

FAYETTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES

Of the February 2, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting

Directors Present: Alan Brothers, Leo Wick, Cynthia Rodibaugh, Mark Heinrich, Harvey Hayek

Directors Absent:

Others Present: David Van Dresar, General Manager, Wendi Labus, Assistant General Manager; Monique Norman, Attorney; Paul Kirby, Daniel B. Stephens & Assoc., Darrell Gest, resident; Carol Eckelkamp, resident; Nancy Appllebe, resident

The meeting was called to order by President Brothers at 9:33 a.m., on February 2, 2026, at the Fayette County Agricultural Building Conference Room 104 located at 255 Svoboda Lane, in La Grange, Texas. A quorum to conduct business was declared to be present.

Mr. Brothers gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Brothers asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

Minutes from the December 15, 2025 Board of Directors meeting were presented by Mr. Van Dresar. Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the December 2025 and January 2026 financial statements. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve both the financial statements and to pay the outstanding bills. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and it was approved.

Proposed rule change language and possible action were discussed by the board of directors. Mrs. Norman presented the final draft of proposed revisions to the District Rules. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to post the proposed revisions for public comment and have the comment period end March 31, 2026 and to review all comments received at the April 2026 meeting. Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Van Dresar reviewed the currently approved desired future conditions for both GMA 12 and GMA 15. Mr. Van Dresar asked the board if they were still in agreement that Fayette County GCD did not wish to change any of the desired future conditions during the current round of planning. Mr. Heinrich made the motion to use the currently approved desired future conditions for the current round of planning. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Van Dresar presented the District Manager's report to the board:

Complaints:

No complaints for the month of December or January.

Meetings and Public Education:

On December 8, Fayette County GCD, Bluebonnet GCD, Post Oak Savannah GCD, Brazos Valley GCD, and Adam Foster of TAGD met with representatives from Washington County in Navasota. Discussion involved the pros and cons of creating a GCD in Washington County. Input was given by all and many questions were asked.

On January 16, Region K Water Planning Group held two meetings in Austin. General region business, officer elections, and initial plans were approved for the next round of regional water planning. The second meeting was to consider a waiver for Lakeway MUD for a project that was in the previous plan under another utilities name.

On January 20-21, TAGD held its winter meeting in San Marcos. First day events included a workshop on well hydraulics, which Wendi attended. Wendi, Paul, and I attended the business portion of the meeting on the 20th and 21st.

On January 29, I was invited, along with the TWDB, Region L, and Region G to the Texas American Water Works Association conference in Austin to discuss regional water planning and future water issues. Attendance was over 100 persons and the information was well received.

General Business

1. Update on GMA 12 and GMA 15

GMA-12: On January 23, GMA 12 held a meeting in Milano, Paul and I attended in person with Neil Blandford online. Presentations were given by INTERA and Spheros on the Carrizo-Wilcox/Queen City/ Sparta GAM and spoke on adjustments and updates made for the PS4-2 Run for current planning. No update was made on the Yegua Jackson for the current planning period, however, BVGCD and the consultants are looking at anomalous values being calculated in that model for BVGCD. TWDB will hold a meeting for the brackish portion of the Yegua Jackson aquifer on February 3, 2026. GMA members discussed a joint data base to share information among the districts through HALFF. Additional information will be presented at the next GMA meeting. GCD interim values were discussed, however, no actions were taken. Shared mitigation was discussed. After extensive discussion it was approved that a meeting be held between districts that have affected wells to formulate a plan of action.

GMA 15: On January 8, GMA 15 held a meeting in Victoria. Paul and I attended in person. General business items were discussed. The main topic of discussion were the interim values for each of the member districts and district accomplishments. Member districts discussed proposed desired future conditions for the current planning period. Fayette County GCD reiterated that we are proposing no changes to our current DFCs. Goliad County GCD and Coastal Bend GCD asked for changes to their proposed conditions which were approved. Additionally, the member districts voted to remove the GMA wide averaged desired future condition of 13 feet. Member districts took action to eliminate "County Specific DFCs" for Lavaca and Aransas counties as there is no means to monitor compliance in those counties.

2. General Update

- On January 29, the TWDB held a webinar for the Groundwater Science, Research, and Data Collection grant monies made available in HB1400. I, Wendi, Paul, and the grant writer for DBS&A attended.

- Funds of \$50,000 to \$300,000 are available to qualifying district projects and programs.
- Grant requests are due by March 16.
- Staff and DBS&A are discussing project scopes and if this would be a good financing vehicle for those projects.

Mr. Heinrich made the motion to delegate DBS&A to work with staff to write and submit a grant application to the TWDB by the due date. Mr. Wick seconded the motion and the motion was approved, four to one, with Mrs. Rodibaugh voting nay.

3. Update on Static Well Monitoring

- Work is ongoing by staff and Paul Kirby to identify additional wells to add to the static monitoring program.
- Field work in the static monitoring network is scheduled for February 11-12.

4. Update on Permit Approval

- One permit was approved by the General Manager in January.
 - P-2026-001 to Berger Cattle Company for 199 acre feet of water per year for agriculture and irrigation.

5. Drought Conditions (see attachments)

- As of January 27, Fayette County is in D3 (extreme) drought conditions.
- Rainfall averaged 0.07 inches total for December and 1.39 inches total for January. For January the gauge at La Grange collected the most with 1.61 inches and the gauge at Muldoon collected the least with 1.15 inches.

6. Update Legislature and News Articles

- Nothing to report.

7. Unsold Properties Update

- There were no unsold properties processed.

President Brothers asked for any applications for exception to consider. There were none.

Items were identified for the next meeting's agenda.

There being no further business, Mr. Heinrich made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Rodibaugh seconded the motion. Mr. Brothers adjourned the meeting at 11:15.

Alan Brothers, President

Cynthia Rodibaugh, Secretary/Treasurer