# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

#### **BOARD MEETING**

BOARD ROOM
GREATER TEXOMA UTILITY AUTHORITY
5100 AIRPORT DRIVE
DENISON, TEXAS 75020

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2012 2:00 PM

#### **AGENDA**

#### RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING GREATER TEXOMA UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD ROOM

#### 5100 AIRPORT DRIVE DENISON, TEXAS 75020

2:00 P.M., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2012

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Red River Groundwater Conservation District will be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. in the Greater Texoma Utility Authority Board Room, 5100 Airport Drive, Denison TX, 75020, at which time the following items may be discussed, considered, and acted upon, including the expenditure of funds:

#### Agenda:

- 1. Call to order, declare meeting open to the public, and take roll.
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Consider approval of Minutes of August 21, 2012, Public Hearing and Board Meeting
- 4. Review and approval of monthly invoices.
- 5. Receive monthly financial information and review 2012 budget performance
- 6. Consider and act on a policy relating to non-exempt wells not metered on or before July 1, 2012
- 7. Receive Management Plan Quarterly Report Regarding Assessment of Drought in District
- 8. Consider and discuss data collection needs for future evaluation of well permitting activities
- 9. Review and consideration of 2011 irrigation use estimates information for the Texas Water Development Board
- 10. General Manager's report: The General Manager will update the Board on operational, educational and other activities of the District
- 11. Open forum / discussion of new business for future meeting agendas
- 12. Adjourn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Board may vote and/or act upon each of the items listed in this agenda.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>At any time during the meeting or work session and in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, Annotated, the Red River Groundwater Conservation District Board may meet in executive session on any of the above agenda items or other lawful items for consultation concerning attorney-client matters (§551.071); deliberation regarding real property (§551.072); deliberation regarding prospective gifts (§551.073); personnel matters (§551.074); and deliberation regarding security devices (§551.076). Any subject discussed in executive session may be subject to action during an open meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting, and who may need assistance, are requested to contact Carmen Catterson at (800) 256-0935 two (2) working days prior to the meeting, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

#### MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2012

# AT THE GREATER TEXOMA UTILITY AUTHORITY BOARD ROOM 5100 AIRPORT DRIVE DENISON, TX 75020

Members Present:

George "Butch" Henderson, George Olson, David Gattis, Harold Latham, Don Morrison,

Mark Patterson

Members Absent:

Don Wortham

Staff:

Jerry Chapman, Carolyn Bennett, and Carmen Catterson

Visitors:

Jonathan Cannon, Herald Democrat Alex Moser, AL Moser Drilling Joey Rickman, City of Honey Grove

#### 1. Call to order, declare meeting open to the public, and take roll.

President Henderson called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. All members were present, except Secretary/Treasurer Wortham.

#### 2. Public Comment.

No comments received.

#### 3. Consider approval of Minutes of July 25, 2012, board meeting

Board Member Morrison motioned to approve the Minutes of the July 25, 2012 public hearing and board meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Member Gattis and passed unanimously.

#### 4. Review and approval of monthly invoices.

President Henderson reviewed the invoices received for approval. Mr. Chapman explained the reimbursement to GTUA for services paid to GoDaddy. The service was set to expire with no warning, so the staff sent a request to the Board for authorization to renew the service.

Vice President Olson motioned to approve the monthly invoices. The motion was seconded by Board Member Gattis and passed unanimously.

#### 5. Receive Monthly Financial Information

The budget is performing as anticipated and only one line item is over the budgeted amount. The budget included \$60,000 for contract services and the expenses are currently \$17,000 over. The staff will provide a recommended budget amendment closer to the end of the budget cycle.

### 6. <u>Consider and act upon update to Well Registration Website application to connect with the ASYST accounting program</u>

This will allow the information captured on the website to be imported into the ASYST accounting system. By having this automated system, the staff will not have to manually input the data into the system. The cost for this is \$800 as a reimbursement to the North Texas GCD.

Board Member Gattis motioned to approve reimbursing the North Texas GCD in the amount of \$800 to connect the well registration website and the ASYST accounting program. The motion was seconded by Board Member Patterson unanimously.

