***TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES***

***CAPITAL AREA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRIST***

***MARCH 4, 2021***

**I. Call to Order**

The Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District (the “District”) met for a technical meeting at 10:00 a.m. on March 4, 2021 in the Baton Rouge Marriott Ballroom, 5500 Hilton Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by the District’s Vice Chairman Ken Dawson.

**II. Roll Call**

The following members were present: Kenneth Dawson, Patrick Hobbins, Joey Normand, Hays Town, Ronnie Albritton, Matthew Reonas, Jesse Means, III, Ryan Scardina, Rachael Lambert, Nelson Morvant, Dennis McGehee, Scott Bergeron.

Others attending the meeting were not introduced, but include and are not limited to: Gary Beard, Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District; Hunter Odom, Marionneaux Kantrow, LLC; Douglas Carlson, Louisiana Geological Survey; Jason Hewitt and Jay Simon, Sustainability Partners.

**III. Establishment of a quorum**

Mr. Beard established that a quorum of the Technical Committee was present.

**IV. Amendment to the Agenda**

Motion passed unanimously to move Item 9 to be heard after update from The Water Institute of the Gulf.

**V. Approval of Minutes of July 29, 2020 Technical Meeting**

Mr. Dawson requested that a motion be made, and it was, for the minutes of the July, 29, 2020 Technical Committee Meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**VI. Update from The Water Institute of the Gulf**

Alyssa Dausman, Senior Vice President & Chief Scientist of the Water Institute of the Gulf (the “Institute”), made a presentation to the Committee on the status of the Long-Term Strategic Plan Project (the “Project”) for the District. Dr. Dausman stated that the Project is progressing, but the Institute had not yet been given the Notice to Proceed (“NTP”), therefore they are working at risk, which is the reason the subcontractors had not all started. Additionally, Dr. Dausman stated that Activity 2.1 is where the Institute had made the most progress. Mr. Joey Normand then asked Dr. Dausman about the progress of the project as it relates to the timeline. Dr. Dausman stated that the Institute is behind relative to the original scheduled start date of December 1 because the contracting is not complete and therefore some tasks are not able to start at risk. However, there are tasks where the project is progressing. Dr. Dausman stated that she will update the timeline and Gantt chart once NTP is signed. Dr. Dausman then discussed the various aspects of the technical detail of this phase of the Project, including support for well metering. Mr. Morvant then requested a peer review of the data supplied by the Institute.

**VII. Discussion of Submission of Water Well Permits**

Gary Beard, Executive Director of the District made a presentation on the water well permits to the Committee. The need for public wells to be metered was discussed.

**VIII. Presentation by Sustainability Partners**

Jason Hewitt of Sustainability Partners and Jay Simon of Secure Water made a presentation to the Committee on the proposed installation of metering system. Mr. Hewitt described that there would be approximately twelve sites for salinity monitors with the ability to expand if necessary. Mr. Hewitt described the business aspects of the system and the obligations of the District if it were to accept, including a month-to-month commitment from the District for the capital expenditure, priced per site. Mr. Hewitt described that the communication would be cloud-based, which would allow for the data to kept safe and easily accessible. Mr. Hewitt stated that of the twenty or more metering projects across the country, he had never seen a customer see less than a forty percent increase in accuracy. Mr. Simon then outlined and described the engineering and technical aspects of the proposed project, including the costs and benefits of potential flow-meters and chloride meters.

**IX. Review of Records Retention Schedule**

Hunter Odom, attorney with Marionneaux Kantrow, LLC, presented a revised copy of the Records Retention Schedule to the Committee for consideration. Mr. McGehee recommended a change to the retention period of the groundwater pumping records so that they would be retained permanently. It was recommended that the Retention Schedule be put before the full Board at the next meeting.

**X. Nominations and Selection of Committee Chairman for 2021**

Ken Dawson was nominated to be the Chairman of the Technical Committee and he accepted without any objections. Scott Gaspard was nominated and accepted without any objections. Scott Gaspard was elected.

**XI. Commissioner Comments**

There were no commissioner comments.

**XII. Public Comment**

Douglas Carlson, Research Professor of Louisiana Geological Survey, stated the District needs to conduct chloride measuring. He stated that the focus is the small areas between the industrial zones.

**XIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Morvant was seconded by Mr. Bergeron without opposition.