

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING
RED RIVER GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21, 2012

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

Members Present: George "Butch" Henderson, George Olson, Don Wortham, David Gattis, Harold Latham, Don Morrison, Mark Patterson

Members Absent: None

Staff: Jerry Chapman, Carolyn Bennett and Carmen Catterson

Visitors: Jonathan Cannon, Herald Democrat
Bob Patterson, Upper Trinity GCD
Joey Rickman, City of Honey Grove
Joe Strong, Fannin County Commissioners Court

NOTE: The audio recording of the hearing is the official record of the hearing. These minutes are provided only for convenience.

I. Call to Order and introduction of Board

President Henderson called the hearing to order at 1:30 PM. All members were present. The Board introduced themselves and the manner of their appointment to the Board.

II. Review draft amendment to the Temporary Rules

President Henderson explained that the only change to the Temporary Rules is to 4.2(e). Board Member Gattis recommended adding an "(s)" to "well" in the second line of the paragraph. The Board agreed that the change would be beneficial for clarity. Mr. Chapman explained that another concern in the Temporary Rules is Rule 3.6(b). The staff needs some consideration regarding the time allotment for declaring a well administratively complete. President Henderson stated that his interpretation of the Rule is that the staff declares the application administratively complete and alert that well owner that the application will be taken to the Board for final approval or further action.

III. Public Comment (verbal comments limited to three (3) minutes each; written comments may also be submitted for the Board's consideration.)

Mr. Chapman asked Mr. Patterson to explain his district's guidelines for collecting hydrogeologic information. Mr. Patterson explained that the Upper Trinity GCD contacts the owner within 5 days to declare the application administratively complete and then the district researches the

hydrogeologic data to determine if it fits the spacing requirements. If the well does not fit spacing requirements, both the district and the well owner have to perform hydrogeologic studies to prove the well will not impact other wells. Mr. Patterson explained that his spacing requirements are based on the capacity of the well. Domestic wells under 17.36 gallons per minute must be 50 feet from property lines and 150 feet from other wells. Board Member Patterson expressed that he feels the District needs to establish a chart for spacing requirements based on pump capacity and aquifer layers.

Mr. Patterson expressed that Rule 4.2(e) places an undue burden on the applicant to drill a well. This may cause some reluctance for person's desiring to drill wells to move forward. The Upper Trinity GCD hired a hydrogeologist to develop guidelines to reduce the burden on the public. Board Member Gattis stated that he did not feel the situation was an unreasonable burden on the public.

IV. Adjourn or continue public hearing on proposed rules

The Board unanimously adjourned the public hearing at approximately 1:45 PM.

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Recording Secretary


Secretary-Treasurer