

**HIGH PLAINS UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NO. 1  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 14, 2014**

The Board of Directors of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 (the Board) convened a regular meeting in the A. Wayne Wyatt Board Room located at 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Lubbock County, Texas, with the following members present:

Lynn Tate, President  
James Powell, Vice-President  
Mike Beauchamp, Secretary-Treasurer  
Ronnie Hopper, Member  
Brad Heffington, Member

(Attached to these minutes is the *Notice of Meeting of the Governing Body of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1* [District] calling said meeting, which was served upon the directors and publicly posted and published in accordance with applicable law.)

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Tate called the regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. with the above-referenced directors in attendance.

District staff members in attendance were Jason Coleman, general manager; Adeline Fox, Outreach and Education; Jed Leibbrandt, GIS Specialist; Carmon McCain, Information/Education Group Supervisor; Gray Sanders, Information Technology Administrator; and Keith Whitworth, Field Technician Supervisor.

Others signing in for today's meeting were J. Collier Adams, Jr.; Steve Barrett; Kody Bessent; Kathy Cornett; Carol Griffin; Jerrell Griffin; Kirby Lewis; Josie Musico; Dillon Pool; Jess Sammann; Gaylen Stukey, Leland Stukey; and Kelly Young.

President Tate welcomed the Board members, staff, and members of the public to today's meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

President Tate called on the Board to approve the consent agenda for today's meeting as follows:

- Approval of minutes of the Dec. 10 Regular Board Meeting at Lubbock TX.
- Approval of report on the financial status of the District from the General Manager for the month of December 2013.
- Approval of the bills incurred by the District for the month of December 2013 and travel vouchers for Board members and eligible staff.
- Purchase of a Certificate of Deposit at City Bank in the amount of \$200,000.00.

Based upon discussion at the earlier work session, Mr. Heffington moved that the Board approve the consent agenda items—including one correction to the minutes relating to County Advisory Committee members. Mr. Hopper seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved.

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda.

### **WATER WELL PERMITS**

President Tate called on the Board to discuss and take possible action on approval of applications for water well permits received for the month of December 2013 and ratify requests for additional time for completion. In Mr. Peña's absence, Mr. Coleman reported 144 applications for water well permits in the Ogallala Aquifer were received during the period of December 1-31, 2013, along with 58 water well completions in the Ogallala Aquifer.

The following water well applications were received for the Ogallala Aquifer: five for Bailey County; 14 for Castro County; 18 for Cochran County; eight for Crosby County; four for Deaf Smith County; 19 for Floyd County; 19 for Hale County; five for Hale County; 23 for Lamb County; 15 for Lubbock County; nine for Lynn County; four for Parmer County; and one for Swisher County.

All water well permit applications comply with the rules of the District. There being no questions or comments on the report, Mr. Hopper moved the Board approve the applications for water well permits for the month of December 2013, as presented. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved.

### **COUNTY ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

President Tate called on the Board to discuss and take possible action on County Advisory Committee members. Mr. Hopper recommended that John Ross be appointed to the Hale County Advisory Committee. Mr. Powell moved that the Board accept Mr. Hopper's recommendation and that Mr. Ross be appointed to the Hale County Advisory Committee. Mr. Beauchamp seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved.

President Tate called on the Board to discuss and take possible action on County Advisory Committee meeting notification procedures. From time to time, persons contact the HPWD office to ask about the times and location of County Advisory Committee meetings. However, there is not a uniform County Advisory Committee meeting notification policy. President Tate asked the directors if they had a preference. Mr. Hopper said he welcomed having his meeting information posted on the HPWD web site calendar. Some of the other directors stated that they are comfortable using a variety of options for notifying their committee members of meetings. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that each director should choose the notification method that is most useful for their members. If that involves updates on the district web site calendar, then Mr. McCain should be notified.

