MINUTES
HARRIS-GALVESTON SUBSIDENCE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 12, 2020
10:00 A.M.


MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ABSENT: Joe Goins

PRESIDING: Alan Petrov, Chairman

Chairman Petrov called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. in the Boardroom of the District office and announced the presence of a quorum

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. None.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO BOARD MEMBERS

2. Ms. Helen Stewart Truscott administered the oath of office to Mr. Alan Petrov and Mr. Kyle Sears.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

3. Chairman Petrov opened the floor for nominations for the office of Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary.

   3.1. Mr. Latimer moved to nominate the Board Officers currently serving (Alan Petrov as Chairman, Susan Baird as Vice-Chairman, and Alberto Gonzales as Secretary); it was seconded by Ms. Rogers.

   3.2. Chairman Petrov called for other nominations. There were no other nominations. Chairman Petrov put the question and, after the vote, announced the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 8, 2020

4. Mr. Latimer moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 2020, be approved; it was seconded by Ms. Smyth. Chairman Petrov put the question and, after the vote,
announced the motion carried. None opposed.

HEARING EXAMINERS REPORT


5.1. Ms. Baird moved to accept the Hearing Examiner’s recommendations; it was seconded by Mr. Latimer. Chairman Petrov put the question, and after the vote, announced the motion carried.

EMERGENCY PERMITS

6. The Board considered the General Manager’s action in granting emergency permits to A & F General Contractors, Inc. and Keystone Concrete.

RESOLUTION CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PURPOSE OF HEARING TESTIMONY REGARDING THE DETERMINATION OF THE EFFECTS OF GROUNDWATER WITHDRAWAL ON LANDSUBSIDENCE DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

7. Mr. Turco stated that one of the District’s statutory requirements is to produce an annual groundwater report, and then present that information during an annual public hearing. It is a regional report on subsidence that has been measured, the amount of groundwater that has been pumped, and the impact of that pumping on water levels and subsidence. The groundwater report is then brought to the Board for approval.

7.1. Ms. Mears moved to approve Resolution 2020-1052; it was seconded by Ms. Rogers. Chairman Petrov put the question, and after the vote, announced the motion carried.
None opposed.

(This resolution is in full in the official records of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District being Resolution No. 2020-1052.)

BRIEFING FROM THE WEST HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY ON THE STATUS OF THEIR SURFACE WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS

8. Mike Turco introduced Alia Vinson of Allen Boone Humphries Robinson, L.L.P, who represents the West Harris County Regional Water Authority.

8.1. Mr. Murff is present.

8.2. Ms. Alia Vinson briefly addressed the Board regarding the role of the WHCRWA and outlined their efforts to develop a Groundwater Reduction Plan to comply with the District’s Regulatory Plan to reduce their groundwater use to 40% by 2025. She then introduced Ms. Melinda Silva of Dannenbaum Engineering, who is the Program Manager for the WHCRWA. Ms. Silva gave a presentation to review the status of the WHCRWA surface water supply construction projects.

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AUTHORIZATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE GRANT AWARD CONTRACTS WITH THE SELECTED APPLICANTS FROM THE 2019 REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE WATER CONSERVATION GRANT PROGRAM

9. Mr. Turco stated that the Water Conservation Grant Program was approved by Board in the fall of 2019. The Water Conservation Committee met on February 3, 2020, to review the applications submitted from the request for applications.

9.1. Ms. Smyth, the Water Conservation Committee Chairman, briefed the Board on the committee meeting held on February 3, 2020.

9.2. Dr. Tina Petersen provided a summary of the applications received through the Request for Applications for the Water Conservation Program and staff recommendations made for funding to the committee on February 3, 2020.

9.3. After discussion, Mr. Latimer moved to authorize the General Manager to negotiate the Water Conservation Grant Awards; it was seconded by Ms. Puckett. Chairman Petrov put the question, and after the vote, announced the motion carried.

BRIEFING FROM STAFF ON THE STATUS OF THE JOINT REGULATORY PLAN REVIEW

10. Dr. Petersen briefed the Board on the status of the Joint Regulatory Plan Review and announced the Stakeholders meeting on March 31, 2020, at the District Office.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

11. Mr. Turco submitted the General Manager’s Report.

(The General Manager’s Report is in full in the official records of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District as part of the Board’s Agenda Packet for this meeting.)

LEGAL MATTERS

12. Mr. Ellis updated the Board on recent legislation and litigation on groundwater issues.

HARRIS-GALVESTON SUBSIDENCE DISTRICT V. KENNETH NARINESINGH ET AL, CAUSE NO. 2016-99705, 133RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

13. The Board of Directors went into executive session at 11:25 a.m., as authorized by the Open Meetings Act, 551.074, Government Code.

13.1. The Board resumed the open meeting at 11:35 a.m. Chairman Petrov asked if there was a motion from the closed session. There were none.

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THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:36 A.M.

BY:  
Chairman

ATTEST:  

Secretary

Approved March 11, 2020 Board Meeting