

LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

April 8, 2014

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") held a "Special Meeting," open to the public, in the Lone Star GCD – James B. "Jim" Wesley Board Room located at 655 Conroe Park North Drive, Conroe, Texas, within the boundaries of the District on April 8, 2014.

President Tramm called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., announcing that it was now open to the public.

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Sam Baker
John D. Bleyl, PE
Jace Houston
Roy McCoy, Jr.
Rick J. Moffatt
Jim Stinson, PE
Richard J. Tramm
M. Scott Weisinger, PG
W. B. Wood

All members of the Board were present, with the exception of Directors Baker and Weisinger, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also, in attendance at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, District General Manager; Paul R. Nelson, Assistant General Manager; Brian L. Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

After a proper and legally sufficient announcement to the public by President Tramm, the Board of Directors went into a Closed Executive Session at 9:06 a.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071, to consult with the District's attorney regarding pending or contemplated litigation, settlement offers, or on matters in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code.

Director Baker arrived at 9:45 a.m.

Following Executive Session, the Board reconvened in Open Session and declared it open to the public at 10:13 a.m.

No action was taken on matters discussed in Executive Session and the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13th DAY OF MAY, 2014.

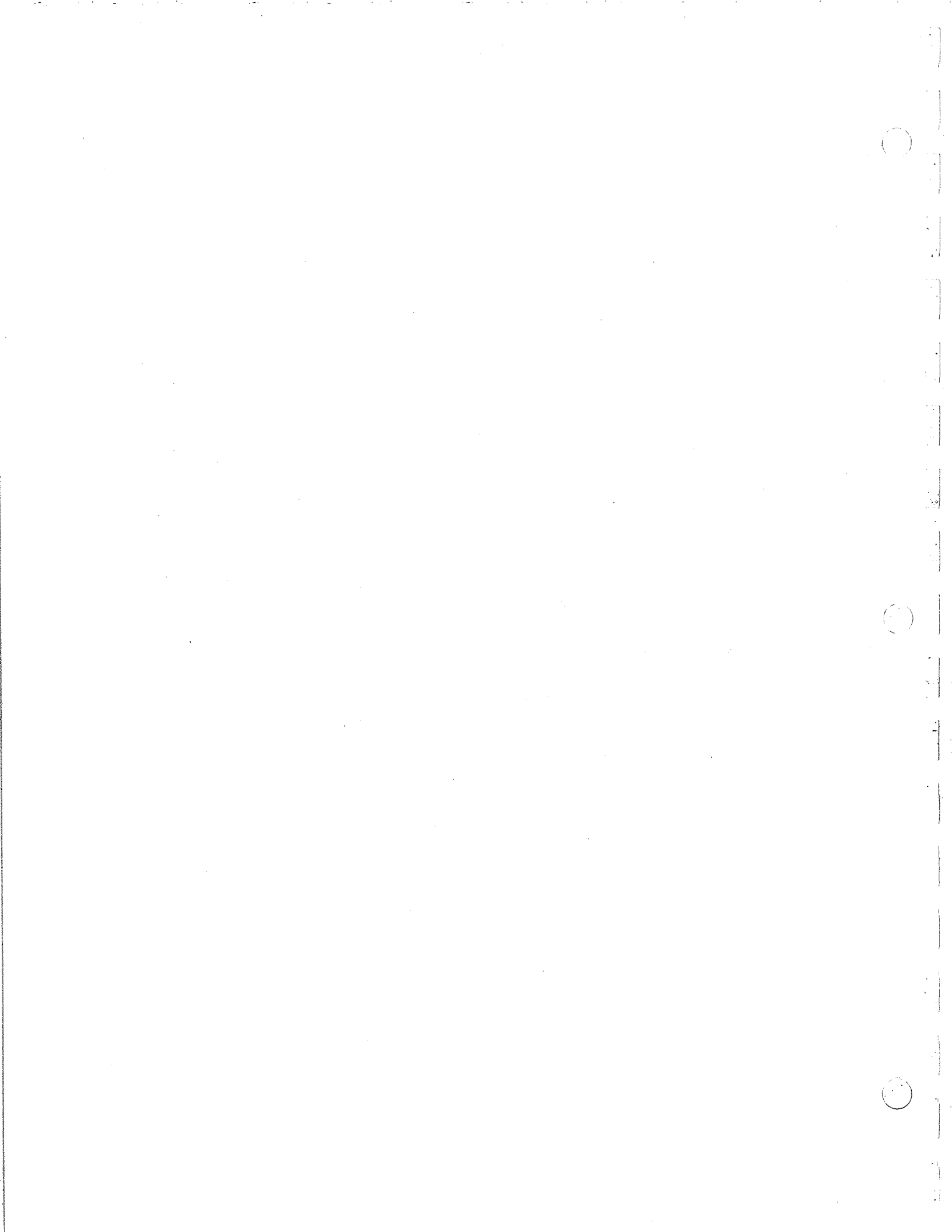
M. Scott Weisinger, PG, Board Secretary



SIGN IN SHEET

April 8, 2014
Board Meeting

Do you wish to speak on an agenda item?	NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-Mail
Yes	Bill Mulligan	Montgomery County #1 SURA GRP Districts West	bill@mll.com sura@koi.com
	Thanaq. Baratt	Mid. South Synogy	Hbarrett@midsouthsynogy.com
	Chris Ughmover	MUD18	UZEL106@consolidated.net
	Angela Radilla	Coats Rose 3 Greenway Plaza, Ste. 2000, Houston, TX 77046	aradilla@coatsrose.com
	Joseph Pent	City of Shenandoah	
	CHAS LOOMIS	CITY OF CORNER	
	Tanzia Karim	HOUSTON, TX 77040	tkarim@idsengineeringgroup.com
	John Wright	Conn., R 73301	
	Veronica Begueta	Houston, TX	Veronica.Begueta@houstonbank.com



LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

April 8, 2014

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in regular session, open to the public, in the Lone Star GCD – Board Room located at 655 Conroe Park North Drive, Conroe, Texas, within the boundaries of the District on April 8, 2014.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tramm called to order the Public Hearing on Permit Applications at 10:14 a.m., announcing the meeting open to the public.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Sam W. Baker
John D. Bleyl, PE
Jace Houston
Roy McCoy, Jr.
Rick J. Moffatt
Jim Stinson, PE
Richard J. Tramm
M. Scott Weisinger, PG
W. B. Wood

All members of the Board were present with the exception of Director Weisinger, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also, in attendance at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; Paul R. Nelson, Assistant General Manager; Brian L. Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