#### 7. Review and consider possible changes to Temporary Rules adopted by District in August 2011

#### A. Review and Evaluate District Rules Regarding Waste of Groundwater

The primary reason for the discussion on the Temporary Rules is that the Management Plan requires that the Board review the waste of groundwater annually. Mr. Chapman explained that the staff had no recommendation for modifications. President Henderson asked if the District was capturing data on water loss. The staff responded that this is not currently being collected, but could request this information from the non-exempt well owners. The non-exempt well owners are now required to report production, but not water loss. Public water systems are required to submit a report to the State each year so the information is available.

The Board requested the staff to collect more information on waste and provide it to the Board in the annual report. The Board will review waste again in 2013, once better information has been collected. Board Member Patterson commented that entities are already being burdened with additional forms and recommended that the staff collect the information from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Vice President Olson agreed that water loss is good information, but should be collected from the State, not the entities.

## B. Review and Evaluate District Rules Regarding the Difference Between Chapter 36.117 of the Texas Water Code and RRGCD Temporary Rules Relating to Exempt Wells

Chapter 36.117 of the Texas Water Code discusses the definition of exempt and non-exempt wells. The Statute sets the exemption limit at 25,000 gallons per day, while the District has raised that limit to 40,000 gallons per day. Most of the groundwater districts in the State have set their limits at 25,000 gallons per day, except for the North Texas GCD, which has set the limit at 36,000 gallons per day.

#### C. Review and Evaluate District Rules Regarding Reporting and Payment Provisions

The current situation with the District rules is that the reporting period goes from January 1 to June 30<sup>th</sup>. On August 31<sup>st</sup>, the users are required to submit their meter readings. The payments are due September 1<sup>st</sup>. This schedule does not leave any time for invoicing or for submitting the invoice to city councils or boards for approval. Mr. Chapman recommended reducing the reporting period to 30 days and then the second 30 days would be available for invoicing and approval.

Board Member Gattis recommended making the changes recommended to the schedule. It would make the process easier on all parties involved.

President Henderson recommended collecting all possible changes so that the District can hold one public hearing to make all modifications. The staff recommended waiting several months to hold the

hearing until more options were reviewed. The Board needs to meet and discuss all possible changes to the Temporary Rules.

#### 8. Consider and act on a policy relating to non-exempt wells not metered on or before July 1, 2012

In some circumstances, non-exempt wells will not have been registered prior to July 1, 2012. This has not currently arisen in this District, but the North Texas GCD has encountered this circumstance in several occasions. Mr. Chapman requested the Board to provide guidance and develop a policy for handling this situation. This is not currently addressed in the Temporary Rules. Vice President Olson stated that he interpreted this situation as a request from the staff to work with the public and work toward a solution. Board Member Patterson stated that the penalty needed to be stiff enough to ensure compliance, but not cause an undue burden.

Mr. Chapman commented that failing to timely meter a well is considered a Major Violation with a fine of \$500 for a first offense, \$1,000 for a second offense and a civil suit for a third offense. Rather than issuing a major violation, the staff would rather work with the public to ensure compliance. Board Member Patterson recommended that if a well is not metered, the owner provide an estimate of groundwater produced and then require that amount match the following period or the difference would be owed to the District.

At this time, Mr. Chapman recommended having the field technician work with the well owner to develop a solution that is amicable to both parties and then have the Board approve the solution. If a well owner refuses to meter a well, that would fall into the Major Violation fine schedule. The first reporting period for the District began on July 1 and will end of December 31.

President Henderson commented that if the District leaves the exemption limit at 40,000 gallons per day it would reduce the noncompliance from the 25,000 to 40,000 gallon per day wells. Vice President Olson stated that he does not want to fill meetings with non-compliant well owners. He expressed the desire for the General Manager to have the authority to handle those situations. Vice President Olson recommended that the staff provide some language to create a fair and equitable method that would be applied equally to all non-compliant non-exempt well owners. The Board discussed possible methods for developing guidelines, but needed more information.

#### 9. General Manager's Report

The staff provided a breakdown of wells registered in the District. The TWDB has been receiving comments on changes proposed to Chapter 356 of the Texas Administrative Code. Mr. Chapman briefly summarized the proposed changes. The staff discussed the injection well application in Sadler with Mr. Bill Hutchison, the District's hydrogeologist. Mr. Hutchison did not recommend any action. Mr. Chapman provided a presentation to the Grayson County Republican Women's group last week. The presentation was well-received. The Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD) group will have a Groundwater Summit in Austin on August 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The field technician began inspecting wells in Grayson County.

The Board again discussed the changes to Chapter 356 of the Texas Administrative Code. The TWDB is accepting comments. The changes are all between the TWDB and the Texas Legislature. The Board confirmed that no action was necessary.

