

## MINUTES

### CAPITAL AREA GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION COMMISSION

June 18, 2020

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#### I. Call to Order

The Capital Area Groundwater Conservation Commission met for a regular meeting at 2:00 p.m. on June 18, 2020 in the Baton Rouge Marriott Ballroom, 5500 Hilton Avenue, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Nelson Morvant.

#### II. Roll Call

The following members were present: Ronnie Albritton, William Daniel, Mark Frey, John Hashagen, Dennis McGehee, Nelson Morvant, Joey Normand, Thomas Perkins, Matthew Reonas, “J.A.” Rummeler, Ryan Scardina, Tom Stephens, Todd Talbot, Hays Town and Mark Walton. The following members were absent: Kenneth Dawson and Jesse Means.

Others attending the meeting were: Shawn Scallan, Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District; David Mitchell, The Advocate; John Lovelace, U.S. Geological Survey; Alyssa Dausman, Ryan Clark and Amy Wold, The Water Institute of the Gulf; Roy Waggenpack, Owen & White; Johan Forsman, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals; Russel Honore, Green Army; Hunter Odom & Kyle Marionneau; Marionneau Kantrow, LLC; Megan Terrell, Plauche; and Carr; Tyler McCloud & Su King, Louisiana House of Representatives; Barry Hughhins, former Commissioner, Andy Brown, Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, and David Shoptaugh, CPA.

#### III. Minutes

Mr. Daniel made a motion that the minutes of the February 11, 2020 be approved. Mr. Hashagen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### IV. Report from the Administrative Committee

At the request of Chairman Morvant, Mr. Todd Talbot reported on the meetings that were held June 11, 2020 and June 17, 2020. Following is a summary of items discussed at the meeting and further discussion and action at the regular Commission meeting on June 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

- Mr. Talbot reported that Anthony Duplechin presented some changes to Title 56, Public Works, Capital Area Groundwater Conservation Commission. Chapter 6 are rules and regulation for production limits. The Commission has resolutions that were passed and other documents that placed production limits in certain parts of the District. It was authorized that the Planning and Specifications Subcommittee review Title 56 then bring it to the full Commission for final approval.
- Mr. Talbot stated that with the resignation of the Executive Director that no one is authorized to approve office expenditures for the Commission. Mr. Hashagen made a motion to authorize the Chairman to approve expenditures until the new executive director is hired. Mr. Walton seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Mr. Talbot reported that authorization was needed to sign the financial audit engagement letter for 2019-2020 fiscal year. Mr. Normand made a motion to approve the letter. Mr. Perkins seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Mr. Talbot presented the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for audit engagements of government agencies for fiscal year 2019-2020. Mr. Morvant made a motion to approve the questionnaire. Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. Mr. Normand questioned item 9, where it states, “It is true that no employees or officials have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1101-1124.” Mr. Normand stated that it was checked yes and should be no. Mr. Daniel stated that he can understand where Mr. Normand got that interpretation, but that the Commission is answering the question in the spirit that we understand it and if that changes then it will be answered differently. The committee voted as follows: yeas – 15; nays – 1; abstain - 1. The motion passed.
- Mr. Talbot stated that the administrative committee voted to recommend that the contract for Marionneau Kantrow be extended. Mr. Town made a motion to extend the contract.

Mr. Stephens seconded the motion. Mr. Reonas asked if it was for the same amount. Mr. Talbot stated yes. The motion passed.

- Mr. Normand then made a motion to amend agenda item 13d to the next agenda item. Mr. Reonas seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Commission then voted to move agenda item 13d. The motion passed. Mr. Normand then made the following motion:

Whereas, in a letter dated February 12, 2020, Attorney General Jeff Landry modified the contract with the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation Commission (CAGWCC) which removed Harry Vorhoff as general Counsel of the Commission, and

Whereas, no mention has been made of a replacement since then, and

Whereas, the CAGWCC is in need of General Counsel for many and varied legal opinion and guidance, and

Whereas, Megan Terrell with Plauche & Carr LLP has previously served with distinction in that capacity, and

Whereas, Megan Terrell brings both a legal knowledge gained from many years of work in the water resources field and a specific knowledge of the CAGWCC, and

Whereas, it is rare that an attorney with specific CAGWCC experience is available on short notice. Now therefore be it resolved that Megan Terrell of Plauche & Carr LLP is hereby appointed General Counsel of the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission effective immediately with rates to be negotiated at a later date.