Item #1, **Graciela Guzman Nava** - This is an existing well staff found in non-compliance. Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 200,000 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #2, **Travis Bishop** - Applicant is requesting an amendment to an Operating Permit for an increase in production authorization in the amount of 500,000 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #3, **Great Southern Ready Mix** - Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 5,000,000 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #4, **Spring Creek Feed Center** - This is an existing well staff found in non-compliance. Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 108,300 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #5, **Johnston Water Utility, LLC** - Applicant is requesting an amendment to an Operating Permit for drilling authorization for a new well. No additional production authorization is being requested at this time. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #6, **Angela & Stephen Wetch** - This is an existing well staff found in non-compliance. Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 142,400 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #7, **MSEC Enterprises (Montgomery Trace WS/Crown Oaks)** - Applicant is requesting an amendment to an Operating Permit for drilling authorization for a new well. No additional production authorization is being requested at this time. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #8, **Vaquero Willis Partners** - Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 500,000 gallons for 2014 and 1,000,000 gallons for 2015 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #9, **Crystal Springs Water Co Inc (Forest Trace Ltd)** - Applicant is requesting registration of the well and production authorization in the amount of 2,000,000 gallons for 2015 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve that which is being requested.

Item #10, **1404 Blaketree, LP** - Applicant is requesting an amendment to an Operating Permit for drilling authorization to construct two new wells and an increase in production

authorization in the amount of 137,000,000 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter. Based on technical review of the information supplied, it is the General Manager's recommendation to approve the registration and construction of the two new wells and authorize a reduced amount of 89,000,000 gallons for 2014 and annually thereafter.

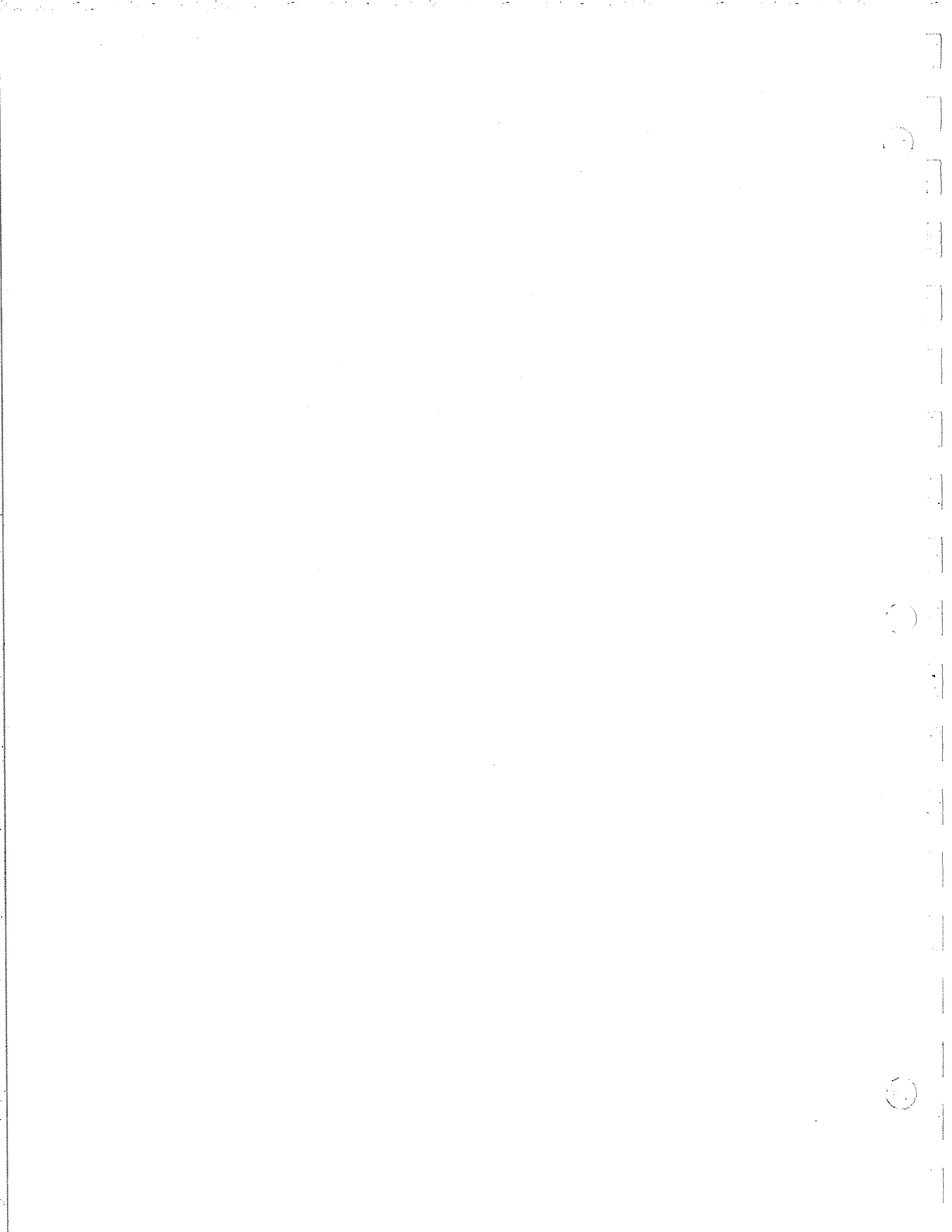
The first motion was made by Director Stinson, and seconded by Director Houston to approve items #1-9, in accordance with the General Manager's recommendations, and the motion passed unanimously.

The second motion was made by Director Houston, and seconded by Director Moffatt to approve item #10, in accordance with the General Manager's recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

President Tramm adjourned the public hearing on permit applications at 10:15 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY, 2014.

