

**STERLING COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

October 14, 2024

Members Present: Chairman Jack Clark, Cliff Caldwell, Ross McCrea, General Manager; Diana Thomas and Technician; Ashley Masters.

Visitors Present: Evan Canady

The meeting was called to order at 1:38 P.M. by Jack Clark, Chairman of the Board.

Ross McCrea moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Cliff Caldwell seconded the motion and it carried.

General Manager, Diana Thomas, presented the regular bills to the Board. After reviewing the bills as presented, Cliff Caldwell moved to transfer \$41,000 from the MMDA to the checking account, and to pay all bills. Bills included standard monthly bills plus annual insurance premium, WTWMA bi-annual payment, financial audit, and employee bonuses. Ross McCrea seconded, and the motion passed.

The Manager's report included: two WTWMA in San Angelo, virtual House Natural Resource Committee, TAGD HR webinar, and WWTX4 in Pecos. WTWMA had 5 operational days in August with every participating county experiencing seeded storms. There were 3 operational days in September to close the 2024 season out for a total of 24 operational days. The need for a response to a negative Letter to the Editor of the Livestock Weekly was discussed. Sutton County UWCD sent notification of their termination with our program, further complicating 2025 budget discussion. The House Natural Resource Committee interim hearing heard testimony on a number of water related charges, but with 5 committee members not returning for the next session the interim schedule has been light. The TAGD HR webinar covered written employee policies and performance management best practices. WWTX4 had another slate of great presentations bringing in representatives of the RRC, local landowners in the thick of the zombie well phenomena, and several businesses running research projects utilizing treated produced water. The most recent report put out by the Texas Produced Water Consortium was presented to the Board. Also discussed was the recent DOJ changes to the Americans with Disabilities Act applying accessibility requirement to governmental websites by 2027.

Well Surveillance included well water levels for 41 monitor wells throughout county, 1 well was not measured, directors reviewed the individual wells and discussed the varied levels.

No Notice of Intent to Drill was received for the month. A water quality analysis was performed for R. Burch and L. Field. The well camera was operated in the Montvale Cemetery monitor well and 4 wells in Irion County.

After receiving a letter of resignation from Ross McCrea recommending Evan Canady as his replacement, Cliff Caldwell moved to accept the resignation of Precinct 3 Director Ross McCrea. Ross McCrea seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Cliff Caldwell moved to appoint Evan Canady as Precinct 3 Director for the unexpired term. Jack Clark seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The newly appointed Precinct 3 Director Evan Canady was administered the Oath of Office by General Manager Diana Thomas.

General Manager Diana Thomas again presented the four RFQ submissions for legal counsel that were received. Each director present shared their preference after discussion of rates and experience. Cliff Caldwell moved to accept the proposal by Lloyd Gosselink and contract with Cole Ruiz for legal counsel. Ross McCrea seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.


After discussion, Cliff Caldwell moved to adopt by resolution the *Code of Ethics and Policies Relating to Travel Expenditures, District Investments, Professional Services, and Fiscal Management* and reaffirm the General Manager as the Investment Officer. One additional option for District investments was added to the policy. Evan Canady seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation by the Investment Officer Diana Thomas, Cliff Caldwell moved to accept the 2024 Q3 Investment Report. The Pinnacle Bank account was highlighted as a new addition to the report, and the expiration of the 1-year CD in October was discussed. Evan Canady seconded, and the motion passed.


Cliff Caldwell moved to accept the most recent drought report. Evan Canady seconded, and the motion passed.

Diana Thomas presented the FY 2022-2023 financial audit report to the Directors. After review Cliff Caldwell moved to accept the FY 2022-2023 Financial Audit. Evan Canady seconded, and the motion passed.

There being no further business Evan Canady moved and Cliff Caldwell seconded to adjourn at 2:33 PM.



Attesting Signature


Presiding Officer
Date: 11-11-2024