Mr. Reonas seconded the motion.

Mr. Daniel then stated that the Commission should hire counsel through a request for quote (rfq). Mr. Morvant stated that the Attorney General's office sets a maximum rate for legal services for the state. Mr. Daniel made a substitute motion to put out an rfq in the next 30 days for the hiring of general counsel. Mr. Daniel stated that he would take charge of writing the rfq. Mr. Walton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Mr. Morvant stated that documents pertaining to cooperative endeavor agreements were sent from the Office of Procurement. In lieu of the amount of money that The Water Institute Phase II will cost, Mr. Morvant stated that the Commission needs to make sure to adhere to the guidance in the signing of an agreement with Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. Mr. Morvant stated that three criteria must be met in the agreement. Also stated that once the agreement is written that it must be reviewed by an attorney. The Commission must operate within the law.

- Mr. Duplechin resigned from his position as Executive Director effective on June 11, 2020. Mr. Daniel stated that a new Executive Director will be hired soon and that he feels that additional employees will be needed for Commission work. Mr. Daniel made a motion to hire a field/office technician for \$33,500 for fiscal year 2020-2021 along with \$4,600 in associated expenses. This new employee will be hired by the Executive Director towards the end of the year. Mr. Daniel noted that he reduced the budget items of office furniture by \$4,000, travel by \$600 and replaced the salary of the special advisor to Executive Director to the salary of the field/office technician. The additions and deletions to the budget were both \$38,100. Mr. Talbot noted that benefits were not included in the budget for the field/office technician. Mr. Daniel stated that the budget can be amended at a later time for benefits. Mr. Reonas seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- The financial conditions as of April 30, 2020 were reviewed.

- The budget for fiscal year 2019-2020 was amended with the following: a) Information Technology increase from \$10,500 to \$13,500; b) Bank Fees increase from \$2,600 to \$3,600; c) Saltwater Remediation increase from \$350,000 to \$477,000; d) Coastal Protection & Restoration increase from \$237,000 to \$250,000; e) Add Rampart Resources - \$1,710; f) Add Emergent Method - \$10,000; and g) Add Rentals - \$1,200. Mr. Daniel made a request that land acquisition and rampart resources be included in the phase I/phase II saltwater remediation budget item. Mr. Daniel would also like to see a breakdown of bank fees. He wanted to get advice from the CPA on how to show this item. Mr. Normand made the motion to amend the budget with the amendments listed for fiscal year 2019-2020. Mr. Stephens seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- Mr. Normand then made a motion to amend agenda item 13c and b to the next agenda item. Mr. Reonas seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Normand then made a motion

to move agenda items 13c and 13b to the next agenda item. Mr. Reonas seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Normand then made the following motion:

Whereas, the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission (CAGWCC) determined that a long-term plan was necessary for preservation of the aquifer, and  
Whereas, the CAGWCC enlisted the services of The Water Institute to conduct the study, and  
Whereas, phase I of the study has been completed, and  
Whereas, a scope of services for phase II was provided to the CAGWCC in November 2019, and  
Whereas, the technical committee chairman has implored the Commissioner to provide input and suggested modifications to the phase II scope since November 2019, and  
Whereas, all suggestioned scope modifications have been reconciled, and  
Whereas, no additional modifications, suggestion or edits were put forth at the Technical Committee meeting held on June 11, 2020 and  
Whereas, the implementation of phase II is vital to the work of the Commission if the Commission is to perform the function for which it was formed in 1975,  
Now, therefore may it be resolved that the CAGWCC hereby approves The Water Institute Phase II scope of service as modified and presented to the Technical Committee on June 11, 2020 and hereby authorizes the Water Institute to begin work on the Phase II study immediately

Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. Mr. Normand stated that he is seeking a commitment from the board that they will do Phase II. Mr. Normand then asked Barry Huggins for a history leading up to today. Mr. Daniel stated that he would like to relax the Commission's rules to allow Mr. Huggins to speak. Mr. Normand stated that he thinks the rules stated that if you ask a question of a technical expert that he can speak. Mr. Huggins then gave a speech on the history leading up to Phase II.

Mr. Perkins then asked how much will it cost for Phase II for The Water Institute of the Gulf. Mr. Morvant replied 1.85 million to 5.3 million. Mr. Daniel stated that Phase II is 1.6 million. Mr. Perkins stated that the Commission would have to raise these funds in order to do the study. Mr. Frey questioned if the Commission should follow the guidelines for an rfq for this service. Mr. Daniel stated that the Commission did not need to do an rfq because this was considered a cooperative endeavor agreement. Mr. Morvant added that there is no contractual commitment for Phase II to give The Water Institute of the Gulf (TWIG) the work. He stated that some of the work has already been done by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the work is costly and the scope of work provided is not clear. He stated that a proposal by USGS would help clarify the problem statement and provide criteria that protects everyone including public supply and industry. Mr. Morvant provided the board with the proposal. Another issue that Mr. Morvant brought up was that TWIG initially said the cost would be \$250,000 for Phase II. He added that USGS would provide a clear concise statement on the water in Baton Rouge and conditions in all ten sands which then could be reviewed by someone like TWIG. The USGS project is anticipated to take 18 months for a cost of \$270,000. Mr. Morvant stated that the USGS proposal should be done first, this would save the Commission money. It also makes more sense to go to USGS who has the data.

Mr. Daniel stated when he was appointed by the Commission that he received a call from industry wanting him to meet with them. He was told by industry that a groundwater plan was needed for the area and could he push the Commission in that direction. He stated that he did see where the Commission was moving forward to become an up to date functional group that is looking after the ground water of the state. He then stated that Barry Huggins told him that one the most qualified impartial groups is TWIG. He stated that both LSU and USGS would be involved in Phase II. He stated that the Commission has an opportunity to do an objective study with TWIG. He urged the Commission to support the resolution made by Mr. Normand.

Mr. Stephens stated that he would like to do something but the Commission is presently cost constrained. Mr. Walton stated that when TWIG first presented their proposals, it was \$250,000 for each phase. He stated that phase II is now 1.6 million. He stated that USGS has already done some of the work that TWIG is proposing. Mr. Reonas stated that a letter was sent by Commissioner Ieyoub stating the Office of Conservation's position. Mr.

Reonas read the letter into record. Mr. Reonas stated that his office has been consistent in their message in that a management plan needs to be developed. Mr. Reonas took issue with TWIG duplicating USGS work. He stated that the Commission has two competing models one by Dr. Frank Tsai and the other by USGS. They are major differences and discrepancies in the models. Mr. Reonas stated that the idea that TWIG is duplicating USGS work is fundamentally wrong. Mr. Reonas stated that different sands were modeled and different scenarios were run and to date none have been adopted. He stated that the most optimistic scenario was reduction in ground water use from the major industrial users and that he hasn't seen Exxon or Entergy come forward to say how much there going to reduce as part of that effort. Mr. Reonas stated that there are some budgetary issues but the Commission has the authority to raise fees and bonding authority. Also Mr. Reonas mentioned public private partnerships as a possibility.

