

MINUTES

CAPITAL AREA GROUND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

December 12, 2017

I. Call to Order

The Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission met for a regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. on December 12, 2017 in the U.S. Geological Survey's auditorium at 3535 South Sherwood Forest, Suite 120, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Barry Huggins.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present: Ronnie Albritton, William Daniel, Johan Forsman, Barry Huggins, John Jennings, Jeff Miller, Nelson Morvant, Matthew Reonas, Ryan Scardina, Thomas Stephens, Todd Talbot, and Mark Walton. The following members were absent: Henry Davis, Amelia Kent and Jens Rummler.

Others attending the meeting were: Anthony Duplechin and Shawn Scallan, Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District; Joey Hebert, Georgia Pacific Corporation; Representative C. Denise Marcelle, Louisiana State Representative (District 61); Roy Waggenpack, Owen & White; Harry Vorhoff, Louisiana Attorney General's Office; Steve Hardy, The Advocate; Lindsay Gouedy, Sparta Ground Water Commission; Dennis McGehee, Baton Rouge Water Company; Mark Frey, Louisiana Farm Bureau; John Lovelace, U.S. Geological Survey; and Shanna Mason, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.

III. Minutes

Mr. Stephens made a motion that the minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting be approved. Mr. Walton seconded this motion. The minutes were approved and passed unanimously.

IV. Report from the Administrative Committee

At the request of the Chairman, Barry Huggins, Mr. Stephens reported on the meeting that was held December 5, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. Following is a summary of items discussed at the meeting and further discussion and action at the regular Commission meeting on December 12, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

- The financial conditions as of November 30, 2017 were reviewed. Mr. Stephens made a motion to recommend that the Commission open a certificate of deposit. Mr. Jennings seconded this motion. Denise Marcelle spoke in reference to certificate of deposit. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Stephens reported that the Commission received four proposals for the online bill payment system. The Administrative Committee will rate the proposals and make a recommendation.
- Mr. Stephens made a motion that the Commission pay the Pennington family \$100 for access to their property and amend the budget for 2017-2018 to reflect this item. Mr. Morvant seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
- Mr. Stephens stated that due to the annual budget of the Commission that the board is now required to have an audit. Mr. Stephens made a motion to hire Baxley & Associates to do the audit and amend the budget for 2017-2018 for \$10,500. Mr. Morvant seconded this motion. Denise Marcelle commented on the audit. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Jennings made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss another item that deals with the audit. Mr. Stephens seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Huggins reported that the Legislative Auditor now has requirements that all agencies have written policies and procedures. Mr. Huggins stated that the Administrative Committee along with the staff will write these policies and procedures and adopt them in this fiscal year.

Mr. Jennings made a motion to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the audit for 2016-2017. Mr. Morvant seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

V. Report from the Technical Committee

The report of the Technical Committee was made by Nelson Morvant. Following is a summary of topics discussed at the meeting on December 6, 2017 further discussion and action at the regular Commission meeting on December 12, 2017. There was not a quorum

- A presentation was given by Augusto Villalon with Freese and Nichols on Regional Water Planning
- Mark Walton reviewed the most recent pumping from the “1,500 and 2,000-foot” sand. All pumpage was well within mandated limits
- Max Lindaman, USGS, gave an update on the groundwater flow and saltwater movement in the “1,500-foot”, “2,400-foot” and “2,800-foot” sands of Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- Mr. Huggins brought up looking into whether or not scavenger wells would solve the problem of saltwater intrusion in the “2,000-foot” sand. He would like to move forward with an analysis of the success in using a scavenger well.

Mr. Reonas commented that the Commission is in a position now to take some steps toward long term planning. Denise Marcelle agreed that the Commission needs to look into long term planning. She also requested clarification on installment of a scavenger well.

VI. Director’s Report

Director Duplechin reported that he is continuing to work with Owen and White to assist the Commission in preparation of a bid package including design, bidding and construction support for installation of the first test hole near Acadian Thruway.

He reported that he continued to work with the Attorney General’s office on collection of fees from East West Copolymer. Mr. Harry Vorhoff, Attorney General’s office, stated that the final plan for the bankruptcy has been signed and said that the Commission will probably not collect on the outstanding debt.

Mr. Duplechin reported that the staff is working on getting all board members to comply with the Board of Ethics on their required online training due by December 31st. The Director assisted the Sparta Commission with their Water Fest.

Mr. Duplechin reported that the report was completed for Act 425. Mr. Duplechin stated that he is still working on getting pumpage data from some of the users.

The Director met with Scott Gaines and John Lovelace with the U.S. Geological Survey to discuss the Commission’s future relationship.

VII. Chairman’s Report

Mr. Huggins reported that he asked the Director for the list of users who have not reported for Act 425.

VIII. Other Business

Mr. Huggins requested that the Planning and Specifications Subcommittee determine the most appropriate means of protecting the “2,000-foot” sand based on the available models. He stated if the Commission is going to start scavenging saltwater, he would like a recommendation of how to dispose of the saltwater, the number of wells that would be needed, cost and timeline of installation. Mr. Huggins stated that if the Committee feels that the Commission needs an engineering study, then he requested that recommendation as well. Mr. Huggins stated that this is a serious issue and the Commission needs to move forward. Mr. Walton commented that this is

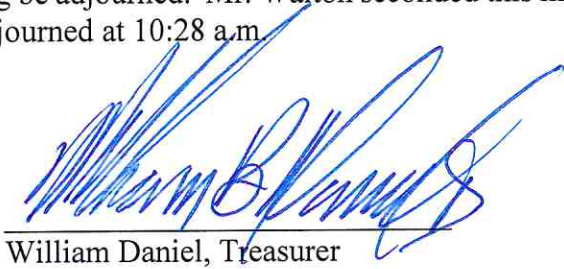
very involved. Modeling would be required and locations. Mr. Reonas commented that he thinks the safest recommendation would be to hire an outside engineering firm to evaluate the science. Mr. Daniel agreed with Mr. Reonas.

IX. Public Comment

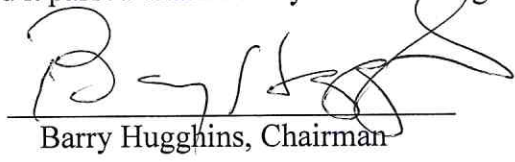
Denise Marcelle thanked the Commission for sending the information for Act 425.

X. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, Mr. Jennings made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Walton seconded this motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.



William Daniel, Treasurer



Barry Hughhins, Chairman