THE STATE OF TEXAS

* GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

COUNTY OF KENEDY

* OF KENEDY COUNTY, TEXAS

On the 26th day of August, 2025, at 9:00 AM, a regular meeting of the Kenedy County Groundwater Conservation District was held at the Kenedy County Courthouse Courtroom, Sarita, TX.

Directors present:

Edward Bordovsky, President Verl Cash, Vice-President Esteban Lopez, Secretary Justin Cantu, Member

Also present:

Andy Garza, General Manager Leo Villarreal, Administrative Assistant Chuck Burns, Kenedy County Judge Lica East Pinkston, Kenedy County landowner

Absent:

Sonny Burns, Member

1. Call Meeting to Order

Edward Bordovsky, President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and announced that a quorum was present.

2. Public Comments

No comments were offered.

3. Discuss & Act on Minutes of July 16, 2025 Regular Meeting

Edward Bordovsky presented the Directors with the July 16, 2025 regular meeting minutes.

Verl Cash moved and Esteban Lopez seconded the motion; the motion unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2025 regular meeting.

4. Receive General Manager's Activity Report & Act, If Necessary, Regarding:

- a. Communications
- b. Well registrations
- c. Brush Country GCD meeting
- d. Duval County GCD meeting

- e. 2025 Texas Groundwater Summit; August 19-21, 2025
- f. GMA-16 meeting; July 22, 2025
- g. TAGD Legislative Session Wrap-up
- h. Region N notes
- i. Quarterly drought report
- j. Summer, 2025 water level and water chemistry reports
- k. Cybersecurity training completion
- i. Lions Club vision screenings
- m. Leave request
- n. News articles
- o. Other

Andy Garza, General Manager, reported on the following:

- a. Communications: Garza reported that since the District's July 16, 2025 meeting, he had communicated with Cody Brice, TWDB field technician, regarding water chemistry results from June, 2025 sampling; George Kaiser, Border Patrol custodian, regarding difficulty encountered when measuring water level at Border Patrol checkpoint well; John Marez, South Texas Water Authority manager, regarding a tour of the desal plant in Brownsville, TX; Jose Armando Garza, Brownsville desal plant manager, regarding request for plant tour; Joey Ramirez, Armstrong Ranch manager, regarding information on temporary rig supply well and Dr. Alejandro Urias, Santa Fe Ranch manager, regarding information on the proposed desal plant in Driscoll, TX.
- <u>b. Well registrations</u>: Garza informed the Directors that King Ranch and Half Diamond Ranch had registered wells since the last meeting.
- c. Brush Country GCD meeting: Garza reported that the Brush Country GCD had met on July 22, 2025 in Falfurrias, TX and covered the highlights of the meeting.
- d. Duval County GCD meeting: Garza stated that the Duval County GCD had met on July 23, 2025 in Benavides, TX and covered the highlights of the meeting.
- e. 2025 Texas Groundwater Summit; August 19-21, 2025: Garza reported that the 2025 Texas Water Summit had been a huge success and reviewed some of the topics that were discussed at the summit.
- <u>f. GMA-16 meeting</u>; July 22, 2025: Garza informed the Directors that GMA-16 had met on July 22, 2025 and had taken action to provide comments on the proposed GAM to TWDB.
- g. TAGD Legislative Session Wrap-up: Garza provided the Directors with a copy of the legislative wrap-up that was prepared by TAGD and also reviewed 2 groundwater-related bills that have been filed in the current special session of the Texas legislature
- h. Region N notes: Garza reviewed with the Directors some notes regarding the MAG and the development of the regional water plan.

- i. Quarterly drought report: Garza provided the Directors with drought report prepared by the U.S. Drought Monitor.
- j. Summer, 2025 water level and water chemistry reports: Garza reviewed with the Directors the Summer, 2025 water level measurements and the water chemistry report. Garza stated that the GCD now has collected data for the last 14 years.
- <u>k. Cybersecurity training completion:</u> Garza reported that he had completed the required cybersecurity training.
- <u>l. Lions Club vision screenings:</u> Garza informed the Directors that between now and December, 2025, he would occasionally be taking time to do vision screenings at various schools in the area.
 - m. Leave request: Garza stated that he would be taking leave on September 2, 2025.
- n. News articles: Garza provided the Directors with news articles pertinent to groundwater issues.
 - o. Other: There was nothing to report.