Mr. Stephens then offered an amendment to the motion that cost not exceed \$450,000. Mr. Talbot then stated that the first motion needs to be further discussed. There was no second. Mr. Walton then commented on Mr. Reonas' statement that the industrial cut back did not happen. Mr. Walton stated as the USGS was doing different scenarios with scenario number 7a and 7b involving a cut back from industry of 2.3 million gallons per day. Mr. Walton stated that both Mr. Reonas and the Legislative Auditor stated that it didn't happen. Mr. Walton stated that it did happen and began in 2012. Mr. Walton added that this was put into the Commission's management plan and finalized in 2014. Mr. Walton then discussed Dr. Tsai's model and the USGS model. Mr. Walton stated that Mr. Reonas said that the models have discrepancies. Mr. Walton stated that of course they do. He stated that the USGS model does not require as much detail as Dr. Tsai's model. Also Dr. Tsai's model is only East Baton Rouge parish. Mr. Walton asked what has changed for TWIG to increase the price to 1.6 million.

Mr. Daniel stated that he had no use for the ad hoc committee. He stated the Commission did things the wrong way. Mr. Daniel asked to see the management plan. He stated that the Commission is regulating one of the most important natural resources in the State with a three page management plan. Mr. Daniel stated that he doesn't think that the Commission is duplicating data. He stated that TWIG proposes to take the data and come up with a model that is detailed. Mr. Daniel stated that USGS does not make policies and the purpose of the TWIG report is to come up with policies. Mr. Daniel stated that if this is added to the budget and then the Commission does not pass a fee increase or come up with a way of funding then it will not be done. Mr. Daniel then amended the original motion that phase II does not start until two months after the hiring of the new Executive Director. Mr. Rummmler then made an amendment to that motion to state "and in the event of passage of any additional pumpage fees that there be an immediate, thorough, and organized outreach to public supply users in every parish to describe all efforts that the 2019 pumpage fee increase, a 2020 pumpage fee increase, and any future pumpage fee increase will be used for the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission for the Southern Hills Aquifer." Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. Mr. Rummmler stated that his amendment is to ensure that the users are fully aware because they are going to be faced with increased pumpage fees.

Mr. Hashagen stated that he thinks the Commission needs a phase II; however, he does not agree with the way some want to go about it. He would rather see the money in hand first. He then stated that there is another option on the table with the USGS proposal and it needs to be given serious consideration. Mr. Hashagen urged the Commission to use caution.

Mr. Albritton stated that at the January 21, 2020 technical committee meeting Barry made a statement urging the Commissioners to attend the March 2020 meeting to discuss the scope of services. That meeting was never held due to Covid-19. Mr. Albritton stated that he reviews the USGS data. Mr. Albritton stated that he doesn't think that all the facts are there for the Commission to make the right decision. Mr. Albritton stated that 1.5 million is a lot of money but if that's what it takes to get a good product then he has no problem with that. Mr. Albritton stated that the budget can be amended at any time.

Mr. Walton suggested that the USGS and the TWIG study could be assigned to the technical committee for review. Mr. Frey urged the Commission to wait until a new Executive Director is hired before going forward.

Mr. McGehee stated that the Commission received the TWIG proposal last fall. He suggested that it be reviewed to see where the Commission might be able to cut costs. He also stated that this is the first he has seen the USGS proposal. Mr. McGehee stated that he feels a decision cannot be made today. Mr. McGehee also requested back in the fall for a cost analysis of monthly expenditures. He asked at what point the Commission would need to raise fees. Mr. McGehee stated that a pumpage fee increase was just done in April 2020 and now the Commission is wanting to do another one. He stated that's the way government thinks raise the fees and don't worry about the costs.

Mr. Talbot stated that by voting on this resolution today that it does not allow the Commission to look at the USGS proposal. Mr. Talbot suggested to let the technical committee review the USGS proposal and see how it compares to TWIG's proposal and if there is any duplication which would then lower TWIG's price.

Public comment was given by Russel Honore and Justin Ehrenworth. Mr. Daniel then read into record a letter from Louisiana Environmental Action Network. Mr. John Lovelace commented that the USGS proposal was not meant to be a competing proposal but a preliminary report on the state of the present condition of the aquifers.

