

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
BRUSH COUNTRY GROUNDWATER §
CONSERVATION DISTRICT §

The Board of Directors of Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District (the “District”) met at a regular meeting, open to the public, May 27th, 2024 at the Brush Country Groundwater Building 732 W. Rice Falfurrias, Texas, in accordance with the duly posted notice of said meeting.

- I. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. and the roll was called. Board members' presence at the meeting or absence is as follows:
 - i. David Kelly present
 - ii. Bill Botard present
 - iii. Mario Martinez present
 - iv. Robert Scott absent
 - v. Whit Jones III present
 - vi. Humberto Martinez present
 - vii. Paul Goranson present
 - viii. Jesse Howell present
 - ix. Mauro Garcia present

Also in attendance were General Manager Luis Pena, Emily Rogers Legal Counsel, Marco Ramirez administrative assistant Brush Country GCD, Robert Howard Legislative consultant. Andy Garza General Manager Kenedy County GCD. George Gonzalez General Manager Duval County GCD. Diana Nichols attorney with Kelly Hart. Also, in attendance Mrs. Irma Menchaca Brooks County Resident. Trey Dyer and William Gamblin with the East Wildlife Foundation. Holly Bockholt and Myra Alaniz from Nueces County.

2. Pledge of Allegiance. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Public Comment. Mrs. Irma Menchaca mentioned that Israel was creating water from moisture from humidity in the air a new technology atmospheric water generation. George Gonzalez mentioned that Mrs. Barbara Canales Black spoke about the Colonia project East of Laredo. Mr. David Kelly mentioned that “necessity is the mother of invention”.
4. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on Minutes of the Regular Meeting on April 22nd,

2025. Mr. Bill Botard made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Burt Martinez, motion carries unanimously.

5. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on General Manager's Report:

- A. Report on Kenedy County GCD meeting May 21st, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. Mr. Pena mentioned that he had attended the meeting and mentioned that Dr. Uddameri had presented a power point presentation on the GAM model for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System. Mr. Pena mentioned that Kenedy County and Brush Country will be considering hiring Dr. Uddameri to send public comment to the TWDB.
- B. Report on Duval County GCD May 28th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. General Manager from Duval George Gonzalez mentioned that they had recently decided on First Community Bank of Alice Texas for their depository contract.
- C. Report on Region M Regional Water Planning Weslaco @ 9:30 a.m. Mr. Pena mentioned that he had attended the meeting water levels in Lake Falcon and Lake Amistad at all time lows. Several entities had also wanted to include their projects to be included in the regional water plan in order to be eligible for TWDB funding.
- D. Report on Rio Bravo Resource Conservation and Development Agricultural Resources Workshop for Jim Wells Co. Producers, Premont Chamber of Commerce Building 234 Southwest First Street Premont, Texas on May 16, 2025. General Manager Louie Pena mentioned that he had presented a power point presentation on well plugging.
- E. Report on Schneider Brothers Irrigation Well/Production Permit. Mr. Pena mentioned that he was contacted by Chance Schneider with Schneider Brothers and had shown a picture of the well being completed with the turbine and diesel engines being installed. They are still working on getting the center pivot installed.
- F. Report on Cybersecurity Training 2025. Mr. Pena reported that they had already completed their cybersecurity training that is due by August 1st, 2025.
- G. Report on Spring water level reports. Mr. Pena mentioned that had not seen any drastic changes in the water levels and that despite being in a drought water levels were consistent with last year's levels.

6. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on approving financial statement and investment/pledge report 2025. General Manager Louie Pena mentioned that the April 2025 pledge report balance was \$2,829,672.41 which is over pledged \$120,327.59. On the financial statements the tax collection account has \$482,120.71. The operating account has a balance of \$15,900.00 and the reserve account has a balance of \$2,069,007.46 for a total balance of \$2,567,028.17. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to accept the pledge report and financial statement as presented, seconded by Bill Botard, motion carried unanimously.

7. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on notice of public hearing for East Wildlife Foundation Public Water Supply Well. General Manager Louie Pena mentioned that he had been working with Mr. Billy Gamblin who is the engineer for the East Wildlife Foundation. Mr. Trey Dyer was also present for the East Wildlife Foundation. Mr. Pena mentioned that the application was complete and that TCEQ had asked for the East Wildlife Foundation to make the 3 wells public water supply. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to accept the application as presented, seconded by Burt Martinez, motion carried unanimously.
8. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on hiring Dr. Venki Uddameri to send public comment to the TWDB on their recent groundwater availability model (GAM) for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to hire Dr. Venki Uddameri to send public comment on behalf of Brush Country Groundwater Conservation District to the TWDB on the Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) for the central and southern portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System, seconded by Mauro Garcia, motion carried unanimously.
9. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on forming a focus group/committee for future groundwater projects. A motion was made by Bill Botard to form a four person committee which will include Paul Goranson, Jesse Howell, Whit Jones III, and Mauro Garcia to build a strategy or to be proactive to plan for future projects, seconded by Whit Jones III, motion carried unanimously.
10. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on unauthorized transactions from District's bank account. General manager Louie Pena showed the email that was sent to Texas Ranger William Ed Groves, he mentioned that he had presented his evidence to the District Attorney's office, but unfortunately, they were not able to identify a person (s) who received a benefit from the losses and had culpability. Informational purposes only.
11. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on Texas Drought Monitor. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to accept the Texas Drought Monitor as presented, seconded by Mario Martinez, motion carried unanimously.
12. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on payment of bills for May 2025. Motion to pay the bills was made by Mario Martinez, seconded by Jesse Howell, motion carried unanimously.
13. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on legislative report from Robert Howard. Mr. Robert Howard informed the Board regarding which bills could still pass and which bills will not pass. Informational purposes only.

14. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on GMA 16 issues. General Manager Louie Pena mentioned that the GMA 16 will tentatively meet August 26th,2025. Informational purposes only.
15. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on new business and select date for next meeting. Meeting scheduled for June 24th,2025.
16. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn at 11:10 a.m. was made by Bill Botard and seconded by Whit Jones III. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and approved this 27th, day of May, 2025.

President, Board of Directors

Attest by:

Secretary, Board of Directors