M. Scott Weisinger, PG, Board Secretary

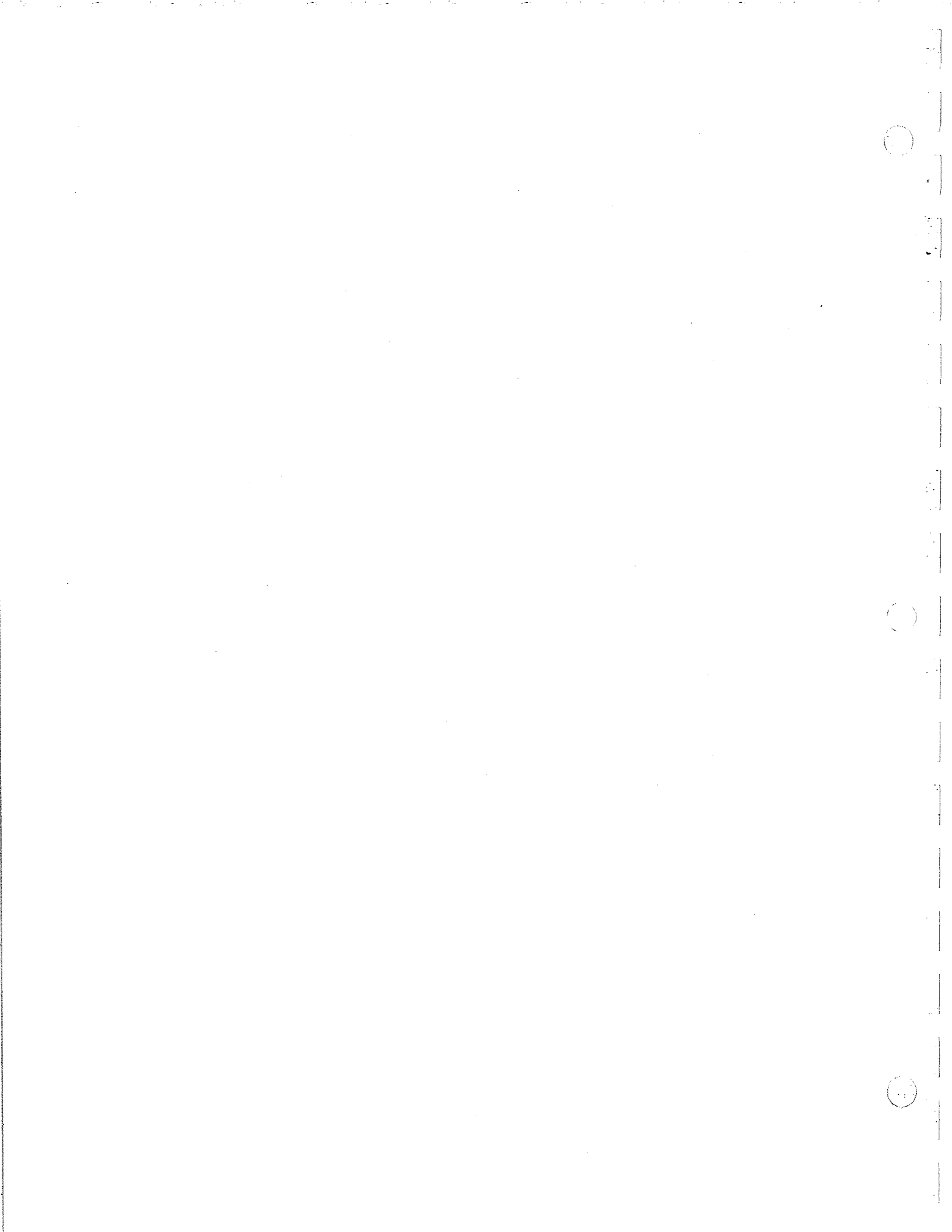




SIGN IN SHEET

April 8, 2014
Board Meeting

Do you wish to speak on an agenda item?	NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-Mail
Yes	Bill Mullica		bill@mlh.com or ssocabea.com
	Jackie W. Chance Sr	Montgomery County #1 SURABRP Districts West	jw5tfl@hcl.com
	Thanaqi Barrett	Mid. South Spring MUD 18	Hearnff@mid.south.spring.tx.us UZEL106@comcast.net
	Chris Ughmer	Coats Rose 3 Greenway Plaza, Ste. 2000, Houston, TX 77046	aradilla@coatsrose.com
	Joseph Pent	City of Shenandoah	
	CHRIS LOOMIS	CITY OF CARROLL	
	Tanzia Karim	HOUSTON, TX 77040	tkarim@idsengineeringgroup.com
	John Wright	Conn., TX 77301	
	Veronica Deguada	Houston, TX	Veronica.Osajuela@houston.tx.us



LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

April 8, 2014

MINUTES OF SHOW CAUSE HEARING

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in regular session, open to the public, in the Lone Star GCD – Board Room located at 655 Conroe Park North Drive, Conroe, Texas, within the boundaries of the District on April 8, 2014.

The audio recording will serve as the official record for the Show Cause Hearing. The summary below is provided for convenience

President Tramm called to order the Show Cause Hearing at 10:16 a.m.

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Sam W. Baker
John D. Bleyl, PE
Jace Houston
Roy McCoy, Jr.
Rick J. Moffatt
Jim Stinson, PE
Richard J. Tramm
M. Scott Weisinger, PG
W. B. Wood

All members of the Board were present with the exception of Director Weisinger, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also, in attendance at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, District General Manager; Paul R. Nelson, Assistant General Manager; Brian L. Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager stated that Item #3, **Naushaba Arif (Montessori Villa)** had been resolved prior to today's Board of Directors Meeting and no action will be taken.

President Tramm asked if anyone was in attendance for the Show Cause Hearing. Mr. Rick Kuykendall stated that he was present to discuss item #5 on the Show Cause Hearing agenda.

Kathy Turner Jones stated this was a Show Cause Hearing directing **Stephen Jones, and LB Pipe & Coupling**, ("Respondents"), pursuant to District Rule 2.5, to appear before the Lone Star GCD Board of Directors and show cause why the District should not issue a cease and desist order pursuant to District Rule 2.6(c) for failure to submit their 2013 production report and/or

finer associated with timely submission; file a civil suit in this matter against Respondents and take all other enforcement action that is necessary and appropriate under the laws of the State of Texas.

It is the General Manager's recommendation that we follow previous procedures and turn the above matters over to our attorneys to move forward with suit in accordance with District Rules. A motion was made by Director Houston, seconded by Director Baker and unanimously passed to proceed with the recommendation of the General Manager.

The Board of Directors then heard Mr. Rick Kuykendall. Mr. Kuykendall stated that he paid the penalty fines and fees associated with not submitting his 2013 production report, but was very unhappy about being required to read his meter and turn in a production report every year. Mr. Kuykendall requested that the Board consider taking special consideration for those permittees, such as him, who pay the minimum annual water use fees, and read the water meter on his behalf. Mr. Kuykendall stated that he did have his 2013 production report with him and was prepared to submit it to the District. There was discussion amongst the Board members and after hearing from District Counsel, Brian Sledge, it was the General Manager's recommendation that the District forego further action against Mr. Kuykendall, as long as he signed and submitted his 2013 production report, as required by District Rules. A motion was made by Director Baker, seconded by Director Bleyl and unanimously passed with the recommendation of the General Manager.

Ms. Jones added that the District would consider Mr. Kuykendall's request to have District staff read meters (for a specific class of permittees), and that a substantial change, as such, would require a rules revision and Board approval.

President Tramm adjourned the Show Cause Hearing at 10:34 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13th DAY OF MAY, 2014.

