FAYETTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MINUTES
Of the October 5, 2026
Board of Directors Meeting

Directors Present:	Alan Brothers, Leo Wick, Cynthia Rodibaugh, Harvey Hayek, Mark Heinrich
Directors Absent:	
Others Present:	David Van Dresar, General Manager; Wendi Labus, Assistant General Manager; Monique Norman, Legal Counsel; Paul Kirby, Daniel B. Stephens; Jerry Moerbe, Amy Lochte, resident

The meeting was called to order by President Brothers at 9:30 a.m., on October 5, 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:

Mr. Jerry Moerbe, read a prepared statement in which he made a public complaint regarding Mr. Van Dresar, Mrs. Labus, and Mrs. Norman. He stated that information was not provided and that the district staff was operating the district corruptly and unlawfully. Mr. Moerbe informed the board that he would file a Writ of Mandamus.

Mrs. Amy Lochte asked about the water sampling project and when it was to begin. Mr. Van Dresar stated that only 10-12 authorizations had been received total and that the district is awaiting the other authorizations. Mrs. Lochte asked who had not submitted that authorizations and stated that she had submitted hers and knew that the Wessels had as well. She stated that she had copied her authorization and passed it to neighbors to fill out and submit. Mr. Van Dresar advised Mrs. Lochte to speak with Mrs. Labus after the meeting to get more information.

Mr. Greg Trlicek presented the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and Fiscal Year 2024-2025. Mr. Trlicek apologized to the Board for the delay in the presentation of the Audits due to family matters and informed the Board that Fiscal Year 2026 would begin since the Fiscal Year had just ended. Mr. Trlicek stated that the audit received an unqualified opinion, meaning the district financials are fairly stated in all respects. This is the best opinion that can be given in an audit. Mr. Trlicek led the board through the audit report. Mr. Trlicek stated that the District should always have a minimum of 3 months in reserves and the District is doing well.

Minutes from the September 14, 2026 Public Hearing and Board of Directors meeting were presented by Mr. Van Dresar. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve all sets of minutes. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the September 2026 financial statement. Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the financial statement and to pay the outstanding bills. Mr. Wick seconded the motion and it was approved.

Paul Kirby with Daviel B. Stephens & Assoc., presented the Board with a presentation on the FCGCD's Desired Future Conditions Compliance.

Mrs. Labus presented the 2027 Board of Directors Meeting schedule. After discussion of the dates and room availability, Mrs. Rodibaugh made the motion to approve the schedule with dates chosen. Mr. Hayek seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mrs. Labus presented the 2027 FCGCD Holiday schedule. Mrs. Labus presented the Holiday schedule stating that the District followed the County and State's schedule. Mr. Hayek made the motion to approve the schedule with dates chosen. Mr. Wick seconded the motion and it was approved.

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

Complaints:

On September 28, district staff received a call from Michael Ripper stating that his water well has been sputtering and producing slowly. He stated that his neighbor has been irrigating, filling his pond, and that he, Mr. Ripper, felt that was the cause of his well problems. I made a site visit to Mr. Ripper's property on September 30. Static level was obtained. A pumping test was performed. Mr. Ripper's system began to cavitate just three feet below the static level. According to anecdotal information written on the wall of the pump house the pump is set 12 feet below where the cavitating began. I informed Mr. Ripper that it was likely a mechanical issue with the well and not a depleting water table. I suggested that Mr. Ripper have a pump technician come out and check his system.

Meetings and Public Education:

On September 16, Region K WPG held a meeting in Austin. General procedures and planning timelines were discussed during the meeting in preparation for the upcoming planning cycle.

General Business

1. **Update on GMA 12 and GMA 15**

    - GMA 15 has scheduled a meeting for October 22, in Victoria to process public comments and work on the explanatory report.
    - GMA 12 has scheduled a meeting for November 9, in Milano to process public comments and work on the explanatory report.

2. **General Update**
    - Fayette County Inspector contacted the office on September 11 request district assistance in developing groundwater availability for a proposed subdivision. I responded with production limitations in our rules for small tracts and the aquifers present in the area.
    - Governor Greg Abbott has placed a moratorium on data center development until ERCOT and the PUCT audits are complete.
    - On September 30-October 2, Wendi attended a records retention course in Austin.

3. **Update on Static Well Monitoring**
    - Daniel B Stephens and district staff will hold an onboarding meeting with Deep Earth on October 7.
    - Static monitoring network visits are being scheduled for later in October for evaluation and installation of new units.
    - On September 28, Wendi, Paul, and I had a virtual meeting with Robert Bradley of the TWDB regarding the TWDB grant program. Required deliverables include: GANTT timeline, quarterly reports, and reimbursement invoices. All work must be completed before August 31, 2028.

4. **Update on Permit Approval**
    - Two permit applications were received from EOG Resources, Inc. Each is for 199 ac-ft/yr. Staff expects permit approval the first half October.

5. **Drought Conditions (see attachments)**
    - As of October 1, a majority of Fayette County is in D2 (Severe) drought conditions. In the south eastern corner, in an area along a line from Lavaca County, through Engle to High Hill to Colorado County, D3 (Extreme) drought conditions exist.
    - Rainfall averaged 1.02 inches total for month. The Colorado River gauge collected the most with 2.43 inches and the gauge at Muldoon collected the least with 0.20 inches.

6. **Update Legislature and News Articles**
    - Nothing to report.

7. **Unsold Properties Update**
    - There were no unsold properties processed.

The board considered action on Applications for Exception. Mr. Van Dresar stated that none were received.

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 11:20 a.m.

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Alan Brothers, President Cynthia Rodibaugh, Secretary/Treasurer

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