#### 10. Open forum / discussion of new business for future meeting agendas

Mr. Rickman commented on the well registration website. He had no problems registering wells in the system. He did recommend that the system be modified to enable users to edit their meter readings. President Henderson responded that the system was set up to control the data and give all parties time to become comfortable with the system. The Board did not want the public to have too much ability to modify data in the system.

The	Board	tentatively	scheduled a	meeting for	or 2:00	PM	on S	September	18th
× × × × **	***	LOUIS COLL TOL 1	Delleddied d	REED OF CREEDING R.	UR ARROU	2 7 4 8	VII L	JUBJUSTIONS	i U

1.	Adjourn	
unanin	Upon motion by Board Member Gattis s nously, the Board adjourned at approximately 3:02 PM.	econded by President Henderson and passed
#####	#######################################	############
	Recording Secretary	Secretary-Treasurer

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2012-09-18-01**

## A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF ACCRUED LIABILITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2012

The following liabilities are hereby presented for payment: **Administrative Services GTUA** 8,368,36 Geodatabse IT Nexus 1,000.00 **Legal Services** Lloyd Gosselink Firm 8/23/12 23.00 **GRAND TOTAL:** 9,391.36 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT THAT the Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to make payments in the amounts listed above. On motion of \_ \_\_\_\_ and seconded by the foregoing Resolution was passed and approved on this, the 18th day of September 2012 by the following vote: AYE: NAY: At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Red River Groundwater Conservation District. President ATTEST:

Secretary/Treasurer

9/12/2012 10:59am

#### Red River Groundwater Conservation District Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Page

1

Revised Budget For General Fund (00) For the Fiscal Period 2012-8 Ending August 31, 2012

		Current	Current	Annual	YTD	Remaining
Account Number		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget %
Revenues						
00-01-46002 GW Production Cost	\$	20,916.65 \$	2,124.56 \$	350,000,00 @	400.000	
00-01-46005 Late Fees	*	0.00	2,124.30 p	250,999.80 \$	197,856.31	21.17%
00-01-46007 Registration Fees		0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
00-01-46010 Well Drillers Deposit		0.00	200.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00%
Total General Fund Revenues	\$	20,916.65 \$	3,324.56 \$	0.00 <b>250,999.80</b> \$	700.00 <b>200.056.31</b>	0.00%
* 114	77 OFFISA	A11790 (0000)		200,000.00	200,030.31	20.30%
Expenditures						
00-01-77010 Administrative Cost	\$	8,333.33 \$	7,333.50 \$	99,999.96 \$	48,926.25	51.07%
00-01-77020 Advertising		111.11	0.00	999.99	153.32	84.67%
00-01-77027 Auditing		0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	100.00%
00-01-77030 Accounting		358.33	360.00	4,299.96	5,711.25	(32.82%)
00-01-77031 Banking Fees		0.00	0.00	0.00	41.00	0.00%
00-01-77032 Contract Services		5,000.00	0.00	60,000.00	76.876.14	(28.13%)
00-01-77035 Field Technician		4,776.92	0.00	28,661.52	1,128.00	96.06%
00-01-77040 Direct Cost		416.67	137.30	5,000.04	2.484.27	50.31%
00-01-77450 Dues & Subscription		83.34	0.00	1,000.08	47.50	95.25%
00-01-77480 Equipment		0.00	0.00	19,150.00	15,166.95	20.80%
00-01-77500 Fees- GMA8		352.60	0.00	4,231,20	624.78	85.23%
00-01-77610 Fuel		833.33	0.00	4.999.98	0.00	100.00%
00-01-77810 Insurance		0.00	0.00	3,907.00	2,837.00	27.39%
00-01-77855 Internet Fees		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
00-01-77970 Legal		833.33	23.00	9,999,96	3,107,50	68.92%
00-01-78010 Meetings and Conferences		166.66	175.00	1,999.92	409.76	79.51%
00-01-78030 Office Supplies		0.00	0.00	0.00	415.95	
00-01-78600 Software Maintenance		0.00	0.00	0.00	1,227.50	0.00%
00-01-78750 Telephone		145.83	76.18	1,749.96	574.48	0.00% 67.17%
00-01-78770 Transportation-Mileage		0.00	286.38	0.00	1,475.85	0.00%
otal General Fund Expenditures	\$	21,411.45 \$	8,391.36 \$	250,999.57 \$	161,207.50	35.77%
eneral Fund Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$	(494.80) \$	(5,066.80) \$	0.23 \$	38,848.81 ;89	