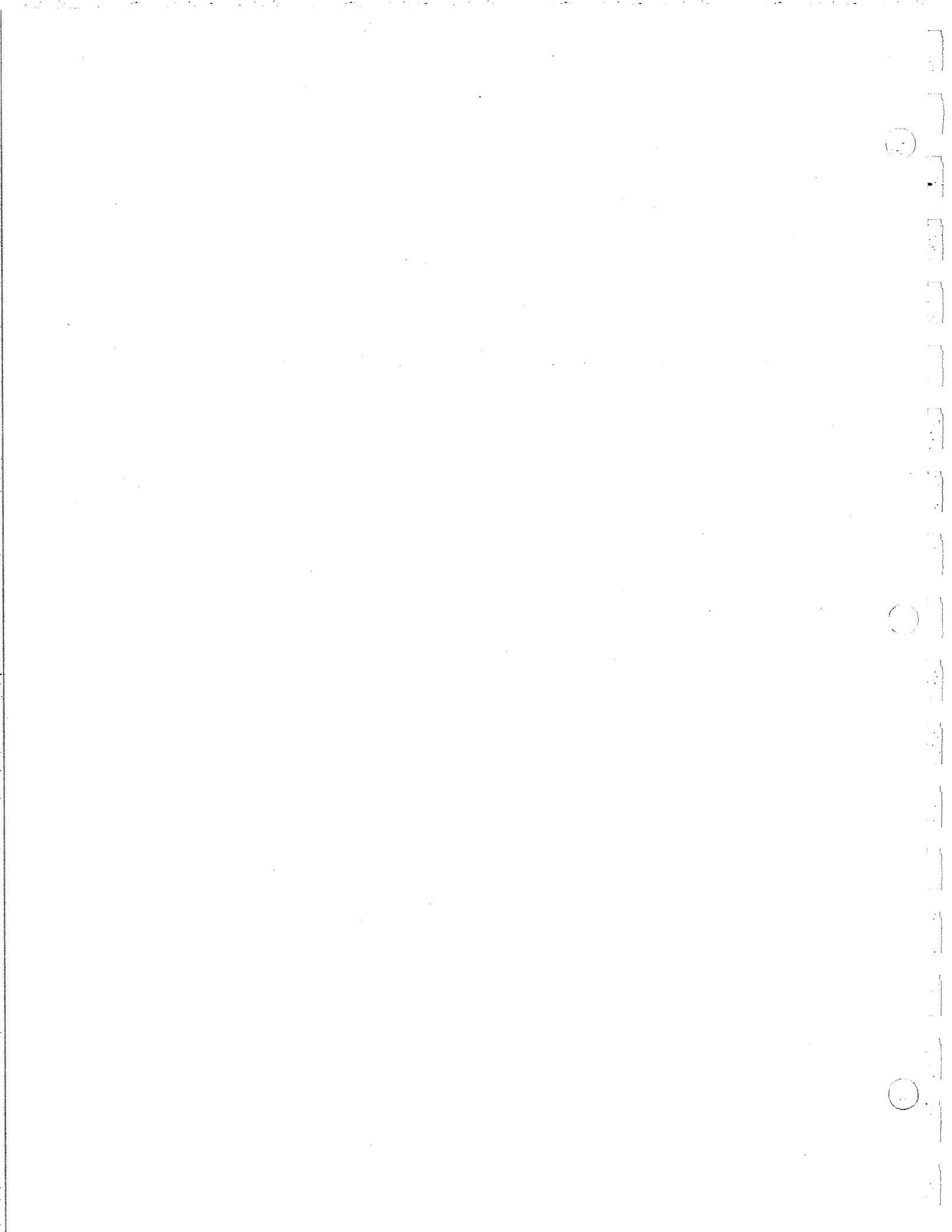
M. Scott Weisinger, PG, Board Secretary



SIGN IN SHEET

April 8, 2014
Board Meeting

Do you wish to speak on an agenda item?	NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-Mail
Yes	Bill Mulligan		bill@mllcassociates.com
	Lakrue Chance SE	Montgomery County #1 SURABP Districts West	jwstf1@hol.com
	Thaneq Barrett	Mid. South Synox	Harnett@midsouthsynox.com
	Chris Krummer	MUD18	UZEL106@comcast.net
	Angela Radilla	Coats Rose 3 Greenway Plaza, Ste. 2000, Houston, TX 77046	aradilla@comtrose.com
	Joseph Pent	City of Sherman, TX	
	Chris Loomis	CITY OF CORPUS	
	Tanzia Karim	HOUSTON, TX 77040	tkarim@idsengineeringgroup.com
	John Wright	Conn, TX 77301	
	Veronica Deguada	Houston, TX	Veronica.Deguada@houstonathletics.com



LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

April 8, 2014

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in regular session, open to the public, in the Lone Star GCD - James B. "Jim" Wesley Board Room located at 655 Conroe Park North Drive, Conroe, Texas, within the boundaries of the District on April 8, 2014.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Tramm called to order the regular Board of Directors meeting at 10:35 a.m. announcing that it was open to the public.

ROLL CALL:

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Sam Baker
John D. Bleyl, PE
Jace Houston
Roy McCoy, Jr.
Rick J. Moffatt
Jim Stinson, PE
Richard J. Tramm
M. Scott Weisinger, PG
W. B. Wood

All members of the Board were present, with the exception of Director Weisinger, thus constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Also, in attendance at said meeting were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; Brian L. Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets are attached hereto as Exhibit "A".*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

President Tramm stated the Board would consider all meeting minutes listed as one item. Upon review of the following, a motion was made by Director Houston, seconded by Director Wood, and unanimously carried, to approve the meeting minutes:

- a) March 11, 2014, Special Board Meeting
- b) March 11, 2014, Public Hearing on Permit Applications
- c) March 11, 2014, Regular Board of Directors Meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Water Awareness and Conservation Committee - Billy Wood, Chair

Briefing on Committee Activities - Director Wood reported that the committee had not met since the last board meeting. He asked Marlisa Briggs to update the Board on public outreach efforts and conservation activities since the last Board meeting.