### **TWDB IRRIGATION WATER USE ESTIMATES**

President Tate called on the Board to discuss and take possible action on irrigation water use estimates provided by the Texas Water Development Board for planning purposes. President Tate called the Board's attention to the 2012 draft agricultural irrigation water use estimates included in today's Board

meeting materials. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff develops a draft of the estimated irrigated acres and irrigation water use in each county in Texas for the 2012 crop season. These estimates are used to develop groundwater availability models (GAMs) as well as to project irrigation demands in future regional/state water plans. These estimates are compiled using USDA-FSA irrigated acreage data; five-year historical average of county irrigation estimates; weather data and crop evapotranspiration rates; estimated county-average irrigation application efficiencies; and surface water irrigation diversions based upon data from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). The HPWD Board is asked to review these data and provide revisions to the irrigated acres, irrigation application rate, and irrigation water use for each crop; irrigation water use by source (groundwater surface water, wastewater reuse); and estimated county-average irrigation application efficiencies. After discussion at the earlier work session, it was the Board's consensus that they are not comfortable with the TWDB data at this time. They want to incorporate actual data whenever possible, such as those from the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation (TAWC) project in Floyd and Hale Counties. After discussion, Mr. Heffington moved that the Board authorize Mr. Coleman to make needed revisions to the estimates, and then submit the revisions to President Tate for review. Mr. Powell seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved.

### **STATUS OF DISTRICT PROGRAMS**

President Tate called on the Board to hear reports on the status of other District programs and items of possible interest from the General Manager.

- Mr. Coleman introduced Kody Bessent, who joins the HPWD staff Jan. 27 as Legislative Affairs Director.
- Adeline Fox presented an overview of a proposed HPWD rainwater harvesting demonstration project at cotton gins, barns, and warehouses within each District Directors' precinct. Ms. Fox explained that one inch of rain falling on a 1,000 square foot roof will yield 600 gallons of harvested water. This water can be used for landscape irrigation as well as wildlife use, fire protection, and diluting herbicides/pesticides. She is recommending two demonstration locations per District Directors' precinct. It is the Board's consensus to let Ms. Fox contact persons to gauge their interest in participating in a rainwater harvesting demonstration project.
- Mr. Coleman reported that the district implemented use of electronic water well permit and Registration and Log of Well forms on Jan. 2. These fillable PDF forms offer several advantages in that they are less likely to be lost, they are more legible, and they can be easily e-mailed to requestors. He said this is a work in progress and refinements will be made as needed. The Board of Directors commended the district staff for their efforts.
- Gary McKenzie of High Plains Drilling said he was very pleased with the new electronic forms. The forms cut down on a lot of work for the water well drillers. Mr. McKenzie also complimented the district for its prompt processing of water well permits. He said he has not heard any complaints at this time.
- Precinct Five District Director Ronnie Hopper shared the presentation he has given at the recent Pioneer Seed meetings. He appreciated the opportunity to share information about the district

with the 400-500 persons attending these meetings.

- Based upon discussion at the earlier work session, President Tate announced that the monthly work session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the regular Board meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. beginning Feb. 11.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Tate invited those present to offer public comment. (*Only persons that completed a registration form indicating their desire to comment were recognized.*) J. Collier Adams Jr., Kirby Lewis, Jess Sammann, Leland Stukey, and Kelly Young offered comments to the Board of Directors. Mr. Sammann asked for a written response to the list of questions he gave to President Tate. For the record, President Tate noted that no other audience members submitted a completed comment registration form. All persons were given an opportunity to provide comment, if desired, and the agenda item concluded.

### **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Tate then announced that the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District Board of Directors would begin a closed Executive Session at 11:38 a.m. to discuss personnel matters as authorized by Chapter 551.074 of the Texas Government Code (Open Meetings Act).

President Tate adjourned the closed Executive Session at 12:55 p.m. and reconvened the regular Board of Directors meeting.

### **ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

President Tate called upon the Board to consider any action needed following the Executive Session.

Mr. Heffington moved that the Board accept the manager's recommendation regarding staff salary changes. Mr. Hopper seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Mr. Beauchamp made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Heffington seconded the motion. All members voted in the affirmative as expressed by a show of hands. The motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Mike Beauchamp*

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Mike Beauchamp, Secretary-Treasurer