

SPARTA

Ground Water Commission

SPARTA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 2:00 P.M.
Clairborne Parish Police Jury
Homer, LA

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Nick Cox, Rick Buckner, Keith Jeselink, Reggie Skains, Regina Rowe, Jamie Harrell, Ben Bridges, Jimmy Hand, Ronnie Turner

Sparta Groundwater Commission Executive Director: Lindsay Gouedy

Call to Order: Nick Cox, Chairman.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Mike Carpenter

Public Comments – None

Approval of Agenda – Motion made by Ben Bridges, second by Rick Buckner - Motion Approved

Welcome and Comments by Nick Cox.

Approval of Minutes: January 13, 2021 Meeting - Motion made by Reggie Skains, second by Ben Bridges – Motion Approved

Treasurer's Report – Keith Jeselink, Commission financial statement handed out. Discussed donations. Bank Balance \$106,498.75.

Approval of Treasurer's Report - Motion by Regina Rowe, second by Rick Buckner – Motion Approved

Sparta Foundation Report – Jimmy Hand; *Foundation Account Balance: \$5,163.37*. Discussed upcoming fundraiser “Give for Good” on May 4, 2021; Lagniappe Fund

Union County Water Conservation Board – *Sherrel Johnson-Absent Unable to attend but sent a report.*

Executive Director's Report - Lindsay Gouedy

- Donation \$18,500
- LWRC has not met since our last meeting; Scheduled to meet in July, but will most likely be December.

- SPARTA Grant – currently working through the final approval phase with USGS to execute the CEA for phase 1 of the EDA Project. Hope is to be complete within the next two weeks. Once the document is approved and signed by all, we will begin drafting the RFP for phase 2 and 3.
- Sparta Shoot – will decide after the “Give for Good”

General Business:

- EDA Grant – Understand delay
- 2021 Legislative update
 - SB 129 – Community Drinking Water Infrastructure Sustainability Act – *Building on present law*
 - SB 203 – Industrial Representative of Groundwater Districts – *Pertains to Board Members*
 - HB 88 – Provides limitations on groundwater withdrawals from the Southern Hills Aquifer by industrial facilities and requires reporting and recordkeeping. – *Rep. Marsel-she is focused on water – limit 5M/day*
 - HB 622 – Creates the "Rural Development Fund" and program. – *Adds Broadband Connectivity*
 - HB 76 – Increases from 1,249 to 4,999, the maximum number of customers that a rural water system may service to qualify for the exemption from local match requirements for capital outlay projects.
 - HB 590 - Grants the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District board of commissioners the authority to assess fees for capital expenditures. – *Allows fees*

Public Comments - None

Commissioner Comments

- Bills get pushed through intended for South
- May 15 tier Ethics due

Next Meeting: July 14, 2021 @ 2:00 P.M., Ouachita Parish, LA

Adjournment

Motion by Ben Bridges, second by Jamie Harrell. Motion approved.

Regina Rowe, Secretary Nick Cox, Chairman