

## Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

### Board of Directors Agenda Minutes

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

The Board of Directors convened at 7:02 p.m. in a meeting pursuant to public notice having been given, at Giddings Public Library, Giddings, Texas. The following members of the Board were present: Vice-President Kathryn Rogers; Secretary-Treasurer Elvis Hernandez; Directors: Tom Arsuffi, Melissa Cole, Herbert Cook, Larry Schatte, Billy Sherrill and Michael Simmang.

Staff members present: Jim Totten, General Manager, Javier Saenz, Assistant General Manager, Peggy Campion and Dana Goertz.

Consultants present: April Griffin, Attorney.

1. In the absence of President Smith, Vice-President Rogers called the meeting to order and welcomed the public.

2. *Public Comments.* Linda Curtis addressed the Board concerning a water seminar that will be August 8, 2022 at 3:15 p.m. at Texas State University on Who Gets Water in the Future. Ms. Curtis also passed out a flyer announcing her run for Texas House District 17 as an Independent. Andy Weir, a Bastrop County land and well owner as well as representing Simsboro Aquifer Defense Fund, reported to the Board that the House Natural Resource committee will meet August 24, 2022 in the Capitol Extension Building to discuss interim charges related to groundwater. Alexandra Fite spoke about the classification of the water well that serves her house.

3. *Review and approval of the minutes of the June 15, 2022 regular Board meeting.* There being no corrections, Director Cole moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2022 regular Board meeting. Director Herbert Cook seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

4. *Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval of Budget Amendment #2-2022 related to the procurement of services from HALFF Associates, Inc.* Vice-President Rogers read the amendment to the Board and said that the Board had approved securing the services of HALFF Associates at the June Board meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Hernandez then moved to approve Budget Amendment #2-2022. Director Cole seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. *Discussion, consideration of and possible action on the approval of a Resolution of the District Authorizing Support for Legislative Changes Relating to the Authority of the District.* Secretary-Treasurer Hernandez reported that President Smith, Nancy McKee, Andy Weir and himself met with Senator Kolhurst's attorney about the Senator sponsoring legislation to create a law so that Lost Pines GCD could create a mitigation fund to support groundwater well assistance for existing wells in the District. Mrs. McKee and Mr. Weir will present the Resolution to Bastrop and Lee Counties. The Board discussed adding "inside the District" to the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) paragraph. The Board

and General Manager requested clarification on who Legislative Counsel refers to. At the conclusion of Board discussion, Director Sherrill moved to approve the Resolution of the District Authorizing Support for Legislative Changes Relating to the Authority of the District with the amendment made to the ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) paragraph. Director Simmang seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

6. *Discuss the drought conditions in the District and statewide and drought measures taken by utilities in the District.* Vice-President Rogers discussed the drought conditions and what the District could do such as educating exempt well owners. General Manager Totten reported that well levels will be rechecked in the fall and monitoring well levels could be checked.

7. *Committee Reports.*

a) *Education Outreach Committee.* Director Arsuffi reported that the Education Outreach committee had met and discussed education materials and programs, developing a power point presentation, developing a brochure detailing what the District can and cant's do for well owners, working with Kathy Baker on the education program, expanding the newsletter, press releases to educate the public, developing procedures for the calendar and photo contest, putting on a program in the fall for Lee County and in the spring for Bastrop County provided by Texas Extension Agents and will also provide well screening and discussed conservation awards.

b) *Financial Services Committee.* Secretary-Treasurer Hernandez reported that the Financial Services committee had not met and at this time the only pending business is the interlocal agreement with Post Oak Savannah GCD and is slowly progressing.

c) *Governance Committee.* The Governance committee had met concerning the agenda and the RFQ deadline for submission is July 22, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

d) *Infrastructure Committee.* Secretary-Treasurer Hernandez said that realtor Shara Parker had emailed and reported that she is receiving about one (1) phone call per week to ten (10) days inquiring about the Paige property. The list price is \$250,000.00.

e) *Management Committee.* Director Cole reported that the committee had met July 12, 2022 and discussed natural resource issues, potential hazards impacting water, producing a map with mining hazards, doing website research to identify other hazards, receiving input from the public, implementing production caps, aquifer storage and recovery, surface water monitoring, asking the public about seeps and springs on their land and are awaiting clarification on establishing a DFC for the Colorado River Alluvial.

8. *General Manager's Report.* Vice-President Rogers next recognized General Manager Totten for presentation of the General Manager's report. Please see Attachment A.

9. *Discussion of Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District legislation, related legislation and/or activities occurring that affect or pertain to the District and groundwater.* There was no legislation report given.

10. *Consideration of, conferences, meetings and education opportunities Board members desire to attend.* The 2022 Texas Groundwater Summit will be held August 29 – September 1, 2022 at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort in San Antonio, Texas and the Watershed Planning Short Course will be held August 29 – September 1, 2022 at the Mayan Dude Ranch in Bandera, Texas.

