mr. Hundley thanked the board for taking time to listen to all the concerns from the citizens in the surrounding area.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:32 a.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:54 a.m.

Attorney, Monique Norman stated that the GPS coordinates on the public hearing notice were incorrect and that the District will make corrections and repost the notice for next month's meeting and in the meantime the district staff will do a site inspection of the property of the proposed well site.

The Board was presented with one drilling and production permit application for the City of Kenedy (Production Permit#PK00330) for a new well to be located in Karnes County. Director Stacy moved to table the drilling and production permit and to be presented at the next meeting. Director Troell seconded the motion and there being no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

c. Adjourn.

President Schorp declared the Public Hearing adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Reconvene to Meeting.

Production Permit Renewals:

None.

Approval of Minutes from the June 30, 2017 Board of Directors Meeting:

The minutes of the June 30th meeting were presented to the Board. Director Kruciak moved to approve the minutes as presented. Director Stacy seconded the motion, and there being no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Report of Bills Paid, Deposits, and Financial Statements for June 2017:

The report of bills paid, deposits, and financial statements for June was presented to the Board. Director Savage moved to receive and file the report. Director Posey seconded the motion, and there being no further discussion the motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of a Budget and Finance Committee for the Evergreen UWCD:

President Schorp appointed Directors Savage, Kruciak, Stacy, and Troell as the Budget and Finance Committee. The Committee agreed to meet during the third week of August and the date will be determined at a later time.

Consideration of a Sponsorship for the Wilson County Beautification Association:

Director Stacy made the motion to sponsor the Wilson County Beautification Association and to contribute \$175.00 for a full page ad towards their Beautification & Environmental Directory Fundraiser. Director Posey seconded the motion, Director Fox voted against and there being no further discussion the motion carried.

Discussion by Arthur Whitley on District Pumpage Reports and Water Use:

Mr. Whitley said he would like for the Evergreen UWCD to consider randomly checking water well usage and pumping to make sure the amount of water being pumped is within their allotment and not over used. Mr. Whitley mentioned for example that the King Ranch pumps 365 days a year nonstop even if we get a good amount of rain and feels that they are over using and wasting water. Because of cases like this Mr. Whitley asked for us to consider some way of spot checking the amount of water that is being pumped on a monthly basis since most of the wells are not metered.

Director Fox said that Atascosa County has the most grass farms in the District so he takes special interest in this and that it should be something we need to consider.

Assistant Manager, Chris McFarlane stated that unfortunately for all wells to be metered this needs to come from the state level but this has been a subject that has been discussed and looked into by the District staff.

Staff Report on District Activities:

- **Meetings and Conferences Attended and Schedule of Upcoming Meetings:**

Assistant Manager, Christopher McFarlane stated that there will be a Region L meeting on August 3, 2017, a Conoco Roundtable Meeting on August 9, 2017, and a TAGD meeting on August 29-31, 2017.

- **Legislative Updates:**

Attorney, Monique Norman mentioned that the Larson bills vetoed on groundwater all have been refiled by Larson.

- **Exempt Well Registrations:**

Assistant Manager, Chris McFarlane stated that there were twelve exempt well registrations.

- **Monitor Well Report and Water Sampling Activity:**

Assistant Manager, Christopher McFarlane stated that the Karnes and Wilson Counties water well levels are down a little but is consistent with this time of year historically. Mr. McFarlane said that there was one well that blew a gasket but the owner was notified and it was fixed.

Field Technician, Matthew Pope said that Frio County water well levels are seasonably down especially since there has been a lot of pumping and that the Atascosa County water well levels are down as well but stabilize as you go further east. Mr. Pope mentioned that he conducted six water sample tests, two were sent to San Antonio River Authority, and a flow test was conducted in Wilson County.

- **Complaints and Investigations:**

None.

- **Other District Activities:**

None.

Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Items to be Placed on the Next Agenda:

- Public Hearing - City of Kenedy Request for a Drilling and Production Permit.

Set Date and Time for the Next Board Meeting:


The Board agreed to set the next meeting date for Friday, August 25, 2017 at 09:00 a.m. at the District Office in Pleasanton, TX 78064.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Schorp declared the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.


Blaine Schorp, President

ATTEST:


Diane Savage, Secretary/Treasurer