Mr. Talbot then asked for the resolution to be restated:

Whereas, the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission (CAGWCC) determined that a long-term plan was necessary for preservation of the aquifer, and  
Whereas, the CAGWCC enlisted the services of The Water Institute of the Gulf (TWIG) to conduct the study, and

Whereas, phase I of the study has been completed, and

Whereas, a scope of services for phase II was provided to the CAGWCC in November 2019, and  
Whereas, the technical committee chairman has implored the Commissioner to provide input and suggested modifications to the phase II scope since November 2019, and

Whereas, all suggested scope modifications have been reconciled, and  
Whereas, no additional modifications, suggestion or edits were put forth at the Technical Committee meeting held on June 11, 2020 and

Whereas, the implementation of phase II is vital to the work of the Commission if the Commission is to perform the function for which it was formed in 1975,

Now, therefore may it be resolved that the CAGWCC hereby approves TWIG Phase II scope of service as modified and presented to the Technical Committee on June 11, 2020 and hereby authorizes TWIG to begin work on the Phase II study two months after the hiring of the new Executive Director subject to available funding and that TWIG works with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to incorporate a set of criteria for the scope of services from the USGS proposal provided in the meeting. Additionally, in the event it is necessary to pass any additional pumpage fees, there will be an immediate, thorough, and organized outreach coordinated by the CAGWCC and any of its partners and/or consultants, in every parish of the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District (CAGWCD) to ensure that the parish governments, regulated public supply users, and regulated industrial users in each parish of the CAGWCD are given a detailed explanation and description of 1.) how the CAGWCC intends to utilize funds that are currently being obtained from the 2019 pumpage fee increase for the saltwater encroachment characterization and remediation project, and 2.) how the CAGWCC intends to utilize funds that would be obtained from any future pumpage fee increase or increases necessary to a.) fund an effort intended to assist in planning for the long-term sustainability of the Southern Hills Aquifer System [i.e., the planning which is included in the budget and scope of what is currently proposed as Phase 2 by TWIG], and b.) fund the development of the Groundwater Availability Model or Model(s) which may be recommended by TWIG per the results of Phase 2 (i.e., the modeling which is not included in the budget and scope of what is currently proposed as Phase 2 by TWIG).

A roll call vote was taken: yeas – 16; nays – 0; abstain - 0. The motion passed.

The Commission then recessed for 5 minutes.

- Mr. Talbot then stated that the next item was Mr. Normand’s resolution. The following is his resolution:

Whereas, at the September 2019 Commission regular meeting, Chairman Morvant said, “The goal of the Executive Committee is to develop a scope of work and job description and begin the search for a full time Executive Director with the goal of having the Executive Director hired by the beginning of the next fiscal year”, and

Whereas, the minutes also stated, “The need for raising pumpage fees was brought up as a possibility for funding the full time Executive Director.”, and

Whereas, additional funding will be required to fund the full time Executive Director and supporting staff inasmuch as the present Executive Director will remain on staff at the same level of compensation, and

Whereas, the Commission approved the contract for Phase II of the Water Institute study, and

Whereas, the first portion of Phase II will require substantial additional funding, and

Whereas, it is vitally important that the Commission meet its commitment by continuing the study, and

Whereas, R. S. 38:3076 “Powers of the Board” states, “(14) To assess against all users within the district a charge based upon the annual rate of use of each user sufficient to meet costs and expenses of operation.” and

Whereas, the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission is at a turning point in its history with the hiring of a full time Executive Director and a Board willing and ready to make critical decisions, and,

Whereas, the proper funding is necessary for the hiring of a full time Executive Director, a staff and implementation of Phase II of the study to arm the Executive Director and Board with the tools necessary to make informed decisions,

Now, therefore may it be resolved that the CAGWCC authorizes the raising of the water rate from \$20 per million gallons to \$40 per million gallons in order to fund the commitments made by the Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission and further orders that Executive Director to expedite the rulemaking process to generate the funding at the earliest possible date.