Verl Cash moved and Justin Cantu seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the General Manager's report as presented and approve leave request.

5. <u>Discuss & Act on Kenedy County Certification of 2025 No New Revenue Tax and Voter Approval Tax Rates</u>

Garza reviewed the 2025 No New Revenue and Voter Approval tax rates as prepared by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

Esteban Lopez moved and Justin Cantu seconded the motion; the motion unanimously passed to accept the 2025 No New Revenue and Voter Approval tax rates as calculated by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

6. <u>Discuss & Act on Kenedy Certification of 2025 Total Appraised Value, Total Assessed Value, Total Taxable Value and Total New Property Taxable Value</u>

Edward Bordovsky reviewed with the Directors the total appraised, total assessed and total taxable values along with the total taxable value of new property as prepared by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

Justin Cantu moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the total appraised, total assessed and total taxable values along with the total taxable value for new property as prepared by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

7. Discuss & Act on Kenedy County Certification of 2025 Anticipated Collection Rate

Edward Bordovsky reviewed with the Directors the 2025 anticipated tax collection rate as prepared by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

Verl Cash moved and Esteban Lopez seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to accept the 2025 anticipated tax collection rate as prepared by the Kenedy County Tax Office.

8. Conduct 2026 Budget and 2025 Tax Rate Workshop

Andy Garza provided an overview of the proposed 2026 budget that was based on the No New Revenue tax rate as provided by the Kenedy County Tax Office. Line items pertaining to appraisal district allocations, legal, office supplies and well monitoring were adjusted to balance the budget. Edward Bordovsky recommended that the General Manager's salary be adjusted from \$64,750.00 to \$67,350.00 with the additional \$2,600.00 being moved from the line item pertaining to the manager trainee.

Being a report only, no vote was needed and none was taken.

9. Discuss & Act on Proposed 2026 Budget and Publish Hearing as Required by Law

Andy Garza and Leo Villarreal recommended that the proposed 2026 budget be in the amount of \$248,658.00.

Justin Cantu moved and Esteban Lopez seconded the motion; the motion unanimously passed that the 2026 proposed budget be in the amount of \$248,658.00.

10. Discuss & Act on Proposed 2025 Tax Rate and Publish Hearing as Required by Law

Andy Garza and Leo Villarreal recommended that the No New Revenue tax rate of \$0.017138/\$100.00 valuation as calculated by the Kenedy County Tax Office be the proposed tax rate for 2025.

Esteban Lopez moved and Justin Cantu seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously to propose the 2025 tax rate in the amount of \$0.017138/\$100.00 valuation.

11. Discuss & Act on 2nd Quarter, 2025 Investment Report

Leo Villarreal reviewed with the Directors the 2nd quarter, 2025 investment report and stated that the checking, corporate bonds and Texas Class accounts had collectively earned \$14,171.01 in interest during the 2nd quarter of 2025.

Justin Cantu moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion unanimously passed to accept the 2nd quarter, 2025 investment report as presented.

12. Receive Update on GCD Building

Leo Villarreal reported that a representative from the Levy Dykema architecture firm had visited the proposed construction site and prepared an estimate as to how much their services would cost. Villarreal explained that an architect was needed because public funds would be used to add on to a county-owned building. The cost estimate from Levy Dykema was in the \$50,000.00 range. Andy Garza suggested that perhaps the GCD could manage with the added room space offered by the Kenedy County Appraisal District and not pursue the room addition project. Edward Bordovsky and Verl Cash agreed to look at what is currently available to the GCD and proceed from there.

No vote was needed and none was taken on this item.

13. Discuss & Act on Date for Next Regular and Special Meetings

Edward Bordovsky informed the Directors that a date needed to be set for the next regular and special meetings.

Verl Cash moved and Esteban Cantu seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the next regular meeting be held on at 9:00 AM on September 17, 2025 and the special meeting be held at 11:00 AM on September 30, 2025.

14. Discuss & Act on Payment of Bills for August, 2025

Edward Bordovsky presented to the Directors the August, 2025 bills for consideration and payment.

Justin Cantu moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion unanimously passed to pay the bills for August, 2025 as presented

15. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the Board of Directors, Justin Cantu moved and Verl Cash seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously that the meeting be adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Esteban Lopez, secretary

ATTESTED TO:

Edward Bordovsky, President