



## SPARTA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, July 17, 2014

Dr. Charles H. Garrett Community Center, 182 Industrial Drive, Jonesboro, LA 71251

**CALL TO ORDER:** The July 17, 2014 meeting of the Sparta Groundwater Conservation District Commission was called to order by President Jackie Perritt at 2:00 p.m. **Members present:** Jackie Perritt, Billy Perritt, Lynn Treadway, Rick Hohlt, Carol DeVille, Ted McKinney, Samuel P. Little, Willie Doherty, Dwayne Woodard, Terry Emory, and Anne Marie Anderson. **Members not in attendance:** Scotty Robinson, Dan Morgan, Steve Lemons, Elliot Colvin, Chris Smith, and Charles Hughes. It was determined that a **quorum existed**. (**Attachment 1**—Sign-in sheets)

The **Invocation** was given by Ted McKinney, and the **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by Lynn Treadway.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded (Little/Hohlt) that the Agenda be approved, and the motion passed.

### WELCOME AND COMMENTS:

**Michael Jackson**, representing Sen. Mary Landrieu, said, “The Sparta is my project” and that he is working on some funding for the Sparta. **Susan Robbins**, with the Rural Water Association, spoke about some conferences and meetings she has attended recently, and that there is a Source Water Collaborative Association beginning in some states and that the Sparta Commission might want to join. She will provide us with information regarding the association.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS:

President Jackie Perritt asked almost everyone in the audience to stand, introduce themselves and comment on their community or their expectations of the Sparta Commission.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the April 17, 2014 meeting of the Sparta Groundwater Conservation District Commission had been emailed to all members of the Commission. President Jackie Perritt asked for any discussion of the minutes. There was none. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded (Hohlt/Treadway) that the **Minutes** be approved. The motion passed.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Treasurer Billy Perritt reported the current total Liabilities and Equity of the Commission as \$28,476.00. Our balance is more than \$20,000 below where it was at this point last year. He then presented a Profit & Loss Previous Year Comparison for the period Jan. 1-Jul. 15 that indicated 11,641.25 **less** Net Income for that period in 2014 than in 2013, a **decrease** of 819.4%.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded (Little/Hohlt) that the **Treasurer’s Report** be approved. The motion passed. (**Attachment 2**—Sparta Balance Sheet 7-17-14 and Sparta Previous Year Comparison)

Commissioner Rick Hohlt commented on the fact that funds donated by Police Juries and municipalities go to fund the Sparta Groundwater Commission and that fundraisers fund the Sparta Foundation and the WaterFests. Donations to the Sparta Groundwater Commission are down at this point, but checks have already been cut for \$12,000 and \$26,000 is still expected over the coming months.

### COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

#### Water Resources Commission Meeting—Ted McKinney

The next biennial meeting of the Louisiana Water Resources Commission will be held on July 30, and the Sparta Commission has been asked to give a report. Lindsay Gouedy will give a report on the Education work she does, and Ted McKinney will give a report on the Union/Lincoln Initiative after meeting with

Richard Durrett, Project Engineer. He will also present a copy of the Sparta Commission's resolution supporting the Initiative and submit a copy to be put into the LWRC minutes.

**Marketing and the Sparta Foundation—Rick Hohlt**

Commissioner Rick Hohlt presented the Sparta Foundation's Financial Statement listing income and expenses Jan.1, 2014 to June 30, 2014. The current balance is \$14, 319.30. **Motion:** It was moved and seconded (Hohlt/Treadway) that the Sparta Foundation Financial Statement be accepted. The motion passed. (**Attachment 3—Sparta Foundation Financial Statement**)

**OTHER REPORTS:**

**Conservation Educator's Report—Lindsay Gouedy**

Educator Lindsay Gouedy reported on the Webster Parish WaterFest and that approximately 11,000 children have participated in WaterFest activities over the last 4 years. All activities are designed to meet Common Core Standards. Expenses of \$3,886 for the Webster Parish WaterFest are not reflected on the Sparta Foundation Financial Statement as presented earlier. WaterFests for Bienville and Union Parish schools are scheduled for October.

She also reported on the Sparta Shoot. There were 18 5-man teams, some of whom came from other states. A part of the success of the Shoot is that it reaches people from other places and from various age groups who might not otherwise be aware of the work of the Sparta Commission and Foundation. The Shoot also included a live auction of donated items. The next Sparta Shoot is scheduled for June 6, 2015.

