

AGENDA:

MINUTES

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of the

WILLIAMSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETINGApril 20, 1999

THE STATE OF TEXAS ) (

COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON ) ( BE IT REMEMBERED that at 9:30 a.m. on this the 20th day of April A.D., 1999, there was begun and holden a SPECIAL SESSION of the Commissioners Court of Williamson County, Texas, the following members being present, to-wit:

JOHN C. DOERFLER, County Judge  
 MICHAEL L. HEILIGENSTEIN, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
 GREGORY W. BOATRIGHT, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
 DAVID S. HAYS, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
 FRANKIE LIMMER, Commissioner, Precinct 4  
 EUGENE D. TAYLOR, County Attorney  
 NANCY E. RISTER, County Clerk  
 DAVID U. FLORES, County Auditor

AGENDA ITEM # 1April 20, 1999

Hear any interested person and consider forming the next agenda or adding items to today's agenda.

ECO Resources Gary Spoonts and Jess Kennis informed the court ECO has worked approximately 18 months as the operator in Northridge Acres. TNRCC has been reviewing certain aspects of the water supply in the subdivision the last 4 to 5 years. There are 98 water connections in the subdivision. Eight lots have multiple connections (5/8" meter with more than 1 connection to the meter). In some instances there are 8 connections to one 5/8" meter. TNRCC has requested Northridge Acres comply with the 290 rules plus the subdivision has their own tariff requiring one meter per one connection.

Mr. Spoonts advised much dissention in the subdivision. When the elected leaders of the Northridge Water Supply Corporation stated for the record at their board meeting they had no intention of complying with the TNRCC rules, ECO Resources resigned effective May 28, 1999. ECO Resources felt they could not be involved with a water supply corporation which would not try to meet the minimum rules of TNRCC.

Mr. Spoonts advised Mr. Kennis attends all the meetings and is available for questions. Mr. Spoonts and Mr. Kennis are aware of the residents of Northridge Acres who appear in Commissioners Court, continuously call TNRCC, ECO and the Attorney General's office.

Mr. Kennis informed the court a lot of mis-information is being discussed among the subdivision owners. ECO is only interested in complying with TNRCC regulations.

Commissioner Heiligenstein asked if ECO Resources was involved in any contractual relationship with Williamson County to which Jess replied "No". "So you don't have to say this?" asked Commissioner Heiligenstein to which Jess replied "No". "We're not paying you one cent?" asked the Commissioner to which Jess replied "No".

In December, 1997, Northridge Acres had requested proposals for operations. Severin Trend (ST) Environmental Services had submitted a proposal and Mr. Kennis has been told ST will be awarded the proposal at the price quoted in the 1997 proposal.

There are 98 water connections in the subdivision. The former board of Northridge Water Supply Corporation sent notices to multi-connection residents stating they had 30 days to comply with TNRCC regulations or the water would be terminated.

Mr. Kennis, Mr. Spoonts, another operator and a Constable performed an on-ground inspection of the water connections and could see where the lines had been cut for service to the homes without water meters.

Commissioner Heiligenstein advised Northridge Acres resident Kenneth Snyder believed there were waivers available to the residents with multiple water meter connections. Mr. Kennis thought Northridge Acres residents believed they could revise their utility tariff to circumvent the TNRCC regulations - unfortunately for the residents, the request is submitted to TNRCC for approval.

When Commissioner Heiligenstein asked if such a request had been submitted to TNRCC, Mr. Kennis answered "No, Sir".

Judge Doerfler asked if the 8 residences hooked up to 1 water meter had individual septic tanks. Mr. Kennis advised the septic system was under the control of the county but his observation indicated 1 septic system all others running into drainage easements.

The court discussed the cost per individual hook-up. Mr. Kennis advised the City of Round Rock would be the wholesale wastewater provider and will be limited in their flows - he did not know if additional trailers on one lot would be hooked up to sewer.



