

**PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REGULAR MEETING – BY TELECONFERENCE - MINUTES**

DISTRICT OFFICE - Windmill Room
201 W. Third Street, White Deer, Texas
October 22, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors of Panhandle GCD held a regular meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 9:00 am., by teleconference* to discuss and, if appropriate, act upon the following items:

***Participants were asked to dial in call (844)844-0014 – Access Code: 610970**

Board members or staff present in person or by phone were:

Phillip Smith	President
William Breeding	Secretary
Charles Bowers	Director
Danny Hardcastle	Director
Jim Thompson	Director
F. G. (Butch) Collard	Director
CE Williams	General Manager
Britney Britten	Assistant General Manager
Suzy Pool	PR/Education

Guests Present:

- Hollie Hawkins – Amarillo EDC
- Paul Simpson – Amarillo EDC
- Mike Giles – Plains Dairy
- Brian Piacino – Affiliated Foods
- Jamie Rocha – Williams Farms

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at **9:04 a.m.**

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – Please limit comments to 3 minutes.

There was no public comment.

3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MINUTES

a) September 17, 2020

William Breeding made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Butch Collard. Motion passed unanimously.

b) September 25, 2020

Jim Thompson made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Danny Hardcastle. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON AN APPLICATION FOR PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT UNDER CH. 312 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

- a) Property Owner: Illinois Tool Works Inc., a Delaware corporation (as successor by merger to ITW Tech Spray L.L.C., a Delaware limited liability company)
- b) Applicant for Tax Abatement: Panhandle Pure, LLC, a Texas limited liability company
- c) Reinvestment Zone: South side of Northwest 1st Ave. between Hughes and Adams, a Texas Enterprise Zone property, Texas Census Block Nos. 483750148002140 and 483750148002143 (a Reinvestment Zone is not required to be established under Texas Tax Code Section 312.2011)
- d) Anticipated Improvements: Purchase and installation of water purification, bottling equipment, and related site improvements
- e) Estimated Cost of the Improvements: \$7,500,000 (site improvements and equipment)

*****The above agenda item was posted in accordance with Ch. 312 of the Texas Tax Code with a 30-day notice on September 18, 2020.**

Hollie Hawkins from Amarillo EDC, Mike Giles from Plains Dairy and Brian Piancino from Affiliated Foods came before the board and explained the plans to revitalize a building in downtown Amarillo for a water bottling plant. They asked the board to consider the Tax Abatement for 90% over 9 years. They answered questions from the board concerning where the water would come from. They explained they would be using water from the city of Amarillo.

Butch Collard made the motion to approve the Participation Agreement for Tax Abatement between Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, Panhandle Pure, LLC, Illinois Tool Works Inc., and the City of Amarillo, seconded by William Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Agreement is attached to these official minutes.

5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SEPTEMBER 2020 EXPENDITURES

General Manager C. E. Williams explained to the board that for the fiscal year the District came in about \$60,000.00 under budget.

Danny Hardcastle made the motion to approve the September 2020 expenditures, seconded by Jim Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the September 2020 expenditures is attached to these official minutes.

6. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPLICATION TO TWDB FOR DISTRICT'S AGRICULTURAL WATER CONSERVATION LOAN PROGRAM

General Manager C.E. Williams explained to the board that the interest rate has gone from approximately 3% to .12%. He felt it was a good decision for the board to go ahead and borrow the loan because the interest rate was so low. The interest rate to the District's borrowers would be approximately 1.12%.

William Breeding made the motion to approve the application to TWDB for District's Agricultural Water Conservation Loan Program, seconded by Butch Collard. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the application is attached to these official minutes.

7. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RAINWATER HARVESTING REBATE REQUEST
a) Wade Petty

Wade Petty is requesting to receive an amount of \$16,558.21 for his rainwater harvesting system. Option one on the application 50% of the total cost, which is \$33,116.42. He does plan to pair this potential grant with a grant from EQIP if it is allowed.

William Breeding made the motion to approve the Rebate Request not to exceed \$16,558.21 or half of the total cost, seconded by Charles Bowers. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Rebate Request is attached to these official minutes.

8. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON BALLOT FOR THE ARMSTRONG COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Thompson made the motion to use 7 votes for Lucas Minkley and 7 votes for Phil Fletcher, seconded by Danny Hardcastle. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Ballot is attached to these official minutes.

9. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NOMINATIONS FOR THE CARSON COUNTY APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Bowers made the motion to nominate Chris Rapstine and Jason Davis for the Carson County Appraisal District BOD, seconded by Butch Collard. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Nominations is attached to these official minutes.

10. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DISTRICT INVESTMENT POLICY

General Manager C. E. Williams stated that they will be adding Assistant Manager Britney Britten to the signature card to be able to sign checks for the District with no other changes to the current policy.

Butch Collard made the motion to approve the revisions to the District's Investment Policy, seconded by Charles Bowers. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Investment Policy is attached to these official minutes.

11. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CONTRACT WITH ALLEN & ORTEGA CPA TO CONDUCT AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

General Manager C. E. Williams stated that this is the same CPA Firm that the District has used in the past years to conduct the annual audit. He also stated that the estimated cost of the contract is between \$6,200 to \$7,200 which is a slight increase from last year's estimate.

Danny Hardcastle made the motion to approve the contact with Allen & Ortega CPA to conduct the District's audit, seconded by Jim Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the contract is attached to these official minutes.

12. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON QUARTERLY PRODUCTION REPORTS AND OUT OF DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION REPORTS FROM THE CITY OF AMARILLO, CONOCO PHILLIPS, CRMWA, THE CITY OF BORGER, THE CITY OF FRITCH, THE CITY OF MEMPHIS, THE CITY OF CLARENDON, BRICE-LESLEY AND GREENBELT WATER AUTHORITY

Jim Thompson made the motion to approve the Quarterly Production Reports and Out of District Transportation Reports as presented, seconded by William Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the reports is attached to these official minutes.

13. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TAX DEEDS AND PROPERTY CARDS FOR TRUST PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF MCLEAN

a) Parcel 14539	Bid: \$ 75.00	e) Parcel 15210	Bid: \$301.00
b) Parcel 14548	Bid: \$ 76.00	f) Parcel 15265	Bid: \$675.00
c) Parcel 14655	Bid: \$1000.00	g) Parcel 15275	Bid: \$501.00
d) Parcel 14923	Bid: \$225.00		

William Breeding made the motion to approve the Tax Deeds for Trust Properties in the City of McLean, seconded by Danny Hardcastle. Motion passed unanimously.

14. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON TAX DEEDS AND PROPERTY CARDS FOR TRUST PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF HOWARDWICK

a) Parcel 7551	Bid: \$ 50.00	g) Parcel 9871	Bid: \$150.00
b) Parcel 8823	Bid: \$ 50.00	h) Parcel 9913	Bid: \$150.00
c) Parcel 8552	Bid: \$200.00	i) Parcel 9598	Bid: \$ 50.00
d) Parcel 9807	Bid: \$ 60.00	j) Parcel 9786	Bid: \$152.00
e) Parcel 9886	Bid: \$150.00	k) Parcel 9984	Bid: \$200.00
f) Parcel 9879	Bid: \$100.00	l) Parcel 9985	Bid: \$200.00

Jim Thompson made the motion to approve the Tax Deeds for Trust Properties in the City of Howardwick, seconded by William Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.

15. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON SEALED BID FOR TRUST PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY OF CARSON

a) 207 Groom, Panhandle	Bid: \$1750.00
b) Lots 15 – 20 of Block 22, Skellytown	Bid: \$ 525.00

William Breeding made the motion to approve the Sealed Bids for Trust Properties in the County of Carson, seconded by Jim Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

16. CONSENT AGENDA – DRILLING PERMITS

The following items are part of the Consent Agenda. All Well Permit requests have been thoroughly reviewed by staff, are administratively complete and the General Manager is recommending issuance.

RECLASSIFY WELLS – NONE

DRILLING PERMITS FOR WELLS PUMPING MORE THAN 25,000 GALLONS A DAY OR 17.5 GPM

- a) CA-1356 3 SIDES - An 8" well to be drilled on 2550 ac by Etter Waterwell by October 15, 2020 in the SW4 of Sec 53, Blk M4, JH Gibson Survey (Located on the Carson/Potter Line, on E side of CR A) Carson County

Charles Bowers made the motion to approve the Drilling Permit, seconded by William Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.

17. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADMENDMENT TO DISTRICT'S METER PROGRAM

General Manager C. E. Williams stated to the board that the District should consider charging for the parts to repair the meters. Williams presented the board with a price list of different parts normally required to maintain or repair the meters. The District would charge for parts and District Staff would provide the maintenance.

Charles Bowers made the motion to table any action on the Meter Program until a committee could be formed to do more research, seconded by William Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.

18. STAFF UPDATES

General Manager C. E. Williams presented the board with an Annual Rainfall Report with special emphasis on the growing season. The information showed as much as a 50% reduction in reduced rainfall during the April to September time frame. The board asked that this information be put in the newsletter.

A copy of the report is attached to these official minutes.

19. MANAGER'S REPORT

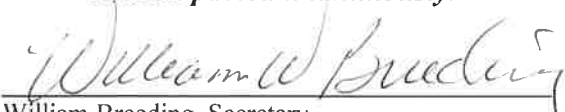
The board was presented with the District Manager's Report and the US Drought Monitor which also showed that the drought is getting worse.

20. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SET FUTURE MEETING DATES

The board decided to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, November 17th at 9:00 a.m. However, after the meeting adjourned it was noticed that a Tax Abatement Notice was already posted per a 30-day posting requirement for November 18. Therefore, the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18th at 9:00 a.m.

21. ADJOURN

William Breeding made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m., seconded by Danny Hardcastle. Motion passed unanimously.


William Breeding, Secretary


Phillip Smith, President