
SUTTON COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Board Meeting
April 13, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.
City Council Chambers
201 E. Main Street
Sonora, Texas

Minutes

Directors Present: Robert Mayer, Butch Taylor, Erika Campbell, James Archer and Max Howorth

Directors Absent: None

District Staff Present: Meredith Allen, Lana Tolleson and Sofia Galindo

Public Hearing on Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Relevant Aquifers within the District in Groundwater Management Area 7

1. Call Public Hearing to Order

Board Chairman Robert Mayer called the Public Hearing to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. In Accordance with the Texas Water Code 36.108, the District will receive input at a hearing on the proposed desired future conditions (DFCs) of groundwater resources located within Groundwater Management Area 7 (GMA7). The District's proposed DFCs for the next 50-year regional planning cycle are:

Edwards-Trinity (Plateau): average drawdown not to exceed an average of 6 feet in 2070 compared with 2010 levels

Consulting Manager Meredith Allen explained the proposed DFC for the Sutton County Underground Water Conservation District. There were no comments from members of the public in attendance.

3. Adjourn Public Hearing on the 2021 (3rd Round of Joint Planning) Proposed DFCs for the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) Aquifers.

Director Max Howorth made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 9:18 a.m. with a 2nd by Director James Archer. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Call Regular Meeting to Order

Board Chairman Robert Mayer called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m. with a quorum in attendance.

2. Recognize Visitors—Any person or group wishing to speak to the Board on any item on the Agenda will be allowed 5 minutes

Art Fuentes, City Manager

Joe David Ross

3. Recognize Pump Installers & Drillers—Any person or group wishing to speak on any item on the Agenda will be allowed 5 minutes

None Present

4. Rainfall and Water level report

Technician Sofia Galindo and Consulting Manager Meredith Allen presented rainfall and water level reports for the months of February & March.

5. Quarterly Well Registration Report

Galindo reviewed wells that were drilled during the previous quarter.

6. Action, Discuss, or Consider Approval of Minutes of the February 9, 2021 regular meeting.

Director Max Howorth made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2021 regular meeting. The motion was 2nd by Director James Archer. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Action, Discuss, or Consider Approval of Bills and Financial Statements for February & March 2021.

Operations Manager Lana Tolleson and Allen presented the February & March 2021 financial statements. Howorth made a motion to approve the February & March 2021 bills and financial statements. The motion was 2nd by Director Butch Taylor and passed unanimously.

Director Erika Campbell made a motion to donate the District's used Boekel incubator to the Science Department at Sonora High School with a statement of condition and release. The motion was 2nd by Howorth and passed unanimously.

8. Action, Discuss, or Consider Approval of Quarterly Investment Report – 2nd Quarter FY 2020-2021

Tolleson presented the Quarterly Investment Report for the 2nd Quarter of FY 2020-2021. Howorth made a motion to accept the report. The motion was 2nd by Campbell and passed unanimously.

9. Action, Discuss or Consider Research Opportunities Presented by Dr. Doug Tolleson, Texas A&M

Campbell led the discussion of Dr. Doug Tolleson's written proposal and budget for a groundwater related research project. Dr. Tolleson answered questions via phone call. After discussion, the decision was made to table action until next month to gauge participation level of local landowners.

10. Action, Discuss or Consider Certification of Unopposed Candidates for the Sutton County UWCD Election for Precincts 2, 3 and At Large

Taylor made a motion to certify the unopposed candidates for the Sutton County UWCD election for Precincts 2, 3 and At Large. The motion was 2nd by Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Action, Discuss or Consider Order of Cancellation of the Sutton County UWCD Election for Precincts 2, 3 and At Large

Archer made a motion to cancel the Sutton County UWCD Election for Precincts 2, 3 and At Large on May 1, 2021. The motion was 2nd by Howorth and passed unanimously.

12. Consulting Manager's comments

- a. Review of Data Base Options – Allen shared information with the Board on various data base programs that are on the market that would help our District perform at an optimal level now that we are fully staffed and operating at full capacity. She will continue to investigate which program will offer staff the best utility in file sharing and data retrieval.
- b. GMA 7 – All GMA 7 members are now scheduling public hearings to review proposed DFCs and have entered into a 90 day comment period
- c. Legislative Update – Allen updated the Board on legislative news.

13. Operations Manager's comments

- a. Update on District Activity – Tolleson updated the Board on District activities including:
 - All Directors and staff are required by the State to take the Cybersecurity Training class again this year by June 14th. Tolleson will contact Directors and staff who still need to complete their training.
 - The annual Groundwater Summit will be held Aug 31 – Sept 2 at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort in San Antonio. Any Board member who would like to attend can let Tolleson know. Registration is \$375 per attendee.
 - Tolleson informed the Board that the District received a letter from TML Health that our COBRA Continuation of Coverage participation will be terminated as of January 1, 2022. TML will no longer offer this coverage to entities with fewer than 20 employees since they are not legally required to provide the coverage.
 - Tolleson and Galindo will be collecting water samples for the Water Quality Network the last week of April and the first week of May. Staff members from TWDB will provide training on proper sampling methods.

14. Director Comments/Directives to Staff

- a. Allen to investigate the cost of having a hydrologist analyze our groundwater data for calculations of future DFCs.
- b. Find out from landowners if they would be willing to participate in the research project.

c. Revisit WeatherMod – invite to a future meeting.

15. Action, Discuss, or Consider meeting adjournment

Howorth made a motion to adjourn at 12:04 p.m. with a 2nd by Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer

Date

Attesting Signature