

## **MEETING MINUTES**

## SOUTHWESTERN TRAVIS COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Workshop Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

A quorum of the Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors held a board workshop on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the District's office at 8656 W. Highway 71, Building A, Suite 224, Austin, Texas 78735. The meeting was open to the public and a videoconference remote participation option was provided – instructions for accessing the remote videoconference were provided with the Public Notice of Meeting.

- 1. Call to order, declare meeting open to the public, take roll and declare quorum status President Scadden called the public meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2025. Six directors were present at the meeting constituting a quorum, including President Scadden, Director Leva, Director Davis, Director Huber, and Director Van Ackeren; Director Phillips joined the meeting at 9:34 a.m. Also present were General Manager Lane Cockrell, District Regulatory Compliance Specialist Virginia Smith, District Administrative and Hydrogeology Assistant Barbara Reyes, Cole Ruiz with Lloyd Gosselink, and Matt Welch with Mirasol Springs. The following individuals participated remotely by videoconference call: Kodi Sawin with Shield Ranch, and Sydney Christman with McCarthy and McCarthy on behalf of Clancy Utility Holdings, LLC (a.k.a Mirasol Springs).
- 2. Announcements No announcements were presented.
- 3. Public Comments No public comments were presented.
- 4. Discuss and possibly act on matters related to potential management strategies for the Hamilton Pool Management Zone – President Scadden summarized the Board Workshop held on October 30, 2024, during which the Board discussed the first six recommendations from the Hamilton Pool Management Zone (HPMZ) Stakeholder Process Final Report. General Manager Cockrell reminded the board that the workshop's purpose was to review the remaining stakeholder recommendations, decide on strategies for implementation, and guide the Rules Committee on potential rules amendments.

Directors discussed the remaining stakeholder recommendations from the HPMZ Stakeholder Process Final Report, including the following strategies: increased focus on public outreach and education; continued collaboration with Travis County, including exploring opportunities to incentivize rainwater harvesting; a potential new permitting category for indoor-only use with relaxed or no mandatory drought curtailments to encourage permittees to limit groundwater use for irrigation; potential moratorium on new non-exempt wells in HPMZ during severe drought; potential production limits and updated desired future conditions (DFCs) for the District and HPMZ, and related

SWTCGCD Board Workshop Minutes January 30, 2025 Page **2** of **2** 

scientific, modeling, and data needs; and reconvening the HPMZ stakeholder group to provide an update and discuss opportunities for continued collaboration.

Matt Welch with Mirasol Springs provided public comments regarding the potential new permit category for indoor-only use and provided an update regarding groundwater and spring monitoring sites on the Mirasol property.

President Scadden asked General Manager Cockrell to schedule a meeting with West Travis County Public Utility Agency (WTCPUA) to discuss the possibility of providing water service to West Cypress Hills. Director Huber offered to compile outreach and education materials for potential District use and discussion at the next board meeting.

- 5. Discuss and establish possible agenda items for future Board Meetings General Manager Cockrell confirmed that items would be included on the next meeting agenda to discuss the joint groundwater planning and desired future conditions (DFCs) process, and to discuss outreach and education materials. General Manager Cockrell also confirmed he would provide an update at the next meeting after consulting with the District's General Counsel regarding a potential moratorium on new non-exempt wells in HPMZ during severe drought, and that the Rules Committee would schedule a meeting to discuss potential rules amendments.
- 6. Discuss and possibly act on setting the date, time, and location for the next Board Meeting President Scadden confirmed that the next regular meeting had already been scheduled for February 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the District office.
- 7. **Adjourn** A motion was made by Director Davis to adjourn the open meeting at 12:05 p.m. Motion seconded by Director Huber. Motion carried 6 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2025.

Tim Van Ackeren, Secretary

SWTCGCD Board Workshop Minutes January 30, 2025 Page **2** of **2** 

scientific, modeling, and data needs; and reconvening the HPMZ stakeholder group to provide an update and discuss opportunities for continued collaboration.

Matt Welch with Mirasol Springs provided public comments regarding the potential new permit category for indoor-only use and provided an update regarding groundwater and spring monitoring sites on the Mirasol property.

President Scadden asked General Manager Cockrell to schedule a meeting with West Travis County Public Utility Agency (WTCPUA) to discuss the possibility of providing water service to West Cypress Hills. Director Huber offered to compile outreach and education materials for potential District use and discussion at the next board meeting.

- 5. **Discuss and establish possible agenda items for future Board Meetings** General Manager Cockrell confirmed that items would be included on the next meeting agenda to discuss the joint groundwater planning and desired future conditions (DFCs) process, and to discuss outreach and education materials. General Manager Cockrell also confirmed he would provide an update at the next meeting after consulting with the District's General Counsel regarding a potential moratorium on new non-exempt wells in HPMZ during severe drought, and that the Rules Committee would schedule a meeting to discuss potential rules amendments.
- 6. Discuss and possibly act on setting the date, time, and location for the next Board Meeting President Scadden confirmed that the next regular meeting had already been scheduled for February 12, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. at the District office.
- 7. Adjourn A motion was made by Director Davis to adjourn the open meeting at 12:05 p.m. Motion seconded by Director Huber. Motion carried 6 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS THE  $12^{4}$  day of March, 2025.

Tem Van Ula

Tim Van Ackeren, Secretary