Briefing on Public Outreach Efforts - Marlisa Briggs, Education/Public Awareness Coordinator – Mrs. Briggs' presentation highlighted the following public outreach efforts:

- Annual Report
- Leadership Montgomery County project
- Magnolia Rotary
- Woodland and Wildlife Expo and Spring Fling
 - Approximately 400 individual interactions
 - Topic of interest – rainwater harvesting
- Montgomery County Water Symposium
 - Total attendance – 130
 - Live streaming/video archived on Woodlands Township website
 - Media coverage
- Ongoing e-blasts, press releases and social media communications
- Monthly Dock Lines article
- Upcoming Events and Speaking Engagements

Update on Conservation Efforts - Paul R. Nelson, Assistant General Manager - Mr. Nelson briefed the Board on the following conservation activities:

- Conroe Conservation Advisory Board Meeting - March 18th - Jeff Linder, Meteorologist with Harris County Flood Control District. Spoke about weather patterns.
- Gulf Coast/Montgomery County Water Efficiency Network – the March 27th meeting featured Mike Reedy – FNI, who spoke on reuse. The April Network meeting will take place at the District offices on April 24th. Jennifer Nations, water resources coordinator for city of College Station, will be speaking on water budgets.
- Director Stinson also spoke to the Board about Woodlands Joint Powers Agency's recent outreach efforts, and circulated items of interest. *Copies of the items circulated are attached hereto as Exhibit "B".*

Rules Development Committee - Kathy Turner Jones, Coordinator

Briefing on Committee Activities – Kathy Turner Jones, Coordinator - Ms. Jones reported that the committee is trying to schedule a meeting within the next two weeks.

Status report of 2013 GRP Compliance Audits – Ms. Jones stated that of all 33 GRPs, only one has not submitted their GRP audit report. Of the 32, 11 have been accepted by the District as satisfactory. The remaining 21 GRPs have been sent letters requesting additional information, much of the requests were simple oversights. The deadline for them to respond is April 25th.

Policy and Personnel Development Committee - Sam W. Baker, Chair

Briefing on Committee Activities - Mr. Baker stated the committee had not met, and therefore did not have a report. The committee plans to meet in the next week or two.

Findings and Review Committee – Paul Nelson, Assistant General Manager

Briefing on Committee Activities – Mr. Nelson reported that the committee had not met since the last Board meeting, but will meet April 9th at 3 p.m.

Budget and Finance Development Committee - Jim Stinson, Chair

Briefing on Committee Activities - Director Stinson reported that the committee has not met since last month's meeting.

Review of Monthly Financial Reports - Director Stinson reported that the financial statement indicated an actual income of \$1.5 million compared to expenses of \$383,000.

Discuss, consider and possible action regarding approval of Resolution #14-002 adopting FY 2014 Operating and Capital Outlay Budgets –

Upon presentation of the resolution, a motion was made by Director Moffatt, seconded by Director Bleyl. Director Wood opposed, and the motion passed to approve Resolution #14-002, adopting FY 2014 Operating and Capital Outlay Budgets.

A copy of Resolution #14-002 is attached hereto as Exhibit "C".

Review 1st Quarterly Investment Report 2014

A motion was made by Director Houston, seconded by Director Moffatt and unanimously passed to approve the 1st Quarterly Investment Report 2014.

Building and Facilities Committee - Kathy Turner Jones, Coordinator

Briefing on Committee Activities - Ms. Jones reported that the committee had not met, but a meeting is scheduled for the April 21st with a Texas A&M professor regarding the LID project.

Update and Possible Action Regarding Construction and Redesign of Existing Detention Pond - Ms. Jones reported that the contractor began on the prep work this month.

ENGINEERING REPORT:

Mark Lowry, District Consultant, was not in attendance but a copy of his report is included in the Board packet and offered to answer any questions.

BRIEFING AND DISCUSSION ON INITIAL RESULTS FROM PREDICTIVE SIMULATIONS UTILIZING THE HOUSTON AREA GROUNDWATER MODEL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY AS PART OF JOINT-PLANNING PROCESS IN GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 14 – BILL MULLICAN, MULLICAN AND ASSOCIATES

Mr. Mullican reported that the joint planning process is ongoing, and that the major deadline for submission of the proposed desired future conditions is May 1, 2016, but those in GMA 14 are working to get ahead of that deadline. He discussed preliminary findings from the predictive simulations. His overall recommendation is to better align pumping scenarios with the Groundwater Regulatory Plan. The next GMA 14 meeting is scheduled for April 30th at the District's office.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ISSUE A SHOW CAUSE ORDER DIRECTING THE FOLLOWING PERMITTEES, OR THEIR DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE, TO APPEAR AT A SHOW CAUSE HEARING FOR THAT PURPOSE AND SHOW CAUSE WHY APPROPRIATE ENFORCEMENT ACTION SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION INITIATING A LAWSUIT AGAINST IT FOR FAILURE TO REMIT 2014 WATER USE FEES AND/OR FINES ASSOCIATED WITH TIMELY SUBMISSION:

- a) American Tree Farm, HUPAG1500009
- b) Aqua Texas, Inc. (White Oak Ranch), OPO-05071301
- c) Aqua Texas, Inc. (Wilshire Sub.), HUP025/OP-06122801
- d) Aqua Texas, Inc. (Woodland Ranch), HUP026/OP-08120101
- e) Gary Emerson, OP-09102001
- f) INRI, OP-10052501
- g) Joe Worthy, OP-09111101
- h) Juan E. & Gabina Jimenez, OP-08120901
- i) Rigoberto Ruiz, OP-10082601

j) Verizon, OP-09090202

A motion was made by Director Houston, seconded by Director Moffatt, and unanimously carried, to proceed with the recommendations of the General Manager for items: A, F, G, I and J. The remaining items were resolved prior to the Board meeting.

Additionally, the general manager thanked staff for working diligently with permittees so that only five of all 1,200 were delinquent in their reporting.

DISCUSSION OF WASTE INJECTION WELL MONITORING PROGRAM FOR GROUNDWATER QUALITY PROTECTION – BRIAN L. SLEDGE

The Board is considered establishing a water quality monitoring protection program with regard to monitoring waste injection wells. Other groundwater management districts in Texas have established similar programs. This item will be up for consideration at next month's Board meeting in greater detail. In the meantime, the Findings and Review Committee will be meeting with industry experts to gain further knowledge and understanding about options for Montgomery County.

REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO ACCEPT FINAL DRAFT 2013 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT – MARLISA BRIGGS

Mrs. Briggs presented the final draft of the 2013 Annual Report for the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District. President Tramm noted he had one typographical change which he has provided to the General Manager. With that change noted, a motion was made by Director Wood, seconded Director Houston, and the motion passed unanimously to approve the 2013 Annual Report for Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District. *A copy of the 2013 Annual Report is attached hereto as Exhibit "D".*

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Ms. Jones informed the Board that most of her activities were included in the General Manager's Report found in their packets. She stated most items have been covered earlier in the meeting. Ms. Jones also noted the inclusion of several important dates on the calendar.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT:

Mr. Sledge referred the Board to his report, which was included in the Board packets. He also reported that most of the month's activities have focused on rules development and GRP implementation issues. A noted item of interest: the Water Development Board has been taking informal public comments prior to formalizing rules.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jackie Chance requested that the Board consider offering incentives for the “no des” system. Mr. Chance brought it before his GRP committee, but they couldn’t justify the system because they did not find it to be cost-effective. He would like the District to consider it as reuse. President Tramm asked Mr. Chance to provide the information he has gathered to the District, and it can be brought before the committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business to discuss.