# TNRCC REGULATORY GUIDANCE

Water Utilities Division, Utility Rates & Services Section 512/239-6100

RG-219

March 1996

FAX 512/239-6145

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## SUBJECT: *One Meter Per Residence Requirements*

The following are excerpts from TNRCC rules. The numbers and letters in brackets indicate where these rules can be found in the Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC).

These rules apply to public water utilities:

One meter is required for each residential, commercial, or industrial service connection. An apartment building or mobile home park may be considered by the utility to be a single commercial facility for the purpose of these sections. The executive director may grant an exception to the individual meter requirement if the plumbing of an existing multiple use or multiple occupant building would prohibit the installation of individual meters at a reasonable cost or would result in unreasonable disruption of the customary use of the property. [291.89(a)(4)]

Use of meter. All charges for water service shall be based on meter measurements, except where otherwise authorized in the utility's approved tariff. [291.89(a)(1)]

These rules apply to retail public utilities and public water systems:

Each community public water system shall provide accurate metering devices at each service connection for the accumulation of water usage data. [290.44(d)(4)]

Connection - A single family residential unit or each commercial or industrial establishment to which drinking water is supplied from the system. [290.38]

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Questions? Contact the Consumer Assistance Team, Water Utilities Division, MC153 at the phone number shown above or the address shown below.

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission • PO Box 13087 • Austin, Texas • 78711-3087

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**Northridge Water Supply  
Corporation**

P.O. Box 2288  
Round Rock, Texas 78680

February 2, 1999

Mr. John Ledesma  
16202 Summit Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78728-1147

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is to inform you that ECO Resources has identified your water connection located on your property at 16202 Summit Dr. as an illegal connection under the current requirements authorized by the TNRCC. Under the current rules and regulations all residences should have a meter connected to each single-family residence or have a non standard meter with back-flow preventer installed in the case of multiple hookups. Any illegal hookup means that there are multiple residences connected to a standard meter connection.

The Northridge WSC is endeavoring to obey those rules set down by the TNRCC and this rule was cited as being broken since 1996. A directive was given to the Homeowner's Association at that time to remedy this non-compliance. The Northridge WSC was given notice to terminate these customers that have been in non-compliance but the board mediated for these customers in their behalf and a compromise was reach that is describe in the following paragraph.

In an effort to satisfy the current requirement, the Northridge WSC will give each illegal hookup customer a choice to either purchase a standard meter for each residence or purchase a non-standard meter for the multiple connections. Be aware that the non-standard meter has a multiple base cost and is meant for commercial installations. All meter installation costs can be paid out over a twelve-month period. If we **do not** have a request to rectify your illegal hookup from you within thirty days, **notice will be given to cut off your water**. Simply contact ECO Resources at 335-7580 and they will help you with a plan to become properly connected and by explaining your rates and options.

Sincerely,

Fidel Acevedo  
President of the NWSC

FA/mkw  
cc: ECO Resources  
Customer Relations  
9511 Ranch Road 620 North  
Austin, Texas 78726

TNRCC Consumer Assistance  
c/o Carol Lemaye MC153  
PO Box 13087  
Austin, Texas 78711

AGENDA ITEM # 2

April 20, 1999

Read and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Judge Doerfler

Motion: To approve the minutes of April 13, 1999.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0 with Commissioner Heiligenstein absent from the dais.

AGENDA ITEM # 3

April 20, 1999

Hear County Auditor concerning invoices and bills submitted for payment and take appropriate action including, but not limited to approval for payment provided said items are found by the County Auditor to be legal obligations of the County.

Moved: Commissioner Hays

Seconded: Commissioner Boatright

Motion: To authorize the payment of \$487,079.24 in computer print-out from the proper line items, if found by the County Auditor to be legal expenses as appropriated in the 1998/99 County Budget.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0 with Commissioner Heiligenstein absent from the dais.

< Clerk copy here >