# Red River Groundwater Conservation District

# Trial Balance

9/12/2012 10:57am

For Funds from 00 to 00

For the Fiscal Period 2012-8 Ending August 31, 2012

General Fund (00)		**************************************	AND THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TO TH	THE PARTY OF THE P			
(or land to o		Beginning Balance	Salance	Transactions	ns	Ending Balance	ince
Account		Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Credit
00-01-10001	Checking Account	84 743 58	The continues of the continues are an extensive to the continues of the co	22 000 40	00 44 00	02 707 60	per and decimal property and the state of th
00-01-10025	Accounts Receivable	23.985.36		0.00	0,041.00	87,404.08	
00-01-10030	Undeposited Funds	0.00		9 6	40.7.70,01	26.106,6	
00-01-23100	Accounts Pavable	8	0 344 20	0.00	0.00	0.00	
00-01-23150	Deposits to be Refunded		00°.1±0°.6	9,041.09	8,391.35		8,391.36
00-01-35100	Find Balance	46 007 40	0.00	0.00	00.0		0.00
00-01-35120	Current Voor Evonon of Domestic	10,007.43		0.00	0.00	16,007.43	***
00-01-46002	GW Production Cost		71,479.37	0.00	0.00		71,479.37
00-01-46005	ate Fee		195,731.75	0.00	2,124.56		197,856.31
00-01-46007	Doctorio T		00:00	0.00	0.00		00.00
00 01 46040	registration rees		500.00	00'0	1,000.00		1,500.00
0.001-1000	Well Drillers Deposit		200.00	00.00	200.00		700,00
00-01-77010	Administrative Cost	41,592.75		7,333.50	00.00	48,926.25	
00-01-77020	Advertising	153.32		0.00	0.00	153.32	
00-01-77027	Auditing	00:00		0.00	00 0	00.0	
00-01-77030	Accounting	5,351.25		360.00	00.0	5 711 2E	
00-01-77031	Banking Fees	41,00		00.00	00.0	0,11.20	
00-01-77032	Contract Services	76,876.14		00.0	000	76.876.14	
00-01-77035	Field Technician	1.128.00		00.0	00:0	1000	
00-01-77040	Direct Cost	2,346,97		137 30	80.0	7, 120.00	
00-01-77450	Dues & Subscription	47.50		00.0	00.0	77,404,7	
00-01-77480	Equipment	15 166 95		0000	00.0	00.74	
00-01-77500	Fees- GMA8	624 78		0.00	0.00	15,166.95	
00-01-77610	Fuel	00.0		0.00	0.00	624.78	
00-01-77810	Insurance	2.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	
00-01-77855	Internot Food	00.700,2		00.0	0.00	2,837.00	
00-01-77970		00.0		0.00	0.00	00:00	
00 04 78040	Legal	3,084.50		23.00	00.0	3,107.50	
0.001	Meetings and Conferences	234.76		175.00	00.00	409.76	
0.001-70000	Office Supplies	415.95		0.00	0.00	415.95	
00-01-78600	Software Maintenance	1,227.50		0.00	00.00	1,227.50	
00-01-18/50	Telephone	498.30		76.18	0.00	574.48	
00-01-/8//0	Transportation-Mileage	1,189.47		286.38	00.00	1,475.85	
	Totals:	277,552.51	277,552.51	39,735.15	39,735.15	279,927.04	279,927.04

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Indicates the balance for the noted account should be credit and is debit or should be debit and is credit.



# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AGENDA COMMUNICATION



DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2012

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

#### CONSIDER AND ACT UPON POLICY DEALING WITH WELLS NOT METERED BY JULY 1, 2012

#### **ISSUE**

Policy dealing with wells not metered by July 1, 2012

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Board of Directors adopted a set of Temporary Rules establishing the framework for the District's activities. These Temporary Rules included a requirement that all non-exempt wells needed to be registered and metered by July 1, 2012 in order to start providing the District with amounts of non-exempt water being used. This information is also used to calculate water production fees. There will almost certainly be wells that will be found without meters.

