

Minutes of Meeting
10-19-09
GCGCD

*Mr. Key
Mr. Irwin*

Mr. Dohmann called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at the Water District office. Everyone stood and recited the Pledge to the United States flag and the Water District Pledge.

Mr. Dohmann introduced guests Chico Cravens, Wanda Duke, Gene and Rita Brown, Lillian Kozielski and Jean Dohmann. Roll call of directors found Wesley Ball was absent. Also in attendance was Michelle Shelton, GCGCD technical administrator. Mr. Floerke arrived at 5:16.

Item 1 – Public Comment on Operations of the District –Hearing no public comment, the Board proceeded to *Item 2* of the agenda. Mr. Floerke was running late so this item was deferred. The Board proceeded to *Item 4* of the agenda.

Item 2 – Public Hearing on Holt Ranch Properties, Ltd. Operating Permit – Mr. Dohmann noted for the public and for the record that the annual production requested as posted was incorrect. It was posted at a request of 300ac/ft/yr and should be 600 ac/ft/yr for the record. Mr. Floerke stated that he may put in grass and irrigate a hay field in the future. Mr. Floerke requested this amount at this time so he wouldn't have to come back and request additional every year. This request will also include a 20 acre wetland project. Mr. Dohmann stated the 200 acre corn field where the center pivot is located would intend to put down 2' per acre per year. This is not a single application. According to the Agrilife Extension, peak water requirements in our area for corn limits are 20"-27", so 2' is certainly within the Texas A&M guidelines. This encompasses one piece of the request and amounts to 400 acre feet. Mr. Floerke said if the well at the corn field performs the way they want it to, they intend to put in a small center pivot where the terrace grading is up the hill and will be for improved grasses at a rate of 2' as well. The third part is the 20 acres wetlands northeast of the well location. The field being irrigated is actually 320 acres and a terrace was built above the pivot. The wetlands have been in for over 10 years and are flood controlled with gates. Mr. Dohmann opened up for public comment. Hearing none the public comment was closed and open up to Board action.

Item 3 – Board action on Holt Ranch Properties, Ltd. Operating Permit – Mr. Dreier questioned if there sufficient drainage under normal rainfall conditions to keep standing water in the wetlands? Mr. Floerke elaborated that actually drainage for the wetlands comes from the pasture and is on the northeast side of the pasture. They put in a diversion terrace above the 200 acre corn field; they wanted a controlled watering. Any runoff would go to the bottom 100 acres and then to F. M. 1351. Mr. Floerke does not anticipate any runoff from the center pivot operation and the maximum is 1.5" to 2" application at a time. Mr. Dohmann impressed on Mr. Floerke that the Board needs to understand the drainage and also look at using groundwater for wetlands as an issue in terms of beneficial use or waste. The Board needs to have a clear understanding of the use. Mr. Floerke said it would be wildlife enhancement and an economic benefit to have the wetlands and the birds that it attracts. Enhancement for purposes of hunting is not a beneficial use according to Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code. Mr. Floerke stated the average depth of the wetlands is 18-20 inches and deepest part is 3'. Mr. Dohmann asked if they added groundwater to the wetlands historically and the answer was no. Mr. Dreier asked if we could approve this permit in steps, approve the agricultural use and hold off on the wetlands. Mr. Floerke said on the wetlands itself, 1 ac/ft would be sufficient, all he is going to do is supplement. Mr. Dohmann stated if the Board applied the 50% application rule as in stock ponds, and the wetlands are 20 acres when full, that would be 10 acres, 3' at the deepest part with an average depth of 18". Mr. Dohmann has no problem with approving the 40 ac/ft for the wetlands with the provision that the 50% rule apply. Mr. Dohmann suggested that the motion needed to stipulate groundwater will not be used to fill the wetlands to the top. He also stated that there should be an understanding between the Board and the landowner about the amount used to fill, and that an effort should be made to be as efficient as possible. Mr. Irwin moved to

approve the 560 acre request for the agricultural use and 40 acre foot request for the wetlands for a total of the 600 acre foot operating request. Mr. Kozielski seconded and the motion carried. The Board requested that Mr. Floerke report usage in hours the pump was run. Mr. Floerke said he will figure gallons pumping when engines were running. The final issue is regarding the reporting. Annual reporting requirements will be to break down the number of hours used for each of the three categories separately instead of one lump sum.

