

Gonzales County Underground Water Conservation District
Manager's Report
June 2017

On June 5th, 7th, 14th, and 28th I measured water levels in the District's Wilcox, Carrizo, Queen City, Sparta, and Yegua-Jackson Aquifers.

On June 6th I attended the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) Stakeholder Advisory Forum for the GMA 13 Brackish Groundwater Mapping Project in Pleasanton. The primary objective of this Stakeholder Advisory Forum was to present and discuss the brackish groundwater mapping effort for the Queen City and Sparta aquifers, mainly in GMA 13. The mapping team introduced the brackish groundwater salinity zones, the proposed potential production areas of brackish groundwater that are separated from fresh water in the same or adjacent aquifers by hydrogeologic barriers, the modeling objective for the proposed production areas, and how this information will be used in the biennial Seawater and Brackish Groundwater Report prepared by the TWDB for the Texas Legislature.

On June 12th Link Benson and I conducted a water well inspection on rig supply five water wells completed by Alsay Incorporated. The inspection originated from a phone call informing us that the driller had allegedly not completed the wells in accordance with TDLR and District Rules. The inspection noted that all five wells were out of compliance and identified six District rule violations: failed to submit timely well report, failed to ensure no unprotected openings for a serviced well/pump, failed to adhere to manufacturer specs for pump wiring and sizing, failed to provide proper surface completion on a water well, failed to properly cement the annular space of a water well, and failed to properly cap a well. The District discussed the rule violations with on-site representatives of Alsay Incorporated and followed up with an enforcement letter dated June 20, 2017. The enforcement letter authorized settlement fines for each violation and required that Alsay Incorporated correct all violations within ten days. On June 30th I returned to the site to re-inspect the wells.

On June 12th I met with a landowner who had recently purchased some property in Gonzales County and assisted him in locating a water well.

On June 28th, 29th, and 30th I conducted a water well inspection on a well being installed by Leon Davis Water Well and Service Company. Link Benson accompanied me on the inspection on June 29th. The driller was observed using an improper filter media size that was not compatible with the screen slot size and the top of the filter media exceeded the maximum distance above the top of the screen by 14 feet. An inspection of the drillers well sealing materials (bentonite grout) indicated that it did not meet the Districts specifications and the driller was informed that wells could not be sealed with this material. The driller was informed that he would have to pull the casing and re-drill the borehole and use an appropriate filter media that was compatible with the screen slot size.

SSLGC's June production was about 780 ac-ft which is about 48% of the monthly allowable production.

CRWA's June production was about 266 ac-ft which is about 43% of the monthly allowable production.

SAWS June production was about 694 ac-ft which is about 71% of the monthly allowable production.

AQUA's May production was about 25 ac-ft which is about 6% of the monthly allowable production.

The Palmer Drought Index, as of June 27, 2017 indicates that parts of the District are currently under abnormally dry to moderate drought conditions.

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On June 12th, I went to Leesville with Mr. Greg Sengelmann to Alsay, Inc. drill location after a complaint was filled. Found five (5) wells out of compliance with TDLR and District rules. Then I went to Yoakum to meet with Mr. Mike Chandler to discuss rules.

On June 13th, I went to Seguin to meet with Mr. Larry Deharde to discuss rules.

On June 15th, I went to Belmont to Deharde location to see if drilling.

On June 16th, I went to Belmont to meet Mr. Deharde at drilling location.

On June 19th, I went to Smiley to the Mr. Leon Davis location. Mr. Davis was not there. Then I went to Belmont to check on the Deharde drilling location. Then I went back to Smiley to the Davis drilling location. He was not present.

On June 20th, I went to Smiley to the Leon Davis drilling location. He was not there. Ms. Laura Martin with the District called while I was there to inform the office had been notified of the date to set casing. Mr. Sengelmann wanted to check that the site was noted. Then I went to Belmont to watch Deharde set casing in gravel pack the water well. Then I went back to Smiley to the Leon Davis drilling location. He was not there. Then I went to the Hazelett drilling location. Next, I went to Leesville to the Alsay, Inc. drilling location and spoke with Mr. Brian Hillard. I told him wells were still out of compliance. Mr. Hillard told me that he nor Alsay, Inc. did not have to do anything that the district told them to do. I explained the rules to him. Mr. Hillard said he would do it his way. I informed Mr. Hillard that I was going to take pictures of the site and leave. I took the photographs and left. I then called Mr. Barry Miller and explained to him what happened. Mr. Miller said we need to get a district judge and shut them down. I told Mr. Miller I would call TDLR first and ask for their help. I contacted Mr. Adam Foster with TDLR and informed him of the situation. Mr. Foster called Mr. Hillard and told him he did have to comply with district rules. Then I went back to Smiley to check on the Leon Davis location. He was not there. After that, I went to the Hazelett drilling location. Hazelett was working on running an E log on the well.

On June 21st, I went to Belmont to watch Deharde pressure pump cement and seal a well. Then I went to Smiley to the Leon Davis drilling location. He was not there. Then I checked on the Hazelett location. Hazelett said they would start setting casing at 7:00 p.m. I went back to the Davis drilling location. He was not there. I went back to the Hazelett location at 6:00 p.m. and stayed until 8:00 p.m. They did not show. I also checked on J&S rig supply wells. They set pumps in 3 wells not in compliance. After they were instructed on what to do the well casing was notched, and pump wire no in conduit.

