



## SPARTA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.  
200 N. St. John St.  
Winnfield, LA

### Minutes/Meeting Notes - Amended items are underlined

**Call to Order:** The January 10, 2018 meeting of the Sparta Groundwater Conservation District Commission was called to order by Mr. Zack Spivey at 2:00 P.M. at Winn Parish Library in Winnfield LA, in Winn Parish. Members present or not present can be found on the attendance list. It was determined that a quorum was present. (Sign in sheets are available upon request.)

**Invocation** was given by Mr. Lynn Treadway **and Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Mr. Jack Clampit

**Approval of Agenda** Motion made by Mr. Charles Hughes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Jack Clampit that the agenda be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

**Welcome and Comments:** Mr. Zack Spivey welcomed new commission members Mr. Mike Carpenter from Winn Parish and Mr. Devin Flowers from Jonesboro. Also welcomed were guest Mr. Skip Russell from the Lincoln Parish Police Jury, Mr. Richard Durrett from Wagner Engineering, Mr. Rick Holt, Mr. John Barr from Senator Kennedy's office, Stephanie McKenzie with Senator Bill Cassidy's Office, and Mayor Ronny Walker from Ruston.

**Public Comments:** None

**Approval of Minutes of the October 12, 2017 Meeting:** Motion was made and passed unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 12, 2017 Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Jack Clampit gave the Treasurer's Report. He stated that our accounts were in good shape as of this time. A report was given to all the commission members.

### **Commissioner Report(s)**

- **Union County and Jefferson, Texas tour w/ Union Lincoln Initiative**– Mr. Richard Durrett gave a report on their visit to Hughes Springs Texas to the Lake of the Pines Treatment Center. Mayor Walker also shared that he participated in the trip and it was beneficial to him also. Rick Holt also mentioned that Ruston's infrastructure can not handle surface water as they are. The group also toured the surface treatment plant in El Dorado, Arkansas.
- **Sparta Foundation** – Mr. Rick Buckner deferred to Lindsay Gouedy.
- **Louisiana Water Resources Commission** – Lindsay Gouedy reported on Water Fest, the usage of the grant money we received from the U.S. Forestry Service. Mrs. Gouedy reported that all the Sparta donation request letters have been mailed out, and also mentioned the Sparta Shoot. Mr. Zack Spivey discussed the shape of our local economy. Mayor Ronny Walker stated that his primary concern for industrial growth in North Louisiana is if we have enough water to sustain industries that may want to come in. Mr. Richard Durrett stated that we need to have more room to grow between the Sparta recharge rate and the rate of pullout. Mr. Jack Clampit stated that at some time or another we are going to have to figure out how to regulate the usage of the Sparta, because we won't be able to sustain industries if we don't. Mr. Rick Holt stated that one of the main reasons the Sparta has been at a sustainable rate for some time is due to the education efforts of the Sparta Groundwater commission.

Motion was made by Charles Hughes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Cox that we enter into an executive session to discuss our proposed legislation. Motion passed unanimously.

On the advice of counsel, and by a unanimous vote of the commissioners, the Commission went into executive session to discuss strategy of legislation being proposed dealing with the authority of the Commission.

Discussion considering the points suggested from the meeting of the Executive Committee of Sparta Groundwater commission on December 18, 2017. The discussion points regarding desired changes to our current enabling legislation included changes to who made up the board and how they were nominated to ensure that all stakeholders have representation. After some discussion, on the impact of changing the organizations nominating commissioners for the governor's appointment, the commission by unanimous vote returned to regular session.

Regular meeting resumed at the close of the executive session.

Motion was made by Charles Hughes and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nick Cox to request Rob Shadoin, our state legislator, introduce a bill that would amend the Sparta Commission's enabling legislation (Act 1228) to include all powers from the bill introduced by Senator Ewing SB 912 in the 1999 session of the legislature. The vote of the Sparta Groundwater Commission on January 10, 2018 was to ask our legislator to introduce a bill restoring the regulatory and fee assessing authority. Motion passed unanimously.

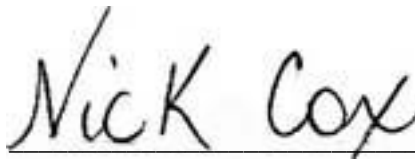
**Designation of an 'Official Journal'** – Motion was made by Mr. Nick Cox that we make the Ruston Dailey Leader our official journal. A second by Mr. Rick Buckner. After some discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**2018 Commission Appointments** – Mr. Zack Spivey led in a brief discussion on commissioner's who terms would be up for reappointment.

Meeting Adjourned just before 3:25 PM.



Zack Spivey, President.



Nick Cox, Secretary

Note: Associated documents are filed and available upon request.

Next meeting: April 11, 2018 at 2 p.m., Jonesboro, LA

Adjournment

**COMMISSION MEMBERS:**

Tammy Singleton (Bienville)	Dwayne R. Woodard (Claiborne)	W. Lynn Treadway (Jackson)	Lindsey Vincent (Lincoln)
Hon. Samuel Little (Morehouse)	Jack Clampit (Ouachita)	Jerry Taylor (Union)	Nick Cox (Webster)
Mike Carpenter (Winn)*	TBA (Arcadia)	TBA (Homer)*	Devin Flowers (Jonesboro)
Rick Buckner (Minden)	Zack Spivey (Ruston)	Terry Emory (W. Monroe)	
Ann Marie Anderson (Agriculture)	Charles Hughes (Wood Products)	Jackie Perritt (Other Industries)	

Ex Officio Members: Dr. Gary Kennedy (La Tech University); Ben McGee (USGS); Gary Hanson (LSUS); Susan Robbins (La Rural Water Assoc.); Jim York (LDNR)

\*Pending re-appointment or replacement appointment