### MINUTES OF

July 23, 2024

# **BOARD MEETING** CENTRAL TEXAS GROUNDWATER **CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District held a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 23, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Suite 104, Burnet, Texas.

Members Present: Ryan Rowney, President Ricky Bindseil, Vice-President

Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer Homer Will, Director Paul King, Director

Staff and/or Consultants Present: Mitchell Sodek, General Manager Shrader Davis, Groundwater

Technician Tracy Swantner, Office Manager Bill Dugat, Legal Counsel

Others Present: 9 Members of the Public

President Rowney declared a quorum present and called the Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

President Rowney then called for the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flags.

President Rowney then asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

President Rowney asked for consideration and/or action on the on Interlocal Agreement with the City of Bertram for joint cost sharing of the collection of hydrological data in association with a Hydrological Investigation.

General Manager Sodek presented the details of the cost estimate of the Hydrogeologic Investigation provided by the City of Bertram and the letters that were sent to 10 nearby well owners of 12 different wells, asking for their participation during the 24-hour pump test. There was a discussion between the Board Members and the General Manager regarding the cost sharing amount. Director Paul King suggested half of the cost of the data collection and Director Kathy Griffis-Bailey suggested 1/3 of the cost of the data collection, or up to \$14,000. The Mayor of Bertram, Mike Dickinson, commented that they were hoping for more money.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to approve the interlocal agreement in an amount not to exceed \$14,000 toward the cost of data collection, taking into consideration our in-kind support. Second was by Paul King.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Permittees associated with the Operating Permits that follow for Non-Compliance in Exceeding Permit Amount for 2023:

- a. OP-13042403 Aqua Texas-Rio Ancho
  b. OP-17072101 Giacomo Properties LLC
  d. OP-10101919 CSWR Texas Utility
  e. OP-10101918 CSWR Texas Utility
- c. OP-10102032 CSWR Texas Utility

General Manager Sodek reviewed the permitted amounts, drought reductions, and amount of consumption for each permittee.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to have a show cause hearing for the Permittees.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Emergency Operating Permit Request on June 6, 2024, for Whitewater Springs Water Supply Corporation.

General Manager Sodek reviewed the emergency request to pump well # 8740 from 7/1/2024 – 8/30/2024. At the June Board Meeting, an emergency permit was approved through July 31, 2024. General Manager Sodek noted that a permit application was received in early July and is under review and that the applicant has been cooperative.

Kathy Griffis Bailey moved to: Extend the emergency operating permit until August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Second was by Homer Will. Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Request for Qualifications for Legal Counsel.

General Manager Sodek informed the Board that current Legal Counsel, Bill Dugat, will be retiring at the end of 2024. General Manager Sodek recommended that the Board seek Request for Qualifications for Legal Counsel with a deadline of August 30, 2024.

Ricky Bindseil moved to proceed with the Request for Qualifications for Legal Counsel. Second was by Homer Will.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Designation of Investment Officers, Amendments to and/or Resolution Readopting the District Investment Policy. The Investment Policy of the District requires the District to review the Investment Policy at least annually and adopt a resolution confirming the continuance of the Investment Policy without amendment or re-adopt an amended Investment Policy. General Manager Sodek informed the Board that it was not necessary to amend the current policy at this time. The drafted Resolution also appoints the General Manager and Office Manager as Investment Officers of the District.

### Paul King moved to:

Approve the Resolution confirming continuance of the investment policy as presented without amendment.

Second was by Kathy Griffis-Bailey.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Ryan Rowney stated for the record that Public Funds Investment Officer Donnita Coats will be removed from all signature documents at financial institutions used by the District and all current Directors, Ryan Rowney; Kathleen Griffis-Bailey; Homer Will; Paul King and Ricky Bindseil and General Manager Mitchell Sodek, would be included on signature documents relating to the checking account of the District at financial institutions used for this purpose by the District.

#### And

President Ryan Rowney; Secretary/Treasurer Kathleen Griffis-Bailey, General Manager & Public Funds Investment Officer Mitchell Sodek; and Office Manager & Public Funds Investment Officer, Tracy Swantner would be the only Board Members or Staff included on signature documents relating to the investment of funds of the District at financial institutions used for this purpose by the District.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action to order Director Elections, authorize Notice of Elections, and approve Contract for Election Services & Joint Election Agreement with Burnet County Election Administrator.

General Manager Sodek presented the Order of Election, Joint Election Agreement and Contract for Election Services with the Burnet County Election Administrator. The cost is unknown at this time.

Ryan Rowney moved to:

Approve the Order of Election for November 5, 2024 General Election for the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors Precinct 1, Precinct 3, and At-large Positions, Authorize Notice of Election, approve the Contract for Election Services and Joint Election Agreement 2024-2025 with the Burnet County Election Administrator.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Determination of Drought Stage.

General Manager Sodek reviewed the Palmer Hydrological Drought Index and noted that our area was still in the extreme drought category for June. There was a slight recovery in water levels in monitor wells, then a flatline or decrease in water levels. He recommended no change to the Drought Stage.

No action was taken.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 20, 2024.

Paul King moved to:

Approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 20, 2024.

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then asked for consideration and/or action on Expenditures for June 2024; Budget Line-Item Adjustments; and Review of 2023-2024 Budget and Quarterly Report on Investments.

General Manager Sodek reviewed the reports and financial statements and reported the following line item adjustment:

Moved \$12,000 from Expenses – Capital Purchase – Monitor Wells to Expenses – Capital Purchase – Monitor Wells Equipment

A Quarterly Report on the Investment Position of the District for the quarter ending June 30, 2024, was provided by Public Funds Investment Officer, Mitchell Sodek, in accordance with Section IV of the Public Funds Investment Policy of the District.

Kathy Griffis-Bailey moved to:

Approve expenditures and line item adjustment for June 2024

Second was by Ricky Bindseil.

Vote on the motion carried.

President Rowney then called on the General Manager for the General Manager and/or Staff Report and Update.

a. Well Registrations & Permitting

Applications have been slow, approximately 18 applications submitted last month.

## b. Pump Installation Reporting

Hydros online form is now active, and General Manager Sodek recommends that the staff host a couple of training sessions for the drillers/pump installers.

c. Burnet County Runs on Water Campaign
The 2<sup>nd</sup> billboard is up, and the social media campaign is active. The campaign is now fully implemented.

d. Four County Regional Trinity Model
The model is being finalized and should be complete in August.

President Rowney then called for Director Comments. There were no Director comments.

President Rowney then called for agenda items for the next Regular Board Meeting. City of Bertram Interlocal Agreement
Whitewater Springs Water Supply Corporation Operating Permit
Four County Regional Trinity Model
Show Cause Hearing for Permittees in violation.

Directors may contact the General Manager or Board President prior to the deadline for posting notice of the next meeting if they have a suggested agenda item.

President Rowney then set the date for a Budget Workshop on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2 p.m. and the next Regular Board Meeting for August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the District Office located at 225 S. Pierce, Burnet, Texas.

President Rowney adjourned the regular meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Ryan Rowney, President

Kathy Griffis-Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer