

# Montemayor Britton Bender Carey PC

**CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS** 

# SOUTHWESTERN TRAVIS COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 SEPTEMBER 2024



# Montemayor Britton Bender Carey PC

#### CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Arturo Montemayor III CPA, President & CEO | Stacy Britton CPA, Shareholder | Sean Bender CPA, Shareholder Danielle Guerrero, Shareholder | Sara Carey CPA, Shareholder

Board of Directors and Management Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

# **Opinions**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and general fund of the Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District (District), which comprise the statement of net position and governmental funds balance sheet as of 30 September 2024, and the related statements of activities and governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance for the year then ended and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and general fund of the District as of 30 September 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinions**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### Correction of Error

As discussed in Note 11 to the financial statements, certain errors resulted in the understatement of amounts previously reported for capital assets as of 30 September 2023. Accordingly, amounts reported for capital assets have been restated in the 30 September 2023 financial statements, and an adjustment has been made to net position and fund balance as of 30 September 2023. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial

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doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 to 5 and the budgetary comparison information on page 12 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

3 July 2025 Austin, Texas

# SOUTHWESTERN TRAVIS COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following is a narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District ("the District") for the year ended 30 September 2024. Please read it in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which follow this section.

# **Financial Highlights**

- The District incurred an increase in net position of \$11,082 for the year.
- Total assets amounted to \$371,989 at 30 September 2024, which represented an increase of \$79,429 over the \$292,560 balance at 30 September 2023.

# **Overview of the Financial Statements**

This annual report consists of three parts—management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of the District. The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

#### **Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances in a manner similar to a private sector business reporting on a full accrual basis of accounting.

The *Statement of Net Position* presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District has improved or deteriorated.

The *Statement of Activities* presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

#### **Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control and account for resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal or contractual requirements. The District has one fund, the General Fund.

Governmental Funds: The General Fund is used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, the governmental funds financial statements focus on current fiscal year cash inflows and outflows, as well as balances of resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year. Because the focus of the governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for the General Fund with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Both the Governmental Funds balance sheet and the Governmental Funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between Governmental Fund and government-wide financial statements.

#### **Government-Wide Financial Analysis**

Net position may serve as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. The District's net position was \$258,910 as of 30 September 2024. \$115,295 of the District's net position is unrestricted and available to finance day-to-day operations without constraints.

# SOUTHWESTERN TRAVIS COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	
<u>Assets</u>	9/30/2024	9/30/2023
Current and other assets	\$228,374	\$231,279
Capital assets	143,615	61,282
Total assets	371,989	292,561
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities	113,079	44,733
Total liabilities	113,079	44,733
Net position		
Net investment in capital assets and intangible assets in-progress	143,615	43,167
Unrestricted	<u>115,295</u>	<u>186,546</u>
	<u>\$258,910</u>	<u>\$247,828</u>
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Revenues Travia County Interlegal Agreement	9/30/2024	9/30/2023
Travis County Interlocal Agreement	\$213,397	\$202,000
Service fees revenue	121,618	113,001
Interest earnings	<u>1,523</u>	<u>762</u>
Total revenues	336,538	315,763
F		
Expenses	152 000	144.050
Payroll and related	152,800	144,850
Water conservation	<u>172,656</u>	116,888
Total expenses	<u>325,456</u>	<u>261,738</u>
Change in net position	11,082	54,025
•	*	*
Net position, beginning - restated	247,828	193,803
Net position, ending	<u>\$258,910</u>	<u>\$247,828</u>

# Financial Analysis of the Governmental Fund

The focus of the District's Governmental Fund is to provide information on near-term inflows and outflows and on resource balances available for spending. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, unassigned fund balance serves as a useful measure of the District's net resources available for spending at fiscal year-end.

During the fiscal year ending 30 September 2024, the District's only Governmental Fund was the General Fund, and it reported ending fund balance of \$115,295, an decrease of \$71,251 over the year-ended 30 September 2023. The District's ending unassigned fund balance of \$115,295 was unencumbered and available for spending at the District's discretion.

# **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

General Fund revenues were \$336,538, or 7%, under budget. This shortfall was driven by lower than expected revenues from Travis County (\$28,116). Expenses for the General Fund were \$21,188 less than budget, a variance of 5%. This was driven by lower than expected groundwater research studies/projects (\$16,134), Contract/Professional Services (\$6,627), and technical operations and contract and professional services is offset by capital outlay and other.

# SOUTHWESTERN TRAVIS COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

# **Capital Assets**

The District's depreciable capital assets at 30 September 2024, net of accumulated depreciation, totaled \$68,769. The current year increase reflects capital outlay of \$47,786, offset by depreciation expense of \$3,210.

The District's 3D model in-progress at 30 September 2024 totaled \$74,846. The current year increase reflects capital outlay of \$37,757. As the asset is in-progress, no depreciation expense was recorded during the year.

# **Economic Factors, Future Years' Budgets and Tax Rates**

The District factors considered in establishing a budget are the funding needs of the District operations and programs necessary to meet the objectives of the District as stated in the District's enabling legislation and its By-Laws. Amounts available for appropriation in the General Fund budget are \$397,150; expenditures are estimated to be \$405,659. If these estimates are realized, the District's budgetary General fund balance is expected to decrease \$8,509 by the close of fiscal 2025.

#### **Request for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the finances of the District for all parties with an interest. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should contact the District's business office at Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District, Austin, Texas.

# STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	General <u>Fund</u>	Adjustments (Note 5)	Statement of Net Position
ASSETS			
Cash	\$157,454	\$0	\$157,454
Service fees receivable	7,248	0	7,248
Restricted cash	63,672	0	63,672
Capital assets	<u>0</u>	143,615	143,615
	<u>\$228,374</u>	143,615	371,989
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$7,984	0	7,984
Accrued liabilities	16,337	0	16,337
Unearned revenue from Travis County	37,749	0	37,749
Amounts held for Clancy Holdings	51,009	<u>0</u>	51,009
	113,079	<u>0</u>	113,079
FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION			
Fund balance			
Unassigned	115,295	(115,295)	0
	<u>\$228,374</u>		
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets		143,615	143,615
Unrestricted		115,295	115,295
			<u>\$258,910</u>

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

# YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	General <u>Fund</u>	Adjustments (Note 5)	Statement of Activities
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES			
Payroll and related	\$152,800	\$0	\$152,800
Contract and professional services	139,923	0	139,923
Capital outlay	85,543	(85,543)	0
Computer equipment, software, and web services	8,236	0	8,236
Groundwater research studies/projects	6,774	0	6,774
Depreciation	0	3,210	3,210
Other	14,513	<u>0</u>	14,513
	407,789	(82,333)	325,456
REVENUE			
Travis County Interlocal Agreement	213,397	0	213,397
Water utility service connection fee	53,000	0	53,000
Well drilling application fee	30,300	0	30,300
Production fees	25,131	0	25,131
Well construction fees	10,000	0	10,000
Other	<u>4,710</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,710</u>
	336,538	<u>0</u>	336,538
Change in fund balance/net position	(71,251)	82,333	11,082
Beginning fund balance/net position, restated	186,546	61,282	247,828
ENDING FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION	<u>\$115,295</u>	<u>\$143,615</u>	<u>\$258,910</u>

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### NOTE 1: ORGANIZATION

The Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District (District) was created by House Bill 4345, which became effective on 1 September 2017. Voters approved the creation of the District in November 2019, giving it the authority to manage and protect groundwater resources in its territory.

The District is led by a 7-member Board of Directors, who are elected by residents of the City of Bee Cave, the City of Lakeway, Village of the Hills, and the City of West Lake Hills, as well as by residents in the District's territory beyond the municipal boundaries of those listed municipalities.

The District's operation and activities are funded by fees. The District does not have the authority to impose property taxes.

#### NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the District conform to U.S. generally accepted accounting principles applicable to governments promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies.

#### GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The District is considered a special purpose government under GASB Statement No. 34. This allows the District to present the required fund and government-wide statements in a single schedule. The requirement for fund financial statements to be prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting is met with the "General Fund" column. An adjustment column includes those entries needed to convert to the full accrual basis government-wide statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities are government-wide financial statements. They report information on all of the District's activities.

# MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough there after to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers all revenues available if they are collectible within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred. Interest revenues associated with the current fiscal year are considered susceptible to accrual and have been recognized as revenues in the current fiscal year. All other revenue is considered measurable and available only when cash is received by the District.

#### **ESTIMATES**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect

the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### **NET POSITION**

Net position represents the difference between assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on its use either through the enabling legislation adopted by the District or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first and then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

#### **FUND BALANCES**

Fund balance of governmental funds is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The District can establish limitations of the use of resources through either a commitment or an assignment. When both unassigned and committed or assigned funds are available for expenditure, committed or assigned funds are used first.

Nonspendable fund balances are amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in a spendable form are legally or contractually required to be maintained in tact. Committed fund balances include amounts that can only be used for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board or adoption of an ordinance.

Limitations imposed by commitments remain in place until formal Board action is taken to remove the limitation. Amounts in the assigned fund balances are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be committed. Assignments are generally temporary and do not require Board action to be taken to remove the assignment.

#### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

Capital assets, which include furniture and equipment, monitoring wells, and 3D stratigraphic model, are reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Furniture and equipment, monitoring wells, and 3D stratigraphic model are depreciated using the straight line method over 5 years, 20 years, and 10 years, respectively.

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The District has evaluated subsequent events as of the date of the Independent Auditor's Report. The District is not aware of any subsequent events that materially impact the financial statements.