There being no further business, upon a motion by Director Houston, seconded by Director Wood, President Tramm adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY, 2014.

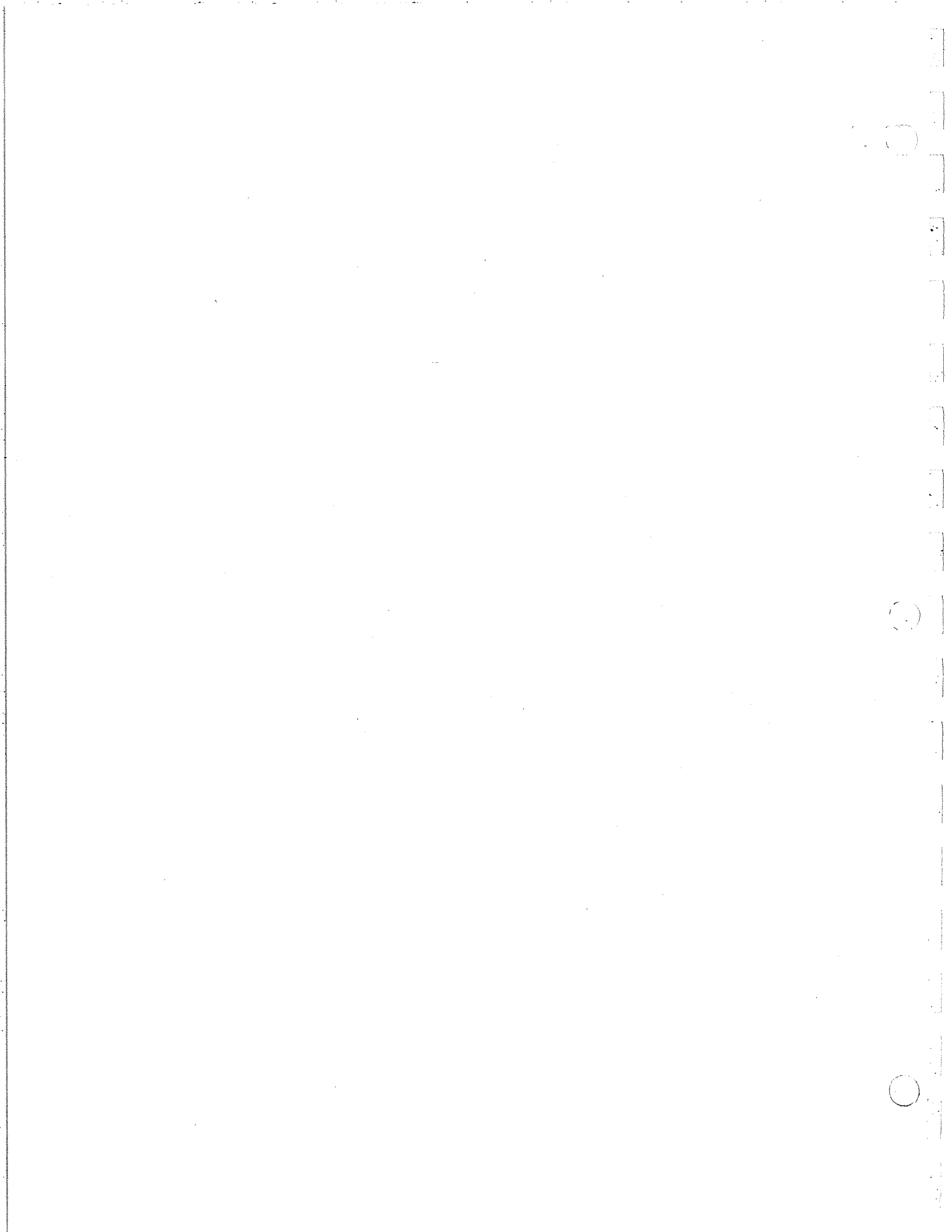
M. Scott Weisinger, PG, Board Secretary



SIGN IN SHEET

April 8, 2014
Board Meeting

Do you wish to speak on an agenda item?	NAME	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E-Mail
	Bill Mullica		bill@mllcassociates.com
Yes	Larkie W. Chence Sr	Montgomery County #1 SURABRP Districts West	jw55f1@tolo.com
	Thanaq. Barnett	Mid. South Synogy MUD18	Tharnett@midsouthsynogy.com
	Chris Ughmer		UZEL106@comcast.net
	Angela Radilla	Coats Rose 3 Greenway Plaza, Ste. 2000, Houston, TX 77046	aradilla@coatsrose.com
	Joseph Pent	City of Sherrandock	
	CHRIS LOOMIS	CITY OF CANAGE	
	Tanzia Karim	HOUSTON, TX 77040	tkarim@idsengineeringgroup.com
	John Wright	Conroe, TX 77301	
	Veronica Degueta	Houston, TX	Veronica.Degueta@houston.com



Thirsty Or Thriving?

Please Join Us at the
Montgomery County Water Supply & Conservation Symposium

Saturday, April 5, 2014

9 - 11:30 a.m.

**The Woodlands Township Board Room
2801 Technology Forest Blvd., The Woodlands, TX 77381**

Featured Topics

Water Supply and Conservation
Status of Water - State and Local Levels
Freshwater for Galveston Bay - Maintaining Flow to the End of the Pipe
We Passed the Bill - What's Next? - The Effects of Prop. 6/HB4
The Future of Groundwater in Montgomery County

Speakers

Dr. Calvin Finch, Director, Texas A&M Water Conservation and Technology Center
Ken Kramer, Water Resources Chair, Sierra Club - Lone Star Chapter
Dr. Jim Lester, President and CEO, Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)
Paul R. Nelson, Assistant General Manager, Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District
Emily Seldomridge, Water Policy and Outreach Specialist, Galveston Bay Foundation

This event is free. However seating is limited and reservations are required.
Register at thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/waterconservation or call 832-813-6906

Sponsors



Waste not... want not!

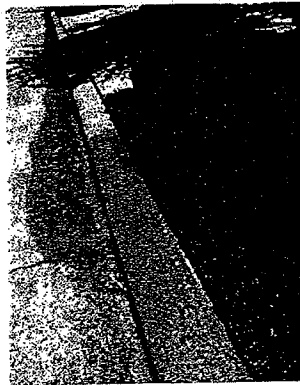


Untold thousands of gallons of drinking water pours onto The Woodlands streets (and into the storm sewers) during lawn irrigation for much of the growing season.

