

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## POST OAK SAVANNAH GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Milano, Texas – The Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (POSGCD) held a productive board meeting on February 13, 2024, addressing key groundwater management issues and initiatives aimed at safeguarding our precious aquifer resources. The meeting underscored the District's commitment to responsible groundwater stewardship and community engagement. Key takeaways from the meeting include:

**Board Member Oath of Office:** The meeting commenced with the administration of the oath of office to Director Edwin Savage, reaffirming the District's dedication to upholding the laws and constitution of Texas and the United States in the management of groundwater resources.

**Public Engagement and Education:** The District continues to prioritize public involvement and education. A notable discussion was the successful outreach to the 22 Hills community, where Gary Westbrook and Jaclyn Wise provided insights into aquifer dynamics and the Well Assistance Program. This engagement exemplifies the District's commitment to keeping the community informed and involved in groundwater conservation efforts.

**Bank Account Signatories Resolution**: The board approved a resolution to update the District's bank account signatories, enhancing financial management and transparency.

**Interlocal Agreements with Counties:** The District's innovative partnership with Burleson and Milam counties through interlocal agreements was highlighted. These agreements fund their environmental offices' efforts in conducting septic inspections and well monitoring, which in turn, provide valuable data for the district. This collaboration has been instrumental in preventing contamination of aquifers and ensuring the proper management of groundwater resources.

Rules Committee Update: The Rules Committee provided updates on ongoing efforts to refine and adapt groundwater management rules, including considerations for a drought contingency plan. After thorough discussion, it was determined that the current thresholds in the District's rules are already highly conservative and protective. These rules effectively allow for curtailment if drought impacts were ever an issue, ensuring the aquifer's sustainability and resilience.

**Education Center and Office Construction:** The board discussed the construction of the District Education Center and offices in Executive Session, reflecting the District's commitment to providing resources and a centralized location for groundwater education and management.

After a comprehensive discussion, the board voted to suspend any further actions and expenditures related to the construction of the facility. This decision reflects the District's commitment to prudent financial management and ensuring that resources are allocated in a manner that best serves the community's and the aquifer's long-term interests. The board's action to halt further expenditures on the building project allows the District to reassess priorities and explore alternative strategies for achieving its educational and operational goals. The District will continue to seek innovative and effective ways to engage with the community, provide education on groundwater conservation, and ensure the sustainability of our aquifer systems.

The District remains steadfast in its mission to manage and protect groundwater resources for current and future generations. Through community engagement, innovative partnerships, and continuous improvement of management strategies, the District is leading the way in sustainable groundwater stewardship.

For more information about the District's initiatives and upcoming events, please visit our website or contact our office.