11. *Consideration of agenda items, calendar, events and announcements.* Director Sherrill asked legal counsel to review an offer for easements on his property for possible conflicts of interest. April Griffin, Attorney, announced that LCRA had filed a lawsuit, which will be reviewed and an update and response will be provided.

Vice-President adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Approved:

  
Kathryn Rogers, Vice-President

  
Elvis Hernandez, Secretary-Treasurer

# Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

P. O. BOX 1027  
Smithville, TX 78957

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
**TO:** President and Board of Directors  
**FROM:** General Manager & Staff  
**SUBJECT:** July 2022 General Manager's Report

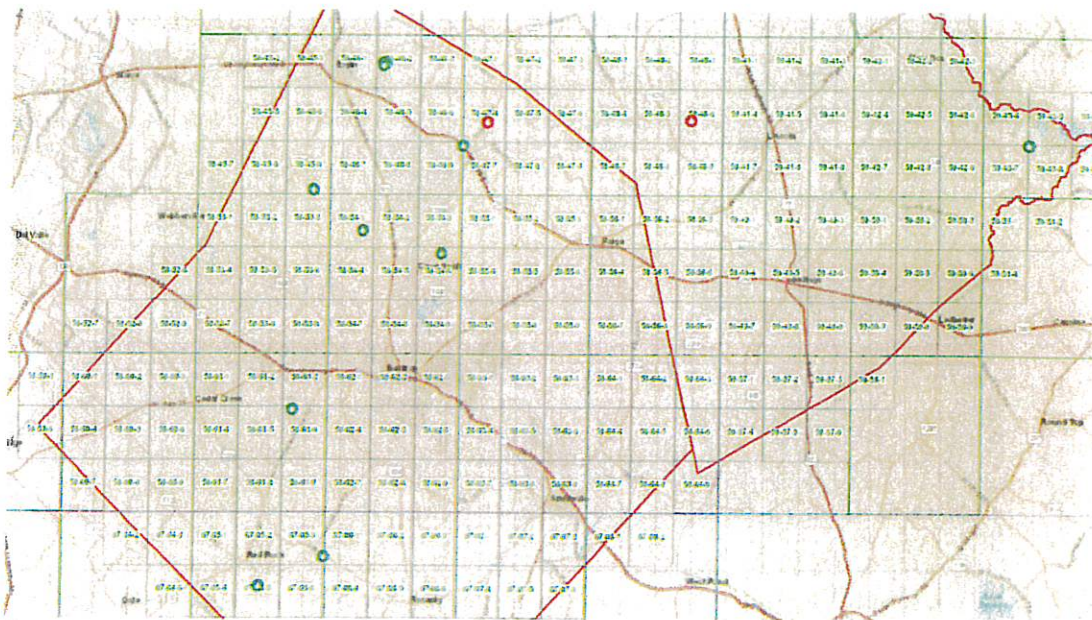
1. Statistics Exempt Wells:  
LPGCD Form 100's Drilling Permits received  
**June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 (12)**  
LPGCD Form 300's Certificate of Registrations received  
**June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022 (1)**

**Wells plugged: 0      Water quality test: 1      Wells gauged: 20**

Drought Conditions: Approximately fifty two percent of Lee County and four percent of Bastrop County are experiencing sever drought conditions with the remainder of each county experiencing moderate drought conditions. (Drought.gov)

1. The Bastrop and Lee County Commissioner's Courts have both approved the LPGCD interlocal monitoring well agreement. This agreement will allow the District to install monitoring wells in the right of way of county roads if no other suitable monitoring wells are available.
2. GMA 12 has issued a call for comments regarding the methods that will be employed to create the DFCs during the current planning period. This is a public call for feedback and suggestions to address any perceived shortcomings by the public and stakeholders during the previous planning cycle. Comments can be submitted in writing to any District within the GMA before the deadline of September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. Additionally, TWDB has declared the 2021 explanatory report to be administratively complete and the new MAGs are expected to be released to the District in August.
3. Last month the Board as supplied a copy of the the District management calendar/checklist as part of the general manager's report. The calendar/checklist will be included in the board packet on a quarterly basis to provide oversight in the District compliance with the management plan.
4. The draft water level monitoring report was supplied to the management committee in early June and copies were distributed to the full board in early July. Absent any comments from the Board the intention is post the final version of the report in early August.
5. Pending Permits:
  - i. Manville WSC has submitted an application for a no increase amendment to their existing Blue well field, located near Blue in Lee County, to add an additional well for backup and increased instantaneous production. This permit will likely be ready for consideration in July.
6. Upcoming meetings
  - i. Region K, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. LCRA Dalchau Center Austin, TX





*Locations of new exempt wells within LPGCD (6.1.22-7.1.22)*