

# PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DISTRICT OFFICE - Windmill Room

201 W. Third Street, White Deer, Texas

August 8, 2019 - 9:00 a.m.

Those present were:

Phillip Smith	President
Bill Breeding	Secretary
F. G. Butch Collard	Director
John R. Spearman	Director
Jim Thompson	Director
Brett Britten	Director
Charles Bowers	Director
C.E. Williams	General Manager
Jennifer Puryear	Meteorologist
Britney Britten	PR/Education

Guests Present: Chad Pernell and Julie Allegretti

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m.

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

No public comment.

### 3. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MINUTES

#### a. Board Meeting 07/25/19

***Brett Britten made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Bill Breeding. Motion passed unanimously.***

**A copy of the minutes is attached to these minutes.**

### 4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2019-2020 TAX RATE

Williams said after getting the certified values from each of the counties in the District, the effective tax rate was a little lower than previously stated. However, he said the 7.9 percent increase is still proposed. He reminded the Board after 2019 if the District wants to increase taxes over three percent, there will be a mandatory election in each of the precincts, which would be very costly. He also said according to the tax code, the District will have to post notices and hold two hearings before being able to vote on the increase. This must be accomplished by September 30.

***Jim Thompson made the motion to send the proposed tax rate to hearings, moved by F.G. Butch Collard.. Motion passed unanimously.***

### 5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPLICATION FOR TDLR PERMIT RENEWAL OF PGCD PRECIPITATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Meteorologist Jennifer Puryear and CE Williams explained this is the District's four-year permit renewal needed to operate the Precipitation Enhancement program. The only change being proposed to this permit is the addition of a 20-minute extension once weather is warned as significant. The current permit states operations must stop as soon as a storm is warned.

Director Collard asked if there had been any opposition so far, and Williams said he received an email from Jay O'Brien, he was inquiring about our plans and changes to the permit.

*Bill Breeding moved to continue with the permit process, seconded by Charles Bowers. In a vote of 5 to 2, the motion passes.*

6. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RAINWATER HARVESTING REBATE APPLICATION

a. Lance Ollinger

Williams explained there was some confusion about how the fabric bladder tank would hold pressure, and after confirming with Mr. Ollinger, he clarified the tank would hold pressure, and inflate and deflate as the water levels varied.

Bowers said he believed the District should fund the project to see how it works, and if the tank worked like anticipated, it would be a cheaper alternative for many more people to install a system.

*Brett Britten made the motion to approve the Rainwater Harvesting application and fund \$14,800 of the project, seconded by John R. Spearman, Jr.. Motion passed unanimously.*

**A copy of the application and project scope is attached to these minutes.**

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

- |                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| a. Parcel 7908 | Bid: \$450.00 |
| b. Parcel 7909 | Bid: \$650.00 |
| c. Parcel 7561 | Bid: \$700.00 |
| d. Parcel 7562 | Bid: \$700.00 |
| e. Parcel 8432 | Bid: \$300.00 |
| f. Parcel 7750 | Bid: \$399.00 |
| g. Parcel 7734 | Bid: \$50.00  |
| h. Parcel 8355 | Bid: \$50.00  |
| i. Parcel 8736 | Bid: \$50.00  |
| j. Parcel 8981 | Bid: \$50.00  |
| k. Parcel 7173 | Bid: \$50.00  |

*John R. Spearman, Jr. made the motion to accept the bids as presented, seconded by F.G. Butch Collard. Motion passed unanimously.*

8. 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**

**IRRIGATION WELLS – None**

9. STAFF UPDATES

- a. Annual Decline Review – Steve Shumate
- b. Weather Modification Update – Jennifer Puryear

Jennifer Puryear presented the annual decline review and showed each county's decline individually. Data reviewed was the Winter Water Level measurements taken each year from late November to early April. Director Brett Britten asked if more wells could be added along I-40 as you cross into Donley County, and Williams and Puryear said they would look into adding more wells to measure.

Puryear also presented a Weather Modification update. Overall, the season has been somewhat slow, but with a change in the weather pattern, she said she is hopeful August and September will be busier. She also noted most of the counties are halfway or almost halfway to their yearly rainfall averages.

**Copies of both presentations are attached to these minutes.**

10. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO SET FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting is set for August 26, 2019 at 9:00 a.m., and it will be the first hearing for PGCD's tax increase, the second hearing is scheduled for September 5, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. and the meeting to vote on the tax increase is scheduled for September 19, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

11. MANAGER'S REPORT

**A copy of the Manager's Report is attached to these minutes.**

12. ADJOURN

*Jim Thompson moved to adjourn, seconded by Bill Breeding. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.*

---

William W. Breeding, Secretary

---

Phillip Smith, President