Item 4 - Public Hearing on Rules Revisions of GCGCD - Mr. Dohmann asked if there was any public comment on the revised rules. Hearing none, he closed the public hearing and turned over to Board.

Item 5 - Board action on Rules Revisions of GCGCD - Mr. Dohmann noted that there were two typos on page 13 to address. Item 8 "and welfare and conservation of ...insert the word "the"; Rule 9, third line "a permit under" take out the word "a". Mr. Duke moved to approve the revised rules with the suggested corrections. Mr. Irwin seconded and the motion carried.

Item 6 - Action on Minutes of October 5th and 6th, 2009- The Board reviewed the minutes of October 5th and October 6th. Mr. Dreier moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Kozielski seconded and the motion carried.

Item 7 - Financials -

- a. **Monthly Reports -** The Board reviewed the final reports for the previous fiscal year. Mr. Irwin moved to approve the financials as submitted. Mr. Duke seconded and motion carried.
- b. **Pay Bills - Directors Reimbursements, Rob Baiamonte, Richard Abitz, DB Stephens and TAGD membership -** The Board reviewed the invoices submitted by Baiamonte Law Firm, Dr. Abitz and DB Stephens. Ms. Smith moved to approve the invoices as submitted. Mr. Irwin seconded and the motion carried. The Board reviewed the TAGD membership renewal that has increased to \$500 ~~over the previous year~~. Ms. Smith notified the board that the District has budgeted \$400 for membership this fiscal year. Meeting fees have also gone up. The District has continued membership in somewhat of an inactive capacity. The District is not involved in the legislative activities and this has been the big player in TAGD for the last several years. If the District retains membership, it is under the understanding that it is under an inactive capacity. Ms. Smith moved to pay the regular voting membership of \$500. Mr. Irwin seconded and the motion carried.
- c. **Year end report of income and expenditures -** The Board reviewed the year-end report. No further action was required.

Item 8 - Well Reports -

- a. **New exempt wells -** The Board reviewed the only well located since the last meeting. No action required.

Item 9 - Discussion and action on meetings attended and upcoming meetings -

- a. **"Land, Water, People Conference" - San Marcos - November 16-18 -** No discussion
- b. **"H2O4Texas" - The Water Event - Fort Worth - November 16-17 -** No discussion
- c. **Region L - December 3 - San Antonio -** No discussion
- d. **GMA 15 meeting Victoria - October 19 -** This discussion is tabled until the District receives a report.

Item 10 - Correspondence -

- a. **URAC letter to Commissioners** - The letter that URAC wrote to the commissioner's court and was subsequently passed on to UEC was included for the Boards review. This letter is strictly for information. No further action was required at this time.
- b. **Discussion and action on resolution Nominating Board members for Appraisal District Directors for 2010-2011** - No action was decided by the Board. Ms. Smith will send something to the appraisal district that there will be no nominees. Mr. Dreier moved to not designate its votes. Mr. Dohmann seconded and the motion carried.

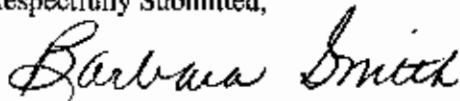
Item 11 - GCGCD Calendar and Agenda Items for next meeting - The Board reviewed the calendar for the months of October and November. No further action was required.

Item 12 - Executive session - None

Item 13 - Public Comment - Mr. Cravens commented that he wished all county offices operated like the Water District.

Item 14 - Adjourn - Mr. Kozielski moved to adjourn. Mr. Duke seconded and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Smith, Manager
Michelle Shelton, Technology Administrator