#### **OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES**

- 1. The Board could determine that the production fee due for any period after July 1, 2012 will be determined to be the maximum amount of production capable of the well times the period of time without an installed meter.
- The Board could determine it will accept an estimate provided by the well owner of the amount of water pumped after July 1, 2012 and the date of the installation of a meter. This estimate would need to be supported by electrical readings for the well.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS**

Failure to install a meter when required is a Major Violation in the Temporary Rules with a \$500 fine for a first violation and a \$1000 fine for a second violation

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. The staff recommends that any time a well that has not been metered is identified, the owner be contacted in person when possible and followed by a certified letter citing the requirement for a meter. A ten day period should be provided to have a meter installed.
- 2. The General Manager and staff shall be given the authority to accept a reasonable estimate of the water pumped during the unmetered period. This estimate would be based on the production capacity of the well times the amount of time elapsed without a meter and the energy record from the well. This information could be used to construct a reasonable estimate of the water pumped and multiplied by the \$0.06 per 1,000 gallons rate to determine the production fees due.
- 3. No action to enforce violations provision to be taken as long as well owners are cooperative.

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:

Jerry W. Chapman, General Manager



#### RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

FANNIN COUNTY AND GRAYSON COUNTY



General Manager's Quarterly Report September 2012

Management Plan Assessment of the Status of Drought in the District

Management Objective F.1 - On a monthly basis, the District will download the updated Palmer Drought Severity Index ("PDSI") map and update the District's rainfall map posted on the District's website: http://www.redrivergcd.org/Conservation.html.

Performance Standard F.1 - Quarterly the District will make an assessment of the status of drought in the District and prepare a quarterly briefing to the Board of Directors. downloaded PDSI maps and rainfall maps will be included with copies of the quarterly briefing in the District Annual Report.

The following is a report on the existing drought conditions. The current drought began in 2010. Recently, the situation has improved in the District boundaries; however, the drought does not yet appear to be over. As of September 7, 2012 the Texas Water Development Board Drought Information Summary reflected the North Central Texas Area to be abnormally dry in crop moisture index, in a moderate drought according to the Palmer Drought Severity Index, precipitation near normal, very high risk for fire according to the Keetch-Byram Drought Index, Reservoir Storage Index near normal, and Stream Flow Index moderately low.

As shown on the following PDSI drought maps, the North-Central Texas area moved slowly into a moderate drought stage by July. Recent rainfall has helped. However, the U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook provided by the National Weather Service predicts the drought in this area of Texas will persist or intensify. While the drought in the District area is not as severe as it was in 2011, it is predicted to continue.

District staff will continue to update PDSI maps on the website monthly.

PO Box 1214 Sherman, TX 75090 (800) 256-0935 fax: (903) 786-8211

http://www.gtua.org/red\_river\_ged.asp



# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AGENDA COMMUNICATION



DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

## CONSIDER AND DISCUSS DATA COLLECTION NEEDS FOR FUTURE EVALUATION OF WELL PERMITTING ACTIVITIES

#### **ISSUE**

Discuss data collection needs for future evaluation of well permitting activities

#### **BACKGROUND**

Section 4 of the Red River GCD Temporary Rules address spacing and location of wells and well completion. Provisions contained in this set of regulations will need some type of scientific and engineering information in order for the District to make decisions in a fair, logical, and scientifically defensible basis. At the present time, the District does not have information to make those types of decisions.

While the demands on both the Trinity and Woodbine Aquifers within the District at the present time are manageable, the future population predicted for the North Central Texas area and increasing water demands suggest that those demands will not be able to totally be met by surface water additions. Future demands from surrounding counties may also impact the availability of water in both the Trinity and Woodbine Aquifers. The data available from existing Groundwater Availability Models suggest over time a fairly limited amount of groundwater availability in the District.

#### **OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES**

One alternative may be to simply do nothing at the present time and wait until the demand begins to create issues for new wells before attempting to take action. The shortcoming of this alternative is this provides an opportunity for conflict to develop between potential well owners and existing well owners in the District. The Board has already determined that it was not economically feasible to participate in the updating of the Northern Trinity/Woodbine Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) and even if the District had participated, the effort would not have given enough detail to meet the District's needs.

