

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, November 29, 2023 Contact: Jaclyn Wise Public Relations and Education Ph. 512.760.6586 | jwise@posgcd.org

POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT APPROVES 2024 BUDGET, ADVANCES NEW BUILDING PROJECT, AND DISCUSSED DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

In its commitment to transparency and public service, the Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (POSGCD) conducted a Desired Future Conditions (DFC) Committee and Board Meeting Tuesday, November 28, 2023, which included two public hearings focused on the 2024 budget and fee schedules. The meetings addressed significant developments in the district's 2024 budget, fee schedules, and the appointment of a new Education Coordinator.

Enhanced Focus on Groundwater Conservation Efforts

The DFC Committee meeting featured discussions on compliance with desired future conditions and protective drawdown limits (PDLs), emphasizing the need for increased monitoring of water levels in wells. This initiative is part of POSGCD's commitment to ensuring the long-term sustainability of groundwater resources in the region.

2024 Budget and Fee Schedules Approved: A Commitment to Sustainable Groundwater Management

The POSGCD Board approved the 2024 budget, following a detailed public hearing process. Starting from January 1, 2024, the production fees will increase from 1.3 to 1.8 cents per 1,000 gallons, and transport fees from 10 to 12 cents per 1,000 gallons. These changes are part of the district's ongoing efforts to manage groundwater resources sustainably while balancing the needs of the community.

Jaclyn Wise Selected as New Public Relations and Education Coordinator

Jaclyn Wise has been selected as the new Public Relations and Education Coordinator. This selection followed a thorough and transparent selection process involving over 20 candidates. Ms. Wise's role will be pivotal in enhancing the district's educational outreach and public engagement strategies.

Plans for New Education Center and Offices Move Forward

The Board authorized Goodwin Lasater Strong to issue Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the construction of a new education center and offices. This decision marks a critical step in expanding the district's capabilities to serve the community better. The move addresses potential concerns about budget overruns, ensuring fiscal responsibility and accountability in this significant project.

Looking Ahead

The POSGCD continues to focus on its core mission of conserving, protecting, and enhancing the groundwater resources of the district. As we move forward, the Board remains committed to making decisions that are in the best interest of both the groundwater resources and the communities it serves. Learn more at: <u>www.posgcd.org</u>.

This release was provided by the Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District, dedicated to managing and protecting the groundwater resources of Burleson and Milam counties since 2003.