Much of that runoff is caused by running the irrigation zones too long. More water is being placed on the ground than the soil can absorb at any given time.

Using a "cycle and soak" method is a much more efficient way to irrigate lawns. It's simple, will help save water, and will develop a healthier and more deeply-watered lawn. By getting water deeply into the soil, grass roots will grow longer and deeper, making the plants more resistant to disease, drought and insect damage.

Running each zone for 30 minutes, and then ending the irrigation event, doesn't get the water down where it needs to be. And much of it runs off into the street. The "wetting front," which is how far the water goes into the soil, will only be about two inches deep. That's where the grass roots will stay, because there is no need for them to grow deeper. To grow deeper roots



Use "cycle and soak" method to irrigate your lawn

and to keep the water on the lawn instead of on the street, reduce each zone to 7 minutes and run the cycle three times. During each soaking, capillary action in the soil will extend the "wetting front" down to where it's needed.

Residents should remember that there is no need to begin irrigating until late April or early May. If there are rain events, as there have been this winter and spring, there is probably no need to water at all during this period. Installing a rain sensor will adjust your system to take into account the amount of rainfall — another easy way to save money and build a healthier lawn. Check out the WJPA rebate program for water-saving devices.



www.wjpa.org

855-H2o-SAVE (855-426-7283)

By Bob Dailey

HEALTHIER TURF

Use Your Lawn To Harvest Water

Photo by Cliff Roe Photography



Make the lawn its own water harvesting device.

With water prices rising, and the conservation of drinking water encouraged, new findings have discovered ways to save water, cut water bills, and save money on lawn care. How? Make the lawn its own water harvesting device.

According to studies completed by Texas A&M, Michigan State University and Rodale Institute, adding organic matter to soil significantly increases its water-holding capacity. Scientists report that for every one percent of organic matter, a cubic foot of soil can hold roughly 1.5 quarts of water. A two percent increase allows that same soil to increase the volume of water to three quarts.

The math is easy. If soil is made up of two percent organic matter, a 4,000 square foot lawn (about the average lawn size in The Woodlands) can hold at least 3,000 gallons of water. Residents and commercial establishments alike can use a simple and relatively inexpensive method to increase the water-holding capacity of the soil in turf grass areas.

The easiest and most inexpensive way of adding organic material to your

lawn is simply to spread compost on it. Half to three-quarters of an inch of compost added on top of turf twice a year will work itself down into the soil.

In addition to providing abundant storage of water, organic material aids in preventing soil erosion, enhances drainage and irrigation and helps grass extract nutrients from the soil. Organic material also supplies additional nutrients to the soil as it decays, stabilizes the pH of the soil, and acts as a food source for beneficial microorganisms in the soil.

Finally, good water holding capacity of soil helps grass roots to grow deeply into the soil, keeping them healthy and strong and resistant to diseases. Strong healthy plants help minimize weeds and in many cases, eliminate them altogether, negating the use of herbicides.

For information on where to obtain good organic compost locally, residents can visit FindAComposter.com or attend a composting class sponsored by The Woodlands Township and the Montgomery County Master Gardeners Association.

NATURE'S WAY RESOURCES

an organically based service company
"Where old fashioned customer service and product quality are still important!"

100% Organic

MULCH

ORGANIC GARDEN SUPPLIES

MIXED SOILS

SAND & GRAVEL

COMPOST

PLANTS

STONE

All our products are safe for children and animals.

www.NaturesWayResources.com

936-321-6990 (Metro)

936-273-1200 (Conroe)

101 Sherbrook Circle

Conroe, TX 77385

Retail & Wholesale, Bag or Bulk
Delivery Available

For upcoming classes, please visit www.thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov/gardeningevents.



PINEBROOK FARMS HORSEMANSHIP Camp & Riding School

SAFE, FUN English and Western riding lessons
CHA Certified Instructors • 40 years experience

Camp activities include:

- Daily horseback riding
- Trail rides
- Archery & Sports
- Art lessons & crafts
- Swimming
- Cook outs



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Just 8 minutes north of Tomball

Save Money on Your Landscape

Install drip irrigation

Most of the landscapes in The Woodlands are irrigated by sprinkler systems. A significant amount of this water evaporates before it gets to the roots of the plants, or it stays on leaves, making them susceptible to fungal infections. Because of varying heights of landscape plants, the water from some sprinklers is blocked from reaching all the plants.

Misdirected water often ends up running down the street. Sprinklers for landscape plants are inefficient, wasteful and costly to homeowners and businesses. During hot days, evaporation lost from irrigation sprinklers can be as much as 30% of the water used.

A much more cost-effective and efficient approach to watering landscape plants is drip irrigation. Once a highly complicated and arduous process, the industry has made significant advances toward making drip irrigation extremely affordable, easy to install, easy to use and easy to repair. Drip irrigation systems can be retrofitted to your existing sprinkler systems as well.

Since the water drips down into the soil and goes directly to the roots, the benefits are impressive:

- Plants grow and flower better.

- Plant diseases are significantly reduced.
- Soil moisture is kept at a more constant level.
- Increased irrigation efficiency/ water conservation.
- Lower water bills.
- Easy design, installation and operation of the system.
- Low cost to purchase and install.
- The systems are esthetically pleasing .

Homeowners can either install the systems themselves or have an irrigation contractor do it. Plenty of "how-to" information is available from big box stores and irrigation supply companies. The Internet also provides hundreds of DIY articles and videos for designing and installing drip systems



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Soil: the living layer of earth

By Bob Dailey
Master Gardener



Cliff Roe Photography

The soil in your garden and landscape should be a living layer of earth. That's not a platitude – it's a fact. It should be packed with microbes. A teaspoon of good soil should contain literally billions of beneficial bacteria, thousands of protozoans, and miles of micorrhizal fungi. Billions of bacteria and miles of fungi? In a teaspoon? It may sound like fiction, but it's true...if you have good soil!

These organisms and larger life such as earthworms create a soil food web, devouring small bits of organic matter in the soil, converting it into nutrients. Plant roots can then take in those nutrients to produce leaves, stems, flowers, fruit and seed. Good healthy plants can fend off disease and destructive insects. The absence of these microorganisms and larger organisms such as earthworms, result in compacted, lifeless soil. Lifeless soil, of course, cannot sustain life.