Mr. Town asked if the motion could be reworded to state that after the study is completed that the fees could be reduced. Mr. Normand stated that he has no problem with saying that at the conclusion of phase III that the fees can be rolled back. He then stated that he is unsure if the Commission is allowed to do that. Mr. Daniel stated that the board discussed lots of options to fund the study. Mr. Daniel requested that this item be tabled till the next meeting in order to research funding opportunities. Mr. Daniel stated that he is not for a bond because this would require attorney fees and interest and it doesn’t make sense when the Commission can raise fees. Mr. Daniel then made a substitute motion to table this item. Mr. Hashagen seconded the motion. Mr. Normand stated that he really doesn’t know all the options available for funding but \$20 to \$40 per million increase gets the ball rolling. Mr. Normand stated that he has no problem with tabling this item. Mr. Daniel then revised his substitute motion that the item be tabled and refer to the Administrative Committee and every commissioner that shows up will have equal right to discuss the funding for phase II. Mr. Normand then withdrew his motion and seconded Mr. Daniel’s motion. Mr. Rummmler said that it’s really important that the Commission reach out to the parish public supply users to let them know what the Commission is doing. Mr. McGehee then asked if a spread sheet with monthly expenditures could be generated. Mr. Daniel then replied that he presented one at the Administrative meeting yesterday and would email it to him. Public comment was given by Mr. Ehrenworth. Motion passed.

- Mr. Normand made a motion to approve the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) 2020 document. Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. Mr. Talbot stated that it was recommended that the plan be revised at a later date. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Daniel made a motion to approve the upgrade of a copier. Mr. Walton seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- The proposed budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 was presented. Mr. Daniel made a motion to approve the budget with his amendments. Mr. Hashagen seconded the motion. Mr. Reonas stated that his agency has a problem with allocation of funds for an observation well and only \$40,000 for CPRA. Mr. Reonas made a motion to phase out saltwater remediation and hold it in reserve until the funding issues are resolved. Mr. Reonas stated that a management plan is priority for his agency. Mr. Reonas withdrew his motion. The motion passed.

#### **V. Report from the Technical Committee**

The report of the Technical Committee was made by John Hashagen. Following is a summary of topics discussed at the meeting on June 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. and further discussion and action at the regular Commission meeting on June 18, 2020.

- Status of The Water Institute of the Gulf Phase I Deliverables- Alyssa Dausman, The Water Institute of the Gulf (TWIG), presented the phase I deliverables. Ms. Dausman reported that Phase I technically ended March 15, 2020. Ms. Dausman reported that they worked on this with U.S. Geological Survey with some specialist that do instruction decision making and strategic planning. The phase I scope of work deliverables was a framework for strategic planning, scope of work for phase II and a state of the science to support long-term water resource planning. Mr. Hashagen requested Ms. Dausman provide an updated scope of work showing costs next to the tasks. Mr. Morvant stated that the Commission needs supporting documentation for data reduction and criteria. Once this information is received then we have a basis saying we have a problem that needs work.
- Status of the Water Institute of the Gulf Phase II - Mr. Morvant stated that the deliverables from Phase I should be expected to help the Commission to develop what the Commission thinks is the problem statement and justification for Phase II. The Commission should look at all the sands and figure out which sands have a saltwater problem and sustainability and subsidence issues. Mr. Morvant stated that a more concise scope of work needs to be developed. Mr. Reonas questioned why the Commission needs to identify which sands we need to focus on when it's really about managing the whole system. Mr. Hashagen stated that the Commission's biggest problem is funding. Mr. Walton stated that TWIG's original proposal for the three phases were \$250,000 for each phase and now TWIG is charging 1.5 million for phase II.
- Review of Pumping Rates - Mr. Walton presented an overview of the most recent pumping rates from the 1,500-ft /2,000-foot sands to monitor compliance with agreed on reductions and/or commitments. All pumpage was within mandated limits.
- Progress Report on the Baton Rouge Model - John Lovelace of the USGS was not able to attend the technical meeting.
- LSU Update- Dr. Tsai was unable to attend the technical meeting to give his report on the Board of Regents ITRS Projects.
- Test Well Chemical Analysis - Mr. Roy Waggenpack reported that samples were taken at five different levels in the test well. He stated that there is no difference in chlorides at the different levels. All around 230. Mr. Waggenpack reminded the Commission about the development of a well and how slow the water is moving in the aquifer. The sample was taken on March 13<sup>th</sup> which was fairly recent. Mr. Walton stated that the model was correct and that it was not expected to find high chloride levels. The samples taken show that the saltwater plume is not at this location. It was discussed that another sample be taken in a year. Mr. Daniel requested that this information be placed on the Commission's website.

