
SUTTON COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Board Meeting
September 8, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.
Edwards Plateau Soil & Water Conservation District Board Room
301 S Crockett Ave.
Sonora, Texas

Minutes

Directors Present via Videoconference: Robert Mayer, James Archer, Butch Taylor, Erika Campbell, and Max Howorth

District Staff Present via Videoconference: Meredith Allen and Lana Tolleson

1. Call Regular Meeting to Order

Board Chairman Robert Mayer called the meeting to order at 9:11 am with a quorum in attendance.

2. Recognize Visitors—Any person or group wishing to speak to the Board on any item on the Agenda will be allowed 5 minutes

None present.

3. Recognize Pump Installers & Drillers—Any person or group wishing to speak on any item on the Agenda will be allowed 5 minutes

None present.

4. Rainfall and Water level report

Consulting Manager Meredith Allen gave rainfall and water level reports.

5. Action, Discuss, or Consider Approval of Minutes of the August 11, 2020 regular meeting.

Director Max Howorth made a motion to approve the August 11, 2020 meeting minutes with a 2nd by Director James Archer. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Action, Discuss, or Consider Approval of Bills and Financial Statements for August 2020.

Allen and Operations Manager Lana Tolleson answered questions from the Directors concerning the August 2020 financial statements. Howorth made a motion to approve the August 2020 bills and financial statements. The motion was 2nd by Director Butch Taylor and passed unanimously.

7. Executive Session: Deliberations about Personnel Matters: In Accordance with Texas Government Code 551.074

The Board of Directors convened into executive session to deliberate on personnel matters at 9:35 a.m.

8. Action Reconvene into Open Session and Consider Action, if any, regarding decisions discussed in Executive Session

The Board of Directors reconvened into open session at 10:12 a.m. No action was taken.

9. Action, Discuss or Consider Purchase of new Phone System

Allen and Tolleson reviewed bids received to install a new phone system in the District office. After discussion, Howorth made a motion to table action on the Phone System and discussion on IT Services (item 10) until all IT Service bids have been received. The motion was 2nd by Taylor and passed unanimously.

10. Action, Discuss or Consider Bid for Information Technology Services

Bids for Information Technology Services are due September 15, 2020. Tabled until all bids are received.

11. Action, Discuss or Consider Bid for Downhole Camera System

Allen is still awaiting bids to be submitted. Taylor made a motion to table action until bids are received. The motion was 2nd by Director Erika Campbell and passed unanimously.

12. Public Hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Budget, start at 09:30

The public hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Budget began at 10:45. There were no members of the public present and the hearing closed at 11:00.

13. Action, Discuss or Consider Approval of the FY 2020-2021 Budget

After discussion and review of the proposed FY 2020-2021 Budget, a motion was made by Howorth and 2nd by Campbell to approve the proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously.

14. Public Hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Tax Rate

The public hearing on the FY 2020-2021 Tax Rate began at 11:00. There were no members of the public present and the hearing closed at 11:15.

15. Action, Discuss or Consider Approval of the FY 2020-2021 Tax Rate

After discussion and review of the proposed FY 2020-2021 Tax Rate, a motion was made by Taylor and 2nd by Archer to set the tax rate at 0.045 per \$100 property valuation. The motion passed unanimously.

16. Consulting Manager’s comments

- a. TAGD 2020 Texas Groundwater Summit – Allen gave a report of the Groundwater Summit which was held on-line this year.
- b. GMA 7 meeting update – Allen informed the Board that the next GMA7 meeting will be held on September 16 at 1:30 at the Caverns of Sonora.
- c. TWON Water Quality Roundup - Allen informed the Board that the Texas Well Owner Network will hold a virtual Water Quality Roundup for Sutton, Edwards, and Kimble counties in October. Water samples for participating well owners will be processed by SUTUWCD.

17. Operations Manager’s comments

- a. Update on District Activity – Tolleson informed the Board that all test results for the Water Quality Network from LCRA Lab have been sent to well owners, with nothing of interest showing up in the results. Tolleson also shared that we received thank you notes from the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation and the Texas Water Ambassadors Program for sponsoring the 4-H Water Ambassador Program.

18. Director Comments/Directives to Staff

- a. Make grammatical change to the Budget with a listing of contingency categories
- b. Send detailed bids for new phone system to Directors
- c. Continue working to get bids on new camera

19. Action, Discuss, or Consider meeting adjournment

Howorth made a motion to adjourn at 11:16 a.m. with a 2nd by Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.

Presiding Officer

Date

Attesting Signature