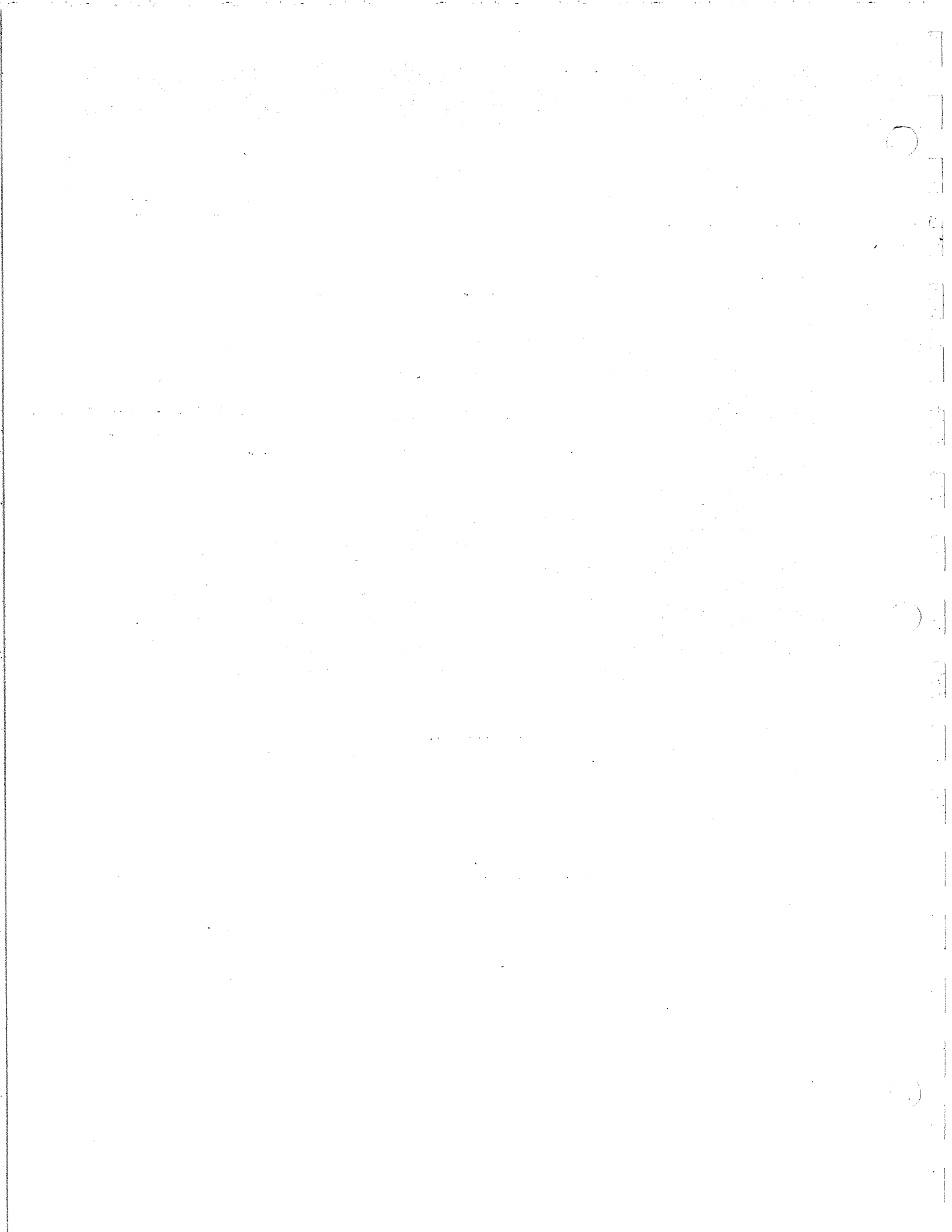
A recent non-scientific study in one Montgomery County community not only indicated that "take-all patch" was common in the sampling, but that all the lawns tested had compacted soil. In fact, a sampling trowel broke during the testing because the soil was so hard.

Solving the compacted soil problem

The absolute best way to give your soil life again is to simply add organic material. You don't need complicated chemicals and fertilizers. You don't need "inoculants." You don't need humates. All you need is simple organic compost. Organic compost contains all the microorganisms needed to inoculate soil, and also contains nutrient-rich material which will not only decompose slowly, but will also feed all the tiny animals in the soil. Here are some typical ways to bring your soil back to life with microorganisms.

Lawns

Spread organic compost evenly throughout the yard about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch deep. If you can't do it yourself, hire a landscape crew to do it. Many of them will also pick up the compost for you as well, if you pay for it beforehand. After spreading, if you feel it looks unsightly, hose it down into the lawn or take a broom and sweep it down.



LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Resolution No. 14-002

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADOPTING AN OPERATING AND CAPITAL OUTLAY BUDGET FOR 2014

WHEREAS, the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") was created by the Legislature of the State of Texas by the Act of May 17, 2001, 77th Leg., R.S., ch. 1321, 2001 Tex. Gen. Laws 3246, as amended (the "Enabling Act"), as a groundwater conservation district operating under Chapter 36, Texas Water Code, and the Enabling Act; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors (the "Board") Budget & Finance Committee has worked diligently to identify all reasonably anticipated District revenues, expenses, and activities for the January 1 through December 31, 2014 budget cycle, and, after giving much consideration to these important factors, has developed a proposed 2014 budget for the Board's consideration and deliberation (the "2014 Budget");

WHEREAS, the Board has reviewed and considered the 2014 Operating and Capital Budget;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 36.154 of the Texas Water Code, the District has prepared a budget that contains a complete financial statement, including a statement of the outstanding obligations of the District, the amount of cash on hand to the credit of each fund of the District, the amount of money received by the District from all sources during the previous year, the amount of money available to the District from all sources during the ensuing year, the amount of the balances expected at the end of the year in which the budget is being prepared, the estimated amount of revenues and balances available to cover the proposal budget, and the estimated fee revenues that will be required;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the adoption of the 2014 Budget, attached hereto as Attachment A and incorporated herein by this reference for all purposes, is merited to support the District's activities and related expenses from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014 and that the attached budget will allow the District to carry out the District's objectives and responsibilities as prescribed by the Enabling Act and Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT THAT:

- I. The above recitals are true and correct.
- II. The Board of Directors of the Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District hereby adopts an operating and capital outlay budget for January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014 as

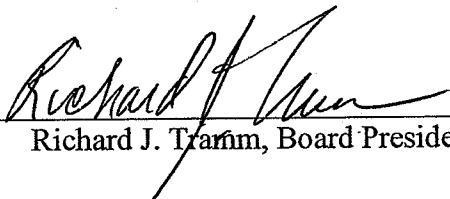
provided in the budget appended hereto as "Attachment A," which is incorporated herein by this reference and is hereby approved and adopted.

III. The Board of Directors, its officers, and the District employees are further authorized to take any and all actions necessary to implement this resolution.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 8th day of April, 2014

LONE STAR GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: 
Richard J. Tramm, Board President

ATTEST:

M. Scott Weisinger, PG, Board Secretary