

**MINUTES OF MEETING
OF
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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

The Board of Directors of Brush County Groundwater Conservation District (the “District”) met at a regular meeting, open to the public, on April 26, 2022 at the Brush Country Groundwater Building 732 W. Rice Falfurrias, Texas, in accordance with the duly posted notice of said meeting.

1. 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:

David Kelly in person
Bill Botard absent
Mario Martinez present
Robert Scott absent
A.C. Jones IV present
Robert Fulbright present
Paul Goranson present
Jesse Howell present
Mauro Garcia absent

General Manager Luis Pena, Felix Saenz Consultant, Administrative Assistant Marlana Hinojosa, Robert Howard Consultant and Bill Dugat Legal Counsel were also present. Duval Co. GCD General Manager Jorge Gonzalez was present. Matthew Cestarte and Robert Saenz team leaders Halff Associates Inc. were present. Adrian Montemayor General Manager Falfurrias Utilities and James Clement with King Ranch were also present. Brooks County Judge Eric Ramos was present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment: General Manager Louie Pena addressed Board Members and public audience regarding the loss of former Board Member George Tanner, Mr. Pena mentioned that in lieu of flowers the board donated to the Engineering Department of Texas A&M Kingsville on behalf of George E. Tanner’s Mestena engineering scholarship fund.

4. Review, discuss, and act on minutes of the April 26, 2022 meeting, Motion to approve the minutes was made by Paul Goranson and seconded by Robert Fulbright. Unanimous vote to approve. Motion carries.
5. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on General Manager's report.
 - 5 a. General Manager mentioned that he was unable to attend Kenedy County GCD meeting, however; he had spoken to Andy Garza and mentioned that they had had a public hearing on their management plan and had good discussion with Diana Nichols who works for La Paloma Ranch.
 - 5 b. General Manager mentioned that he had traveled with Jorge Gonzalez to Weslaco for Region M meeting. Armando Vela spoke about lots of ponds, probably not reported, also damage caused by feral hogs and undocumented immigrants. Spoke about Dr. Giner who spoke about Mexico's water treaty with the United States and other possible funding through IBWC. Also mentioned the Carrizo cane project along the border.
 - 5 c. Farmers Exchange Coop Association (FECA) – General Manager mentioned that he had attended the FECA meeting, lots of speakers, great turn out, farmers will need to come to us with production permits. Mr. Saenz was one of the speakers, was cut short, spoke about the process. Capital Farm Credit spoke about possible financing.
 - 5d. General Manager spoke about 4 well registrations, added that we now have s3,565 wells registered.
 - 5 e. General Manager reported that we are missing 2 wells, Mr. Felix Saenz mentioned he would get these on Friday.
 - 5 f. Discussion regarding ARPA funding. General Manager mentioned that he had spoken to Yolanda Moran who is a consultant for Jim Wells County. He mentioned that they have received 7.5 million and they are having public hearings to rank the priorities as to how these funds will be spent. Mrs. Moran invited general manager to attend next commissioner's court meeting to discuss our well plugging program. Also mentioned that he had spoken to the other county judges, and Brooks County Judge was present Eric Ramos.
 - 5.g. General Manager spoke about the wind turbine and showed video.
6. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on well plugging grants, including but not limited to the number of wells a landowner is grant eligible for plugging each fiscal year based on acreage. General manager presented a tier system for well plugging reimbursement based upon tract size: 1-300 Acres 1 well, 301-1,000 Acres 2 wells, 1,001-5,000 Acres 3 wells. General Manager also mentioned that he had reached out to Robert Bradley with the TWDB and asked if plugging a well makes a positive impact on the aquifer. Mr. Bradley mentioned that it does impact the area in a positive way. Paul Goranson made a motion to adopt the tiered approach described above to fund the number of wells based

upon tract size subject to funding and Robert Fulbright seconded, motion carried unanimously.

7. Discuss, consider and possibly act on contract from HALFF Associates, Inc. for data management services. Mr. Dugat presented revisions to Mathew Cestarte from Half and HALFF had accepted and made appropriate corrections to the contract. Motion made by Paul Goranson to approve the HALFF contract as revised, Mario Martinez seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.
8. Discuss, consider and possibly act on payment of bills. Motion to approve the payment of bills for April was made by Jesse Howell and seconded by A.C. Jones. Unanimous vote to approve. Motion carries.
9. Discuss, consider and possibly act on legislative report by Robert Howard. Mr. Howard spoke of several run-off elections, federal funding through the Railroad Commission and continues working to find other funding solutions for groundwater. Judge Ramos spoke of monies being received. Information purposes only.
10. Discuss, consider and possibly act on investment report second quarter FY2021-2022. General Manager presented report, mentioned that we are also adequately pledged. Motion made by A.C. Jones to accept the investment report seconded by Mario Martinez, motion carries unanimously.
11. Discuss, consider and possibly act on Palmer Drought Index report 2nd qtr. Fy 2021-2022. General manager presented the report, Paul Goranson made the motion to accept the report, seconded by Jesse Howell, motion carries.
12. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on Tax collection Summary 2nd qtr. Fy 2021-2022. Mr. Felix Saenz gave the report. Information only.
13. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on GMA 16 issues. Currently no issues.
14. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on new business and select date for next meeting. motion made by Paul Goranson to set the board meeting at May 24th,2022 at 9:30 , seconded by Mario, motion carries.
15. Adjourn. Motion was made at 11:00 by Robert Fulbright to adjourn, seconded by Mario Martinez, motion carries.

Passed and approved this 24th day of May 2022.

President, Board of Directors

Attest by:

Secretary, Board of Directors