



WEST-CENTRAL-Texas-MUNICIPAL-WATER-DISTRICT

410 Hickory Street, Abilene, TX 79601 · Phone 325-673-8254 · Fax 325-673-8272 · www.wctmwd.org

433rd Meeting of the Board of Directors

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTIES OF: JONES, SHACKELFORD, STEPHENS, TAYLOR, EASTLAND, AND PALO PINTO		REGULAR MEETING July 29, 2026, 9:30 AM ABILENE, TEXAS	
<u>DIRECTORS PRESENT</u>		<u>DIRECTORS ABSENT</u>	
<u>ABILENE</u>		<u>ABILENE</u>	
Dani Ramsay	Norm Archibald	Russell Berry	Anthony Williams
Sam Chase	Bob Benham		
<u>ALBANY</u>		<u>ALBANY</u>	
Randall Palmore	David Cleveland		
<u>ANSON</u>		<u>ANSON</u>	
Rowland Foster		Bob Herndon	
<u>BRECKENRIDGE</u>		<u>BRECKENRIDGE</u>	
Scott Harris		Jacob Cornwall	
<u>STAFF AND OTHER GUESTS PRESENT</u>			
Brian Yates, General Manager		Mark Zachary, Attorney	
Christy Ferguson, Admin Services Manager		Jeremy Walker, GIS Specialist	
Debbie Strayer, Finance/Admin Specialist		Blake Woodall, Planning & Dev. Manager	
Dawn Blankley, HR/Payroll Manager		Keith McLane, Assistant GM/OPS Mgr.	

Call to Order

President Sam Chase called the 433rd meeting of the West Central Texas Municipal Water District Board of Directors to order at 9:32 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, in accordance with the statutes of the State of Texas. A quorum was present.

Public Comment

President Chase opened for the Public Comment Period at 9:33 am. No one was present to comment so he closed Public Comments at 9:35 am.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes from the 431st Board Meeting (May 20, 2026)
2. Minutes from the 432nd Special Board Meeting (July 1, 2026)
3. Monthly Financial Statements (April-May 2026)
4. Quarterly Investment Report (Nine Months ending June 30, 2026)
5. Disbursement Reports (May-June 2026)
6. Travel and Training Report
7. Supplementary Surplus Declaration

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Archibald offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Longevity Certificate for Blake Woodall

President Chase presented Blake Woodall with a certificate to celebrate 10 years of service with the District. The Board joined President Chase in congratulating Mr. Woodall on his years of service to the District.

Current Water Supplies

Mr. Yates told the Board that as of July 22nd, Hubbard Creek Reservoir was at 1168.12 MSL, 41.4% full capacity and that the District is currently under Stage 1 drought control restrictions.

No Board action is needed.

Infrastructure Project Updates

Mr. Yates reported to the Board the progress on the following infrastructure projects:

- TWDB Funding
 - eHT assisted with the application process and it will be submitted by July 31
- SCADA Replacement
 - SOAP SCADA, LLC was awarded the contract for \$1.4 million
- Infrastructure Assessment
 - Garver has completed their fieldwork and Mr. Yates stated that he has requested a final report be submitted by the end of September. He also said that Garver present their findings to the Board at the November meeting.

No Board action is needed.

State Park Easement Renewal

Mr. Yates told the Board that when the District acquired the Brazos system in 2016, the District executed a 10-year easement with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to allow the continued crossing of the PK Pipeline through a small section of Possum Kingdom State Park. He said that the easement is now up for renewal at a cost of \$22,103.08 (adjusted for inflation) which is due on September 30, 2026. Mr. Yates stated that he did research if there were other options and that the District must pay for the easement.

Mr. Palmore made a motion to authorize Mr. Yates to execute a new 10-year easement with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Mr. Archibald offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Solar Farm Easement Crossing

Mr. Yates informed the Board that Samsung is putting in a Solar Farm which straddles the existing Ward B easement. He stated that they are still working on terms to allow access and protect the pipeline. Mr. Yates said that he is waiting for them to develop an Exhibit C for the easement which lists the specifics of the medium voltage power cables to connect their facilities north and south of the pipeline.

Mr. Harris offered a motion to authorize Mr. Yates to execute the crossing agreement subject to acceptability of an Exhibit C listing the cable connections as part of the easement. Mr. Benham offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Proposed FY 2027 Infrastructure Projects.

Mr. Yates told the Board after consideration of various infrastructure replacement needs, the District has developed the following list of proposed new projects for FY 2027:

• 2027-01 PK Pump # 4 + PRV Replacement	\$250,000
• 2027-02 Booster 2 Pump # 3 Replacement	\$220,000
• 2027-03 Exhaust Fan Replacement	\$ 60,000
• 2027-04 Cone Valve Replacement (X 3)	\$ 90,000
• 2027-05 Snorkel Intake Inspection	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
• Total Requested	<u>\$635,000</u>

Mr. Palmore made a motion to approve the proposed FY 2027 Infrastructure Projects as listed above. Mr. Archibald offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

TCDRS Contribution Rate and History

Mr. Yates addressed the Board stating that the TCDRS' current UAAL funded ratio is 93.0%. He said that the District has been making contributions at a higher elected rate of 9.56% since 2022 and he recommends maintaining this contribution rate for FY2027.

Mr. Harris made a motion to keep the TCDRS contribution rate at 9.56% for FY2027. Mr. Cleveland offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

A short five-minute break was taken at 10:55. Meeting reconvened at 11:00. A Quorum was still present.

Health Plan Options

Mr. Yates informed the Board that the District's current health plan with Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) is projected to increase 24.7% for FY2027. He said that Staff reviewed several options for health insurance and concluded that a similarly priced full-service plan would result in higher deductibles and copays. Mr. Yates told the Board that the District's Health Care Broker presented another option known as the Blue Balance Funded Plan. He explained that it is a self-funded insurance approach based on the District's actual claim history rather than regional claims experience. Mr. Yates said that in order to protect the District from catastrophic claim losses, part of the cost includes individual and aggregate premiums. He told the Board that the District's annual cost would be \$254,643 plus PCORI charges (Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute Fees: IRS Mandated Charges) with this option.

Mr. Harris made a motion to approve the Blue Balance Funded Plan as the health care plan option for the FY2027 budget. Mr. Benham offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Draft FY 2027 Budget

Mr. Yates reviewed with the Board the Draft Budget for FY 2027 and held a question and answer session regarding the proposed budget. He noted that the city contributions will increase mainly because of the electric plan changes that were made in June. He reminded the Board that the electric rates increased about 2 cents per kwh with the new blend/extend contract. He also highlighted that the General and Administrative Expenses were only increasing around .67% and the overall budget would be increasing around 6%.

Mr. Yates reminded the Board that this draft was for discussion purposes only and that they will review and approve the final budget draft in September.

Mr. Cleveland suggested that any future water requested by AI projects need to be approved by the Board.

No Board Action is needed.

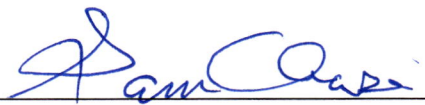
FY 2027 Board Calendar

Mr. Yates presented the FY 2027 Board Calendar to the Board and asked if anyone had any suggested changes and no changes were recommended.

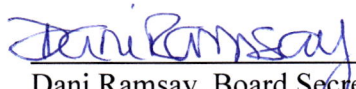
Mr. Palmore made a motion to approve the FY 2027 Board Calendar. Mr. Harris offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the Board, the 433rd meeting adjourned at 12:13 pm.

Approved this 2nd day of September, 2026.



Sam Chase, Board President



Dani Ramsay, Board Secretary