

## *MINUTES*

### *CAPITAL AREA GROUND WATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION*

*September 25, 2018*

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#### **I. Call to Order**

The Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission met for a regular meeting at 9:30 a.m. on September 25, 2018 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, Kenneth Dawson, Johan Forsman, Mark Frey, Barry Huggins, John Jennings, Nelson Morvant, Matthew Reonas, Ryan Scardina, Tom Stephens, Todd Talbot, Hays Town and Mark Walton. The following members were absent: Lucas Hopkins, Dennis McGehee, and Jens Rummler.

Others attending the meeting were: Anthony Duplechin and Shawn Scallan, Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District; Roy Waggenspack, Owen & White; Harry Vorhoff, Louisiana Attorney General's Office; Steve Hardy, The Advocate; Alyssa Dausman, The Water Institute; Michael Layne, Baton Rouge Water Company; Joey Normand, retired; Russel Honore, Green Army; and Phillip Fetterman.

#### **III. Amend Agenda**

There were none.

#### **IV. Minutes**

Mr. Daniel made a motion that the minutes of the June 19, 2018 and the August 21, 2018 meetings be approved. Mr. Walton seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **V. Report from the Administrative Committee**

At the request of the Chairman, Barry Huggins, Mr. Jennings reported on the meeting that was held September 6, 2018 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 September 25, 2018 at 9:30 a.m.

- The financial conditions as of August 31, 2018 were reviewed.
- The Administrative Committee recommended that the full board accept the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire. Mr. Huggins made a motion to accept the questionnaire for the audit for fiscal year 2017-2018. Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- The Administrative Committee recommended to the full board to amend the budget for 2018-2019. Mr. Huggins made the motion to amend the legal contract with the Attorney General's office and amend the budget for legal fees in the amount of \$8,000, and also to amend the budget for land acquisition to \$15,000. Mr. Morvant seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
- The Administrative Committee recommended to the full board the following CAGWCC officers for 2019: Nelson Morvant – Chairman, William Daniel – Vice-Chairman, and Mark Frey – Treasurer. Mr. Huggins made this motion, and Mr. Walton seconded the motion. Following is the vote: Yeas: Ronnie Albritton, William Daniel, Kenneth Dawson, Johan Forsman, Barry Huggins, John Jennings, Nelson Morvant, Ryan Scardina, Tom Stephens, Todd Talbot, Hays Town, Mark Walton; Nays: None; Abstain: Matthew Reonas. The motion passed.

## **VI. 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 September 11, 2018 and further discussion and action at the regular Commission meeting on September 25, 2018.

- Mr. Morvant gave an update on the progress of the Planning & Specifications Subcommittee meeting held on September 5, 2018. The subcommittee accepted the terms of the land acquisition offer to Mr. Nguyen. The Chairman signed the lease agreement for the property to drill the test hole. Owen & White will prepare the specifications for the bid. It was noted that the Subcommittee has the authority to review the bids and make the award.
- At the Technical Committee meeting, Ms. Alyssa Dausman, The Water Institute of the Gulf, gave an update on the proposal to assist the Commission in the development of a long-range plan to ensure the protection and sustainability of the Southern Hills Aquifer. Mr. Reonas asked the reason for the delay in signing of the contract. Mr. Huggins stated that the delay was due to personnel turnover at Coastal Protection & Restoration Authority (CPRA). It was stated by Director Duplechin that he along with Chairman Huggins met with the Water Institute and CPRA several months ago to begin the process for exchanging funds. Follow ups have been made with the Water Institute and CPRA. Mr. Reonas asked what the holdup was. It was explained that there had been some personnel changes at CPRA. Mr. Reonas offered to interject himself and his agency into the discussions. The Chairman approved his offer. He also asked for copies of communications between CAGWCC, CPRA and TWIG.
- Dr. Frank Tsai gave the following updates:
  - 1) Project title: Conjunctive Management of Baton Rouge Multi-Aquifer System for Saltwater Intrusion Mitigation; Project period: 6/1/2015 – 8/31/2018  
LSU Accomplishments:
    - Completed a Baton Rouge groundwater flow model
    - Completed a Baton Rouge saltwater intrusion model
    - Provided technical support to the CAGWCC
    - Disseminated project results through local, state, national, and international conferences
    - Published project results to refereed journals and proceedings
    - Trained LSU graduate students
  - 2) Project Title: Optimized Hydraulic Controls for Managing Saltwater Encroachment in Multi-Aquifer-Fault System; Project period: 6/1/2019 - 5/31/2022  
Objectives:
    - Refine model grid along the Baton Rouge Fault
    - Update model with new test wells
    - Conduct simulations of mitigation scenarios
    - Provide technical support to the CAGWCC
  - 3) Project title: Development of an Integrated Framework for Managing Sole Source Aquifer, Southeastern Louisiana; Project period: 6/1/2017 – 5/31/2020  
Progress:
    - Completed a well log dataset
    - Completed a Capital Area stratigraphy model
    - Completed a MODFLOW grid
    - Compiling pumping wells information and pumpage data

## **VII. Director's Report**

Director Duplechin reported that he made a presentation on the work of the District at the Louisiana Coastal Geology Symposium. The Director along with Chairman Huggins met with a committee

Rouge and the steps the District is taking to address the issue. Mr. Duplechin represented the District at the Louisiana Water Resources Commission. The Director attended the Baton Rouge Flood Symposium

**VIII. Chairman's Report**

Chairman Huggins reported that he and the Director met with The Water Institute of the Gulf to discuss how the Commission would have input in the plan along with how The Water Institute would receive other input from individuals, organizations, etc.

**IX. Commission Member Comments**

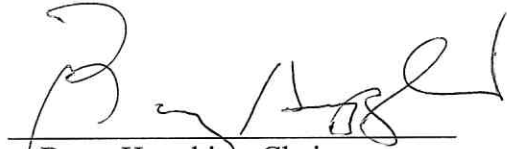
Mr. Reonas asked if there has been any feedback on the request for an Attorney General's opinion on the following requests: 1) opinion as to which of the Commissioners are "members representing governmental entities" with terms contemporaneous with their office and 2) opinion as to whether legislative action is required to approve an 18<sup>th</sup> seat for Ascension Parish. Mr. Huggins reported that the office has received no response to date.

**XI. Public Comment**

Mr. Joey Normand commented on water use in the West Baton Rouge area. Mr. Honore commented that everyone needs to be invested in saving water and protecting the aquifer.

**XII. 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 10:15 a.m.

  
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William Daniel, Treasurer  
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Barry Huggins, Chairman