#### CONSIDERATIONS

The existing Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) GAM produced a fairly limited amount of groundwater for Fannin and Grayson Counties from the Woodbine Formation. This could cause the District some difficulty in deciding well locations and permitting decisions in the future.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

After reviewing the total water needs for the State of Texas and Region C Planning Activities, as well as planning activities with the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts, it seems increasingly clear that groundwater will be a major component of the State of Texas future water resources. How those resources are utilized remains a challenge to the District. Rather than participate in an over-arching study that may or may not provide information the District can use to make decisions, it may be worthwhile to consider increasing the data collection and monitoring program that would provide a more effective tool in allowing the Board to make informed decisions on the influence of future wells on the aquifer.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Memo from Alan Moore, Operations Supervisor

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:

Jerry W. Chapman, General Manager



# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FANNIN COUNTY AND GRAYSON COUNTY



#### Memo

DATE:

September 10, 2012

TO:

Red River Ground Water Conservation District Board of Directors

FROM:

Alan Moore, Operations Supervisor

RE:

Evaluating well applications

The current rules for the Red River Ground Water Conservation District impose a spacing requirement of 100 feet for exempt wells. The prospective owner of a new non-exempt well must show that a new well will not negatively impact existing wells. Both of these requirements apparently refer to the "cone of influence" formed underground when water is taken from an aquifer. However, there is also an effect on the overall water availability in the aquifer when a new well is drilled.

The reliance on Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) runs to establish pumping capacities may not be the most appropriate for the RRGWCD. The Desired Future Conditions (DFC's) are established by the Board for the corresponding Ground Water District. The DFC's are then used in the GAM to "adjust" the model output to match what is expected to be happening in 50 years. Therefore, the GAM is used to approximate the total pumping availability from an aquifer.

Recently during a conversation with a local water professional, I was told that the GAM for Grayson and Fannin Counties may not accurately model what will occur because the Woodbine in these counties is a confined aquifer. This individual, a local engineer, had back calculated the available water using methods contained in the GAM, and had reached what appeared to be unrealistic limits on pumping capacity.

A more realistic method to establish a "groundwater availability" limit might be to monitor the actual water level in locations throughout the water district, and adjust the amount of permitted (exempt and non-exempt together) pumping.

The increasing reliance on ground water will certainly cause the methodology of accepting or rejecting a well to be scrutinized very closely. The District should be prepared to support the rules imposed based on scientific reasons, if the decisions made are to prevail in a court of law.



# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AGENDA COMMUNICATION



DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM NO. 9

## REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF 2011 IRRIGATION USE ESTIMATES INFORMATION FOR THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

#### **ISSUE**

Review and consideration of the 2011 irrigation use estimates

#### **BACKGROUND**

Last year, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provided the District with estimates of exempt uses for irrigation. The Board reviewed the data and provided recommendations to the TWDB in October.

#### **OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES**

The TWDB has provided updated estimates of irrigation water use for Fannin and Grayson Counties. The Board could review the data and either accept the numbers as they are presented or revise the amounts.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS**

The TWDB has requested that all responses and revisions be received by October 31, 2012.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

The staff recommends the Board review the information and decide if revisions are necessary to the estimates.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

2011 DRAFT Irrigation Use Estimates

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:

Jerry W. Chapman, General Manager



P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.fwdb.texas.gov Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

September 10, 2012

To: Groundwater Conservation District Managers and Board Members

Re: 2011 DRAFT Agricultural Irrigation Water Use Estimates

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff has developed a draft of the estimated irrigated acres and irrigation water use in each county. TWDB staff utilizes irrigated acreage data from USDA-Farm Service Agency (FSA) records and previously known adjustments for acreage not included in the FSA data. Estimated irrigation water use is based on available weather data, crop evapotranspiration rates, estimated county-average irrigation application efficiencies, a five-year historical average of estimated irrigation water use in each county, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) irrigation diversions from surface water sources where applicable.

The draft of the 2011 irrigation water use estimates for your area of responsibility is enclosed. The county sheet(s) includes a listing of irrigated crop acres and the estimated irrigation water applied to those crops. Please remember that the irrigation water use is meant to be reflective of actual irrigated acreage and actual irrigation use in 2011 in each county, which may be more or less than any theoretical calculation of potential use. These estimates will be useful in developing groundwater availability models and in projecting irrigation water use demands in future regional and state water plans.

Please provide revisions based on your local knowledge and expertise to the individual crop estimates. At the bottom of the worksheet, please also review the draft estimate of the irrigation from groundwater, surface water, and wastewater reuse sources. The estimated county-average irrigation application efficiency is included for your review as well.

Please provide your responses and/or revisions by October 31, 2012. If you have any questions about the enclosed estimates or need additional information, feel free to contact me at (512) 936-6090 or cameron.turner@twdb.texas.gov. Thank you in advance for helping us to improve our irrigation water use estimates.