Gouedy reported on efforts to find other funding:

- A \$10,000 grant through OECC is a future possibility.
- The Louisiana Oil & Gas Association (LOGA) may be interested in working with the Sparta Foundation. Commissioner Hohlt commented that the oil and gas industry has a vested interest in water. They are not presently participating but may contribute eventually
- Gouedy and Holt are presently working with legislators to find other grant funding.

**Update From Union County**

In the absence of Robert Reynolds and Sherrel Johnson, Lindsay Gouedy reported that Johnson had emailed a report and that an updated Water Plan draft was available online.

**ORVA Convention—Billy Perritt**

The ORVA Convention will be held at the West Monroe Convention Center August 26-27. Information about the convention was made available and commissioners were encouraged to attend.

**RockTenn Report—Lynn Treadway**

Rock Tenn is involved in a \$5,000,000 project that should reduce their Sparta Aquifer usage by 3 million gallons per day.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

- Nomination of Delegates to represent the Sparta Commission on the Water Resources Commission  
The following commissioners have agreed to allow their names to be forwarded as nominees to represent the Sparta Commission on the LWRC:

Carol DeVille  
Dan Morgan  
Anne Marie Anderson

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded (B. Perritt/Treadway) that DeVille, Morgan, and Anderson be nominated to represent the Sparta Commission on the LWRC. The motion passed. One of the nominees will be approved by the Governor's office to serve on the LWRC.

- Nomination of Delegate to represent the Sparta Commission on the Task Force Commission

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded (Treadway/McKinney) that Willie Doherty be nominated to represent the Sparta Commission on the Water Resources Task Force Commission. The motion

passed.

•Status of Commissioner Appointments

Dwayne Woodard has been nominated to represent Claiborne Parish on the Sparta Commission. Zack Spivey is to be nominated to represent the city of Ruston. Nominations for Commissioner are needed from Jonesboro, Minden, and Arcadia.

•Legislative Committee—Willie Doherty

Commissioner Doherty reported that our revenue streams are drying up in spite of some good reports. The Sparta Commission is a state-appointed commission, and we need some money to run the commission itself. The amount we need will not break the state. It would be best if we had a legislated funding source that would allow the hiring of an administrative assistant.

•Nominating Committee—Rick Hohlt

The following slate of offices for 2015 was recommended by the nominating committee:

President—(open)  
Vice President—Sam Little  
Treasurer—Lynn Treadway  
Secretary—Carol DeVille  
Executive Director of the Sparta Foundation—Rick Hohlt

Commissioners who are eligible to serve as officers are

Anne Marie Anderson	Willie Doherty
Stephen Lemons	Dan Morgan
Scotty Randall	Charles Hughes
Dwayne Woodard	Jackie Perritt
Terry Emory	

Officers will be elected at the next meeting. (**Attachment 4**—Nominating Committee Report)

**Next meeting:** October 16, 2014, 2 p.m., in Claiborne Parish. Dwayne Woodard will be in charge of setting up the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** There being no further business, it was moved and seconded (Hohlt/Little) that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried. The meeting was **adjourned** at 3:00 p.m.

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Jackie Perritt, Chair

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Carol DeVille, Secretary

Note: Attachments are filed with the minutes in the Sparta Commission Office.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS (status as of July 17, 2014):**

Billy Perritt (Bienville)	Dwayne R. Woodard (Claiborne)	W. Lynn Treadway (Jackson)	Rick Hohlt (Lincoln)
Hon. Samuel Little (Morehouse)	Scotty Robinson (Ouachita)	Dan Morgan (Union)	Steve Lemmons (Webster)
Willie G. Doherty (Winn)	Elliot Colvin (Rotating-Richland)	TBA (Arcadia)	Carol DeVille (Homer)
TBA (Jonesboro)	TBA (Minden)	Ted McKinney (Ruston)	Terry Emory (W. Monroe)
Ann Marie Anderson (Agriculture)	Charles Hughes (n-Wood Products)	Jackie Perritt (Other Industries)	

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

Note: Some terms of members ended Oct. 14. Status of new members (n= "nominated"; TBA= "to be arranged") was the understanding when this agenda was approved.