



MEETING SUMMARY OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF TEXAS FLOODING TASK FORCE MEETING HELD ON JUNE 2, 2022

Via Zoom

A meeting of the Charter Township of Texas Flooding Task Force was held on June 2, 2022, commencing electronically via Zoom at approximately 10:30 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Supervisor Nick Loeks opened the meeting, thanking everyone for taking the time to attend. The following members of the Task Force were present

- Engineer Tom Smith, Prein & Newhof
- Engineer Tom Wheat, Prein & Newhof
- Derek Haroldson, EGLE
- Kyle Alexander, EGLE
- Amy Coon, Eagle Lake Association
- Shawn Deverell, Sen Sean McCann's Office
- Len Bosma, Eagle Lake Association
- Travis Bartholomew, RCKC
- Jerry Robbins, N Eagle Lake Road
- Nick McLaughlin, Pine Island Lake
- Marc Rose, Vineyard Development
- Jason Wiersma, Kal County Drain Commissioner
- Russ Walters, Crooked Lake Association
- Acacia Costales, Representative Christine Morse's Office
- Texas Township Supervisor Nick Loeks
- Texas Township Superintendent Julie VanderWiere
- Stacy Hissong, (FSBR) Drain Office Attorney
- Kyle O'Meara, (FSBR) Drain Office Attorney
- Dave Rachowicz, Kal County Parks Director

2. STATUS OF FLOODING

Amy Coon (Eagle Lake) reported Eagle Lake measured 900.46 this morning. This is 14.5" above the NLL (Normal Lake Level)

Russ Walters (Crooked Lake) reported that Crooked Lake is doing well, the rain at this point has not caused a problem.

Jerry Robbins (N Eagle Lake Drive) reported that RCKC has started the road project and the residents are thankful for their efforts.

3. DRAIN COMMISSION UPDATE ON LONG-TERM PROJECT/NORMAL LAKE LEVEL

- Status of Design and Permitting Tom Wheat reported they have obtained the topo survey to determine the elevations and outlets. They are working on the Bathometric Survey and sediment sampling at both locations. They are also still working on the permit application for EGLE but require additional information to complete the application. The filter bed designs are in progress, but this also will require additional discussions with EGLE to complete.



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They will be requesting the maximum pump rate to be 500 gpm for Eagle Lake and 800 gpm for Crooked Lake. These are not equal because they are trying to maintain an equal draw down rate. These rates are less than the lowest rate we have ever pumped during the Short-term project which were 600 gpm for Eagle and 1000 gpm for Crooked Lake.

Jerry Robbins inquired if there will be a clause in the permit that we can exceed that limit if the water increases significantly.

Tom Wheat responded that rates were set for a Long-term solution based on long term trends. If you have a big rain event like 7" the excess water will go down pretty quickly but it is not anticipated to go down immediately, it will take a couple of months to recede.

Tom Smith added that we have to show the worse case scenario for the downstream impact. We have simulated the rainfall we received in the past three years with the 500/800 gpm pump rates. The lake does go up some, but we also have to show that there will be no adverse impacts downstream.

Kyle Alexander commented that we are not trying to control for the 1% type events (200-year rain events).

Tom Wheat stated that the last review of the permit application, there were five questions from EGLE that had to be answered. Most of these have been addressed but we are still working on the filter bed design, so we have not been able to answer the questions involving that. Once we have the information on the filter bed, we will be able to re-submit the permit. At that point the design will just need to be finalized.

Len Bosma asked if this system will prevent flooding of Eagle and Crooked Lakes like we experienced in the last three years.

Tom Smith responded that we started pumping when the levels were 3' higher than they are now. We are simulating what did occur. We know it won't go more than 1' above the NLL.

Tom Wheat added that the pumping would start when the lake was 4" above their NLL.

Len Bosma asked if the simulation prove out that it will work and prevent flooding.

Stacy Hissong responded that she did not want anyone to say this project will prevent flooding because we can not control mother nature or climate change. This project will greatly mitigate the flooding.

Len Bosma responded that the residents will want to know that it will prevent flooding.

Stacy Hissong responded that we should not tell people it will prevent future flooding. It will reduce the future impact and the situation. We can not guarantee the future.



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Tom Wheat commented that he could say it will not get to the level it was previously.

Russ Walters stated that he has a real problem with the equal draw down. We should be working to get to the legal lake level, that is what the rate should be set at. It should not be about equal draw down.

Tom Smith stated that we have to set max levels for the lakes.

Russ Walters commented that it is about how to get to the NLL on both lakes as quickly as possible not about the equal draw down.

Jerry Robbins asked when we expected to start pumping.

Tom Wheat responded that we hope to start pumping in summer/fall of 2023. We are uncertain if there will be issues with obtaining contractors and the supplies we will need for our project.

Jerry Robbins commented that there will be almost a 2-year hiatus in the ability to pump and this is very concerning.

Tom Smith shared that he is working on amending the FEMA Grant to show the changes to the design, schedule and costs. So far, the numbers look good for the Cost Benefit Ratio. He is expecting that we will at least get the same amount of grant award, but we may get more. At this point everything is on schedule for the FEMA Grant update.

4. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

Russ Walters asked if there was anything we can do to help speed up the project either as individuals or as a group.

Tom Wheat advised not at this point. EGKE has been cooperative. They do have statutory time requirements that they have to follow. He inquired if we wanted to ask for a Public Hearing right away to help shave off some time. This is a policy decision for the Township and the Drain Office.

Russ Walters stated that we will be kicking ourselves if the levels rise back up and we haven't done everything we can to help speed up the process.

Tom Wheat stated that they have been watching supply chain issues and right now, none of the items we need have any current delays.

Len Bosma asked Tom Wheat if he was keeping an updated schedule somewhere at the Drain Office of Township.



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Tom Wheat answered that they would not be updating the schedule until after they submitted for the permit. Once the permit has been submitted, they will provide an updated timeline to the Drain Office.

Len Bosma asked if this would be updated.

Jason Wiersma answered that it would be updated, and it would be posted on their website.

Jerry Robbins commented that we are going through the process of pumping, the Township needs to look at the size of the houses being allowed. The house across the street from him is very large.

Nick Loeks responded that the Township Ordinance specifies a maximum lot coverage. Lake lots are allowed the most lot coverage because typically they are the smallest lots.

Tom Smith commented that lot coverage is not the cause of the flooding. The flooding is the result of high ground water.

Russ Walters inquired what the best guess was for permit submittal to EGLE

Tom Wheat responded that they needed to talk to EGLE before they could submit to iron out the remaining issues.

The next Task Force Meeting has been scheduled via Zoom for Monday July 11th, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

Submitted by Superintendent Julie VanderWiere
June 8th, 2022