

Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, August 20, 2003
6:00pm

Navasota City Hall, City Council Chambers
107 Farquhar
Navasota, Texas

Minutes

In Attendance: Directors Jared Patout, Jim Ward, Milton Beckendorff, Kent Watson, Joe Sandel, Glenn Huebner, Paul Isham, Bill Thomas, Michael Blezinger, Sharon Brandes; General Manager Lloyd Behm, Jackie Scott, Brazos River Authority; Frances Behm, Town and Country Consulting.

1. Call to Order:

President Patout called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

2. Public Comment

(Public comment is limited to a maximum of 5 minutes per speaker and/or 30 minutes total time for all speakers)

No one addressed the Board.

3. Approve Minutes of April 16, May 21 and June 18, 2003 Board Meetings.

Director Sandel moved, Director Ward seconded a motion that the minutes be accepted as presented. *Motion Carried.*

4. Financial Report

Director Ward moved, Director Isham seconded a motion to accept Financial Report as presented. *Motion Carried.*

5. Quarterly Investment Report.

General Manager Behm explained that the District is required to have a certified Investment Officer and that Officer is required to make a quarterly report on interest bearing accounts. He also reported that he has received certification as an Investment Officer and that Director Morrison is also a certified Investment Officer. Behm reported that the District's checking account earns interest, and the bank has waived all fees that would normally be charged on this type account.

Director Isham moved, Director Watson seconded the motion to accept the Quarterly Investment Report as presented. *Motion Carried.*

6. Discussion and possible action to authorize General Manager to attend Texas Water Law Seminar 2003.

GM Behm explained that the Texas Water Law Seminar will be held in Austin beginning September 11, 2003. Cost to the District is expected to be approximately \$600. The District's attorney Bickerstaff, Heath is major contributor to this seminar. Director Beckendorff moved, Director Thomas seconded the motion to authorize General Manager Behm to attend the Texas Water Law Seminar in Austin. *Motion carried.*

7. Discussion and possible action setting date for September Special Called Board Meeting.

Director Isham moved, Director Beckendorff seconded the motion that a Special Called Board Meeting be held on September 17, 2003 at 6 pm to discuss the budget. *Motion Carried.*

8. Report on District Planning Seminar at TAMU on August 13 & 14.

Directors Morrison, Ward, Oates, Beckendorff, and Patout and General Manager Behm attended the Programs, Plans and Rules for your Groundwater Conservation District Seminar at TAMU on August 13 & 14th.

The District's Rules are complete. The District's Management Plan needs to be in place by next year. The Rules can be changed or amended locally as needed. The Management Plan must be certified by the Texas Water Development Board and any changes must be certified by that agency.

With the District's rules done, the management plan is top priority. The plan needs to be in place by next year. Rules can be changed and/or amended by Board action. Once the management plan is certified by the Texas Water Development Board any changes must have that Board's approval.

The rules will tie back to the management plan.

USGS has offered another contract. Monitoring by USGS is a benefit to the District. After the first year, USGS has funds available to offset charges to the district.

The Austin County Agent called asking General Manager Behm to attend a new landowner's meeting in Bellville on Tuesday August 19, 2003.

9. Review of draft of District Rules after editing by Attorney

General Manager Behm pointed out the changes to the draft rules made by the attorney.

Enabling statute provides for initial terms of Directors to expire on the anniversary of the last initial director being seated. The final initial director was seated on January 16, 2003. Directors Brandes, Beckendorff, Watson, Ward, Isham and Oates terms will expire on January 16, 2004. President Patout will write letters to the County Judges to request re-appointment of these Directors or the appointment of new Directors from the counties and interest group represented by these Directors.

10. Authorize Rules Committee and/or General Manager to conduct public hearings for proposed District Rules.

A public hearing is required at the meeting when the rules are approved. The Rules Committee proposes a public hearing in each of the counties in the district prior to the meeting to adopt the rules. Once the draft rules are in final form, they will be posted on the District's website and hard copies of the draft rules will be available at each of the county court houses for public review. Director Isham suggested Huntsville City Hall for the Walker County meeting. Even minor changes to rules will require a public hearing at the meeting they are going to be voted on.

The Management Committee will hold its first meeting next month.

Director Beckendorff moved Director Isham seconded that the General Manager and the Rules Committee make arrangements for public hearings to be held in each county.
Motion Carried.

Director Isham suggested that a power point presentation be made at each hearing prior to public comment.

11. Adjourn.

Director Brandes moved Director Ward seconded the meeting be adjourned at 7:44pm

THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BLUEBONNET GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HELD ON AUGUST 20, 2003 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THAT BOARD ON OCTOBER 15, 2003.

JARED PATOUT,
PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

LLOYD A BEHM, DEPUTY SECRETARY

DATE