#### **VI. Executive Committee Report**

Mr. Morvant reported that Rachel Carroccio, Emergent Method, gave an update on the Executive Director's job description. The committee made a few changes to the job description and approved it. The job was posted on June 16, 2020.

Mr. Morvant stated that the committee addressed the responses to the performance audit follow-up checklist. The committee voted that the Director and Chairman formulate another draft with timetables if possible and bring back to the Executive Committee.

#### **VII. CAGWCC Board Nominee**

Mr. Daniel made a motion to table the board nominee item. Mr. Reonas seconded this motion. The motion passed.

#### **VIII. Water Resources Commission Representative**

Mr. Morvant opened up the floor for nominations to the Water Resources Commission. Mr. Morvant nominated the new Executive Director. Mr. Town made a motion to nominate William Daniel. Mr. Daniel made a motion to nominate Tom Stephens and Hays Town. Mr. Reonas seconded the motions. It was suggested that when the new Executive Director is hired that the person appointed to this commission resign and then resubmit three names, one being the new executive director. The motion passed.

#### **IX. Proposed Resolutions**

Mr. Morvant made the following motion: For the Planning & Specifications Subcommittee to write a detailed scope of work detailing an evaluation to be performed by The Water Institute of the Gulf to provide a problem statement for the Southern Hills Regional Aquifer System using existing USGS data with The Water Institute and Frank Tsai' model prioritizing the existing conditions for water level (sustainability), saltwater encroachment and subsidence. Mr. Daniel moved to table the resolution. Mr. Reonas seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Morvant then read Mr. Normand's resolution requiring at least two but not more than three candidates for the Executive Director position be presented to the full Commission by the Executive Committee for public interviews before the Commission voting. Mr. Normand withdrew his resolution with a commitment from Chairman Morvant that he would honor the proposed resolution. Mr. Morvant stated that it was already promised.

#### **X. Commission Member Comments**

Mr. Normand questioned the Chairman if he knew Michelle Tullier. Mr. Morvant did not. Mr. Normand stated that Ms. Tullier who is the West Baton Rouge Council secretary sent a letter on January 6, 2020. It included a resolution that was passed by the council to preserve public supply from any increased water production from the Southern Hills Aquifer. Mr. Normand asked why this letter was never brought up at a meeting. Mr. Daniel stated it was the duty of the Executive Director to respond. Mr. Daniel then asked who the letter was addressed to. Mr. Normand said to Capital Area Ground Water Conservation Commission.

#### **XI. Public Comment**

Mr. Stuart Lambert questioned the board as to who is issuing permits for new water wells for the Commission. Mr. Daniel made a motion to amend the agenda to add the item of permitting water wells. Mr. Walton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Normand made a motion to give the Chairman the authority to sign for new water well permits. Mr. Talbot seconded the motion. Mr. Talbot then amended his motion to state that the Technical Committee chairman will sign water well permits. Mr. Daniel seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### **XII. Adjournment**

Mr. Morvant made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Talbot seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

  
Mark Frey, Treasurer

  
Nelson Morvant, Chairman