

MINUTES OF THE  
PERMIT HEARING AND MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MIDDLE TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
HELD: December 5, 2019

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ERATH

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019 the Board of Directors of the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District convened in a PERMIT HEARING at 122 N Austin St, Comanche, Texas at 5:00 PM with the following members present:

Rodney Stephens – President  
Barbara Domel – Vice-President  
Kenneth Bullington – Director  
Shane Tucker – Director  
Charles Ferguson – Director  
W.B. Maples - Director

Fred Parker - Secretary  
Jerry Hinshaw – Director  
Frank Volleman – Director  
Gary Kafer – Director  
Robert Payne – Director

Member absent was Joe Altebaumer. Also present were Joe Cooper, Johnny Wells, Crystal Eberhart, Debbie Montgomery, and Stephanie Keith.

President Rodney Stephens called the hearing to order declared a quorum present and that the hearing was duly convened and ready to transact business.

Notice of the hearing was given, stating the time, place and purpose, all as required by Chapter 551 of the Government Code.

1. Hearing called to order by Rodney Stephens.
2. Roll Call of members was given by Debbie Montgomery.
3. Permit applications are ready for review. Joe Cooper stated that all operating permits were administratively complete and ready to be heard.
4. Motion was made by Frank Volleman and second by Gary Kafer to approve all operating permits. All members present voted yes. All permits were approved.
5. Motion to adjourn permit hearing made by Fred Parker. Second by Charles Ferguson. All members present voted yes.
6. Rodney Stephens adjourned the permit hearing.

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF ERATH

On this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019, the Board of Directors of the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District convened in a STATED SESSION at 122 N Austin St, Comanche, Texas at 5:00 PM with the following members present:

Rodney Stephens – President  
Barbara Domel – Vice-President  
Kenneth Bullington – Director  
Shane Tucker – Director  
Charles Ferguson – Director  
W.B. Maples - Director

Fred Parker – Secretary  
Jerry Hinshaw - Director  
Frank Volleman – Director  
Gary Kafer – Director  
Robert Payne – Director

Member absent was Joe Altebaumer. Also present were Joe Cooper, Johnny Wells, Crystal Eberhart, Debbie Montgomery, and Stephanie Keith.

President Rodney Stephens called the meeting to order declared a quorum present and that the hearing was duly convened and ready to transact business.

Notice of the hearing was given, stating the time, place and purpose, all as required by Chapter 551 of the Government Code.

1. Meeting called to order by Rodney Stephens.
2. Invocation was given by Gary Kafer.
3. Roll Call of Members was given by Debbie Montgomery.
4. Pledge of allegiance was conducted.
5. Guests present were Ty Embrey, Cole Ruiz, and Audrey Cooper of Lloyd Gosselink Law Firm and James Beach of WSP.
6. No public comments were received
7. Re-elected Directors Robert Payne, W.B. Maples, and Gary Kafer were qualified and administered the Oath of Office by Crystal Eberhart.
8. Board Officers for 2020 were elected. Charles Ferguson made a motion to re-elect the current officers, second by Frank Volleman. All members present voted yes. Rodney Stephens will remain as President, Barbara Domel as Vice-President, and Fred Parker as Secretary/Treasurer.
9. There was a review of the Minutes of the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 monthly Board Meeting. W.B. Maples made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Kenneth Bullington. All members present voted yes to accept the minutes.
10. Check Detail Report reviewed for dates 11/1/2019 through 11/30/2019, for check numbers 10181 through 10223, and including electronic checks numbered 111519 and 111520. Motion was made by W.B. Maples, second by Kenneth Bullington, to approve and ratify the payment of the bills. All members present voted yes.
11. Income/Expense Comparison was reviewed. 77.7% of the budget has been expended.

12. Office Manager Report was given by Debbie Montgomery. In addition to the permit applications, there were 12 exempt well registrations. The MTGCD office will be closed on Tuesday, December 24, 2019 for Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 25, 2019 for Christmas Day, and Wednesday, January 1, 2020 for New Year's Day.
13. Field Tech report was given by Johnny Wells. Three wells were plugged, 2 in Erath County and 1 in Comanche County. Six water quality tests were completed, 4 in Erath County, 1 in Bosque County, and 1 in Coryell County. The well in Coryell County tested high in TDS and Salinity. Coryell County wells were monitored in November and Bosque County wells will be monitored in December.
14. Education/Public Relations Report was given by Stephanie Keith.
15. Manager's Report was given by Joe Cooper.
16. 2019 Budget Amendments were discussed. Money was removed from Fuel Expense and Contingency to meet the underbudgeted areas of Legal Expenses, Public Notices/Newspaper, Registration and Seminar Fees, Tax Collector Expenses in Erath and Bosque Counties, and Well Capping and Plugging Expenses. Charles Ferguson made a motion to accept the budget amendments, second by Barbara Domel. All members present voted yes.
17. There was discussion on the naming and mission statement of the outdoor learning center. "The Ditch at Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District" was proposed as the name. The mission statement was proposed as "The mission of The Ditch at Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District is to provide educational experiences for all ages through a community of natural settings; thus providing an open window into the worlds of groundwater and conservation to inspire stewardship practices." Kenneth Bullington moved to adopt this name and mission statement, second by Robert Payne. All members present voted yes. Costs of excavation were also discussed. Jerry Hinshaw moved to approve \$9,000 to expend toward excavation. Second by Kenneth Bullington. All members present voted yes.
18. There was discussion on awarding a scholarship to Myla Childers, a 4-H Water Ambassador for Erath County. She has been a water ambassador the last two years and has decided to pursue a degree in Environmental Geoscience. She is a senior at Stephenville High School and has been accepted into Texas A & M University. Jerry Hinshaw made a motion to award her a \$1000 scholarship, second by Kenneth Bullington. All members present voted yes.
19. There was discussion on casting votes for the Coryell County Central Appraisal District 2020-2021 Board of Directors. W.B. Maples made a motion, second by Kenneth Bullington, to cast all 23 votes to Jay Manning. All members present voted yes.
20. James, Beach, Senior Supervising Hydrogeologist and Area Manager at WSP, went over updates on hydrogeological conditionals related to GMA 8 Joint Planning.
21. Ty Embrey, Lloyd Gosselink Attorney at Law, discussed potential amendments to District Rules to reduce groundwater waste. He recommended two changes: one to change citations due to TDLR updates in Section 7, and one to close a potential loophole in Section 5.4 concerning exemption of wells to be drilled on property that is later subdivided. These potential amendments will be looked into further and presented at another meeting.
22. Agenda items for the January Board Meeting were discussed. The meeting will be held at 1:00 PM on Thursday, January 2, 2020 at the MTGCD Office at 930 Wolfe Nursery Rd in Stephenville, Texas. Possible agenda items include the quarterly reports and the annual report.
23. Fred Parker moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Charles Ferguson. Meeting adjourned by Rodney Stephens.

**MINUTES approved this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January 2020.**

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Joe Altebaumer/Erath Co.

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Fred Parker/Erath Co.

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Jerry Hinshaw/ Erath Co.

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Shane Tucker /Comanche Co.

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Frank Volleman/Comanche Co.

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Rodney Stephens/Comanche Co.

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Charles E. Ferguson/ Bosque Co.

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Barbara Domel/Bosque Co.

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Robert Payne/Bosque Co.

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Gary Kafer/Coryell Co.

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Kenneth Bullington/Coryell Co.

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W.B. Maples/ Coryell Co.