#### **BUDGET**

The Board of Directors establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of a resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as for special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the Board of Directors through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose (such as the purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service, or other purposes).

#### NOTE 3: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

At 30 September 2024 the carrying amount of the District's cash deposits was \$221,127 and the bank balance was \$235,142. The District did not have any deposits in excess of FDIC insurance.

#### NOTE 4: BUDGET

The District adopts an annual budget for each fiscal year and amends the budget as needed during the year. The District does not use an encumbrance system and appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year. Revenues and expenses were less than anticipated.

#### NOTE 5: RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Total fund balance-government funds	\$115,295
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in governmental funds. At the end of the year, the cost of these assets was \$74,199 and the accumulated depreciation was \$5,430. The effect of including the beginning balances for capital assets (net of depreciation) in the	
governmental activities is to increase net position.	143,615
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$258,910</u>
Net change in fund balances- government funds	\$(71,251)
Depreciation expense is not reflected in the governmental funds but is recorded in the government-wide financial statements as an expense.	(3,210)
The cost of capital assets are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements however is reflected in the governmental funds in expense.	85,543
Change in net position of governmental activities	<u>\$11,082</u>

# NOTE 6: RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage or destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The District contracts with the Texas Municipal League (TML) to provide insurance coverage for identified risks. TML is a multi-government group that provides for a combination of modified self-insurance and stop-loss coverage. Contributions are set annually by TML. Liability by the District is generally limited to the contributed amounts.

#### NOTE 7: TRAVIS COUNTY INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

The District entered into a cost reimbursement interlocal agreement with Travis County. Travis County will provide funding not to exceed \$200,000, of which \$50,000 is for scientific studies, technical consulting, and staffing and equipment to support the District's regulatory programs and groundwater monitoring network. This agreement took effect 1 October 2024 and terminates 30 September 2025.

## NOTE 8: CAPITAL ASSETS

	Beginning balance 9/30/2023	Additions	Retirements	Ending balance 9/30/2024
Capital assets in progress:				
3D model	\$37,089	\$37,757	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$74,846</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Furniture and equipment	1,132	0	0	1,132
Monitoring well	25,375	47,786	0	73,161
Accumulated depreciation	(2,314)	(3,210)	<u>0</u>	(5,524)
	24,193	44,576	<u>0</u>	68,769
	<u>\$61,282</u>	\$82,333	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$143,615</u>

#### **NOTE 9: LITIGATION**

The District is not actively involved in litigation during the year. They had two pending contested cases being held before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) related to permit applications under consideration by the District board of directors. In both cases the permit applicants requested the SOAH hearing. They are both administrative proceedings and not civil litigation. One of the cases was dismissed on 4 June 2025. The remaining case is in abatement while the parties purse settlement discussions.

#### NOTE 10: AMOUNTS HELD FOR OTHERS

The District received a \$50,000 payment from Clancy Holdings as a deposit to cover the costs of the SOAH hearing. Any portion of the deposit not spent will be refunded to Clancy Holdings. The unspent balance held as of year-end was \$51,009 which includes interest earned on the account..

#### NOTE 11: PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENT

At 30 September 2023, capital assets were understated by \$18,115, net investment in capital assets was understated by \$18,115 in the statement of net position. The change in net assets was understated by \$18,115. A prior period adjustment was recorded to correct beginning net position and beginning net investment in capital assets.

#### NOTE 12: RESTRICTED CASH

Cash related to Clancy Holdings deposit is required to be held in an escrow account. Cash related to the Travis County interlocal cooperation agreement grant is required to be held in a separate account and is restricted for grant purposes.

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND

# YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2024

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Amended Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Variance favorable (unfavorable)
REVENUE				
Travis County Interlocal Agreement	\$175,000	\$241,513	\$213,397	(\$28,116)
Water utility service connection fee	55,000	50,000	53,000	3,000
WDA application fee	37,100	32,000	28,500	(3,500)
Production fee	32,000	25,000	25,131	131
Well construction fee	5,000	10,000	10,000	0
Other	10,700	<u>4,625</u>	<u>6,510</u>	<u>1,885</u>
	314,800	363,138	336,538	(26,600)
EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES				
Payroll and related	177,307	156,128	152,800	3,328
Contract and professional services	66,400	146,550	139,923	6,627
Capital outlay	25,000	47,786	85,543	(37,757)
Computer equipment, software and web service	6,000	7,328	8,236	(908)
Technical operations	29,400	61,276	6,774	54,502
Other	8,081	7,409	14,513	(7,104)
Vehicle	2,000	2,500	0	2,500
Reserve funds	<u>612</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	314,800	428,977	407,789	21,188
Change in fund balance/net position	0	(65,839)	(71,251)	(5,412)
Beginning fund balance/net position	186,546	186,546	186,546	<u>0</u>
ENDING FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION	<u>\$186,546</u>	<u>\$120,707</u>	<u>\$115,295</u>	<u>(\$5,412)</u>