On June 22nd, I went to Smiley to check on the Leon Davis location. He was not there. Then I went to the Hazelett location at arrived at 7:30 a.m. Mr. Josh Hazelett showed up at 10:00 a.m. with crew and said they were going to run pipe in the hole then pull out and run casing. I said no problem. Approximately 11:00 a.m. Mr. John Evans arrived on site and went and talked to Mr. Hazelett. Then Mr. Evans approached me and started yelling and cussing, telling me to "get the hell out of here". I said if I leave the well would not pass inspection. I also let Mr. Evans and Mr. Hazelett know that their rig did not have their license number on the rig. Mr. Evans said to get the hell out of here and not to come back and they did not have to do anything the district said. As I proceeded to my truck Mr. Evans continued to follow me yelling and cussing. I was parked approximately 600 feet away. Mr. Evans kept yelling, asking why am I camping out of them when Alsay, Inc. has drilled five (5) wells all out of compliance and why wasn't Greg doing anything about the Alsay wells and just messing with Hazelett. At this time Mr. Evans was on my back screaming at me and I could feel his breath on my neck. At this time I felt my life was in danger and I did not think I would make it back to the truck without being hit. So,

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I turned and confronted Mr. Evans. Then he started backing up continuing to yell and cussing at me. Then I told him that I was working on other driller's wells and had sent letters with fines. I reassured Mr. Evans that they were not being singled out. At this time Mr. Evans started to calm down. I told Mr. Evans I was not going to talk to him alone and that Mr. Hazelett needed to be present. Mr. Evans suggested we go back to the rig. I called Mr. Bruce Patteson to let him know what was going on in case something happened to me. Mr. Evans, Mr. Hazelett and I went back to the rig into the dog house. I told both of them about the other drillers and wells being inspected. They said they understood and that I could stay. I also asked Mr. Evans about the log he never submitted to the state or district on the well I and Mr. Sengelmann had witnessed him drill. Mr. Evans said we could not prove he drilled a well and that he would produce an invoice that shows the jetting of the well. I also discussed with Mr. Hazelett the rig not having the license number printed on it. The job was being delayed due to the fact they had no pipe wrenches. I got my pipe wrenches for them to use. Then they needed a drill and continued to attempt to stall the process. I was asked several times if I was going to stay there the whole time. My response was yes, however long until they were finished. Around 12:00 a.m they finished sealing the well and I left around 12:30 a.m.

On June 23rd and, 24th, I went to Smiley to the Davis drilling location. He was not there.

On June 24th, I went to Belmont to the Alsay, Inc. drilling location. Site rained out.

On June 26th, I went to Belmont to the Alsay, Inc., drilling location. There were several wells out of compliance at location. Then I went back to Gonzales to talk with Mr. Sengelmann about the on goings of the week with the driller's inspections. I informed Mr. Sengelmann that Leon Davis had not been at the drilling site. Mr. Sengelmann said he would go and check on the site and to verify the gravel size and sealing material of the well. I was unavailable for a few days as I drilled a well that Mr. James Benedict came by to inspect.

On June 28th, I called Mr. Benedict and asked him to come out to my drilling location. He said that would be great and came out for a few hours and I showed him the drilling process. Then Mr. Sengelmann called me and said that Leon Davis was drilling a well and was using big gravel mixed with sand, dirt clods, and grass roots, all going into the well for gravel packing. He said Leon Davis had no idea how to seal a well and was using the wrong product.

On June 29th, I met Mr. Sengelmann at the District office at 7:45 a.m. and we went to the Leon Davis drilling location. Looking at the the gravel to be used the well would not pass inspection. Gravel had dirt, sand, 3/8" and larger gravel to small crushed gravel, and grass roots all mixed together. I also looked at Mr. Davis' sealing material. It was just Quick Gel which is a drilling mud and two (2) bags of oil well drilling mud which is not legal to use in a water well. No where on the bags does it say anything about sealing or plugging a water well. Mr. Davis showed up and I explained that this is not the proper sealing material. He said that is what he used in all his wells, just mix and pump it and that Victoria County told him he could use it in Gonzales County. I also explained that his gravel pack was not acceptable and that he would have to pull casing out of the hole and re-drill and install proper gravel and use proper sealing material. Mr. Davis was very upset. He asked us to turn our heads and look the other way and give him a break and he would never tell anyone about it if we would do this that God and Jesus would give us a place in heaven and if we don't we would not have a place in heaven. At this time I asked Mr. Davis if God and Jesus said it was ok to lie. His reply was that it was ok to lie this one time for him to get our place in heaven that it was ok to lie to the board and on our reports about this well. He continued to say that we would have a place in heaven and God and Jesus loved liars and sinner so just turn your head look the other way and act like nothing ever happened. I sad no that every one has to be treated the same and he said not him because God and Jesus loved him and he has a place in heaven and we don't. I did

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reinforce that he needed to pull the casing. They pulled the casing after a lot more preaching and saying that we're not going to heaven. All of his conversation was in a loud or yelling tone. They did pull out the casing.



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Field Technician Report
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On June 1st, I obtained water levels on wells in north central Gonzales County.

On June 7th, I obtained water levels on wells in north east Gonzales County.

On June 14th, I obtained water levels on wells in east Gonzales County.

On June 19th, I obtained water levels on wells in north Gonzales County and south Caldwell County.

On June 20th, I obtained water levels on wells in north central and east Gonzales County.

On June 21st, I obtained water levels on wells in west and south east Gonzales County.

On June 22nd, I obtained water levels on wells in south central and south Gonzales County.

On June 23rd, I obtained water levels on wells in central Gonzales County.

On June 27th, I obtained water levels with Mr. Greg Sengelmann on wells in north and north central Gonzales County.

On June 28th, I obtained a water level on the Nicholson well in Caldwell County. I met with Mr. Link Benson to observe the drilling of a new well on County Road 239.

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