



SPARTA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING

September 13, 2007

The Sparta Groundwater Conservation District met on September 13, 2007 at 3:10 P.M. in the Jackson Parish Community Center 182 Industrial Drive Jonesboro, LA 71251.

Commission Members Present: Herbert Byars, Gary Carlisle, Gene Coleman, Todd Culpepper, Don Essmeier, Olevis McDonald, Billy Don Perritt, Jackie Perritt, George W. Rolfe, Jr., Alice Stewart, and Dennis E. Woodward.

Commission Members Absent: Sellers Aycock, John Van Bennett, Kim L. Brantley, Mack Calhoun, Edward Dayton, Samuel P. Little, Dan Morgan, and Bobby E. Price.

The meeting was officially called to order by Chairman Gene Coleman.

The invocation was given by Olevis McDonald. Billy Perritt led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Agenda Approval

It was moved by Dennis Woodward and seconded by Alice Stewart to approve the agenda after adding two items:

1. Update of the West Monroe Project
2. Time and Place of Next Meeting

The motion was approved unanimously. (See Attachment I)

Welcome – Legislators

There were no legislators present.

Minutes

It was moved by Dennis Woodward and seconded by Billy Perritt that the minutes be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer Report

A Treasurer report was given by Dennis Woodward. A copy of the financial statement presented to commission is attached. (See Attachment II). Dennis said that he has sent letters to towns asking for contributions for the next year. Jackie Perritt asked that he send a request letter to Pilgrims.

It was moved by Todd Culpepper and seconded by Don Essmeier to accept the treasurer report. The motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

The following committees made reports:

Public Relation/ Education

Jackie Perritt reported that Ben McGee with USGS made a presentation on the Sparta to Union Parish. She said that the committee met three (3) times in August and September.

Long-term Planning

Dr. Alice Stewart said that the committee met and that we are on schedule to meet the approved goals of the Commission. Members of both the public relations and long-term planning have met with Trail Blazer on the 'Save our Sparta' initiative.

Legislative

John Van Bennett was unable to attend today's meeting

It was moved by Herb Byars and seconded by Todd Calpepper to accept and approve the committees' reports. The motion was approved unanimously.

Presentation

Dennis Woodward reported on the efforts of "2007 Save our Sparta Initiative" Dennis reminded the group that Trailblazer had received money from Entergy (\$7500) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) - (\$18,000) to be used for Sparta.

A project committee met several times in August and September to review the task list and set-up priorities for the Initiative. The task list from the NRCS was the focus of the committee's function Rick Hohlt, with the *Ruston Daily Leader* is on the committee of the Save our Sparta Initiative but was unable to attend the Commission meeting today. Dennis brought several compact disc copies of "Be Sparta Smart" ads that Rick had run in the newspaper and was making copies available to Sparta Commission members to take to their local newspaper to be run or utilized in the overall Sparta education of the general public. In addition to the ads, Rick also sent copies of radio spots that could be used throughout the Sparta region. Samples of the Be Sparta Smart ads are attached. (See Attachment III)

John Stenberg, an engineer with the City of West Monroe provided an update on the City of West Monroe Sparta Aquifer project with Graphic Packaging. John said the system (1 unit) is in operation treating 0.6 mgd. He had a display showing the system and brought samples of the treated water from the operation. He estimated the cost at 0.45 - 0.65 / 1000 gallons. The Commissioners had an opportunity to ask questions and gather information through discussion of the West Monroe operation.

Other Business

It was moved by Dennis Woodward and seconded by George Rolfe, Jr. to conduct meeting every two months instead of having monthly meetings. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on November 8, 2007 in Homer, Louisiana at the Claiborne Parish Police Jury Office Complex at 3PM.

Public Comment

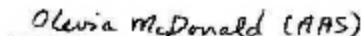
Charles Doherty with D'Arbonne Rural Water District mentioned the need for timely notice of meetings. It was suggested that the Rural Water District be included on the email list. Alice Stewart will provide the website to link information.

Allen Nipper is LSU-AgCenter discussed the position that they will fill for a Watershed Engineer. He explained that this person would not be a full time Sparta education employee but would be involved with water systems in north Louisiana.

Dennis Woodward moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 PM.

The meeting was adjourned by the Chairperson.


Gene Coleman, Chairman


Olevia McDonald, Secretary