Sincerely.

Cameron G. Turner

To provide leadership, planning, financial

TWDB Agricultural Water Conservation

Enclosures: 2011 DRAFT Agricultural Irrigation Water Use Estimates

Our Mission

**Board Members** 

Billy R. Bradford Jr., Chairman Joe M. Crutcher, Vice Chairman

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## Texas Water Development Board 2011 DRAFT Agricultural Irrigation Water Use Estimates

County: FANNIN

Crop Number	Crop Type Name	DRAFT acres	DRAFT rate (inches per acre)	DRAFT acre-feet
1	COTTON	0		HET CONTROL TO A THE CONTROL TO A THE CONTROL
2	SORGHUM	0		
3	CORN	600	27	1,350
4	RICE	0 🌸		
5	WHEAT	600	17	850
6	OTHER_GRAIN	250	11	229
7	FORAGE_HAY_PASTURE	2,000	25	4,166
8	PEANUTS	0		
9	SOY_OIL	850	29	2,054
10	VINEYARD	10	22	18
11	ORCHARD	40	27	90
12	ALFALFA	0		
13	SUGARCANE	0		
14	VEGETABLES	0		
15	OTHER	1,800	36	5,400
16	GOLF_COURSES	0		,
17	FAILED	0		
County Total E	Estimated Irrigated Crop Acres:	6,150	Total Acre-Feet:	14,157
	imated County	Total Acre-Fe	et Groundwater:	4,457

Estimated County
Irrigation Efficiency\*: 65%

\*from TWDB Report 347, or as
previously revised by the district

Total Acre-Feet Groundwater: 4,457

Total Acre-Feet Surface Water: 9,700

Total Acre-Feet Wastewater Reuse: 0

## Texas Water Development Board 2011 DRAFT Agricultural Irrigation Water Use Estimates

County: GRAYSON

Crop Number	Crop Type Name	DRAFT acres	DRAFT rate (inches per acre)	DRAFT acre-feet
1	COTTON	150	19	237
2	SORGHUM	0		
3	CORN	0		
4	RICE	0 :		
5	WHEAT	150	12	150
6	OTHER_GRAIN	0		
7	FORAGE_HAY_PASTURE	1,790	16	2,386
8	PEANUTS	0		
9	SOY_OIL			
10	VINEYARD	10	15	12
11	ORCHARD	0		
12	ALFALFA	0		
13	SUGARCANE	0		
14	VEGETABLES	0		
15	OTHER	400	20	666
16	GOLF_COURSES	100	23	191
17	FAILED	0		
nty Total E	Estimated Irrigated Crop Acres:	2,600	Total Acre-Feet:	3,642
Estimated County Irrigation Efficiency*: 75%  *from TWDB Report 347, or as previously revised by the district		Total Acre-F	eet Groundwater:	2,428
		Total Acre-Fe	eet Surface Water:	
• ***	, wy was stateled	Total Acre-Feet W	astewater Reuse:	0

Thank you for your assistance!



# RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT AGENDA COMMUNICATION



DATE: SEPTEMBER 13, 2012

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### **SUMMARY**

- 1. The registered well information is attached for your information and use. There has not been much change since the last month. The field technician has experienced some health problems and has not been able to inspect wells in the past month.
- 2. Last month I advised you that the Texas Water Development Board was accepting comments for proposed changes to Chapter 356 of the Texas Administrative Code. The comment period is now closed. However, the TWDB expects to prepare a draft set of changes and post on their site soon. A copy of that information will be made available to the Board to see if any comments are recommended on this set of regulations.
- 3. The Texas Groundwater Summit conference was hosted by the Texas Alliance of Groundwater District August 28-30. This was one of the better conferences I have attended in a long time. I would like to share some of the highlights of the conferences by presenting two PowerPoint presentations at the meeting. The presentations include one by your hydrogeotechnical consultant Bill Hutchison, as well as information on the modified Desired Future Conditions guidelines and information on the EAA vs Day case.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Well Registration Summary

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:

Jerry W. Chanman General Manager

#### **Red River Groundwater Conservation District**

#### Well Registration Summary As of September 13, 2012

Well Type	Registered
Domestic	42
Agriculture	16
Oil/Gas	2
Commercial	4
<b>Golf Course</b>	7
Livestock	5
Public Water	228
Total	304

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