



WEST-CENTRAL TEXAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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

424th Meeting of the Board of Directors

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTIES OF: JONES, SHACKELFORD, STEPHENS, TAYLOR, EASTLAND, AND PALO PINTO		REGULAR MEETING March 26, 2025, 9:30 AM ABILENE, TEXAS	
<u>DIRECTORS PRESENT</u>		<u>DIRECTORS ABSENT</u>	
<u>ABILENE</u>		<u>ABILENE</u>	
Norm Archibald	Bob Benham	Russell Berry	
Sam Chase	Dani Ramsay		
Anthony Williams			
<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>	
Will Thompson	Scott Harris	<u>STAFF AND OTHER GUESTS PRESENT</u>	
Brian Yates, General Manager		Mark Zachary, Attorney	
Ronnie Tilly, Asst. GM/Operations Mgr.		Jeremy Walker, GIS Specialist	
Christy Ferguson, Admin Svcs. Manager		Debbie Strayer, Finance/Admin. Specialist	
Blake Woodall, Planning & Dev. Mgr.		Dawn Blankley, HR/Payroll Mgr.	

Call to Order

President Scott Harris called the 424th meeting of the West Central Texas Municipal Water District Board of Directors to order at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, in accordance with the statutes of the State of Texas. A quorum was present.

Public Comment

President Harris opened the public comment period at 9:30 am and stated that no one was in attendance for public comments, so he closed it at 9:30 am. President Harris then chose to move to the next agenda item which is the Consent Agenda.

Consent Agenda

President Harris asked for comments or concerns with the Consent Agenda items, which include:

- Minutes from the 423rd Board Meeting
- Financial Statements – December 2024 & January 2025
- Expense Vouchers – January-February 2025
- Travel and Training Report-January-February 2025

Mr. Chase motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as a whole. Mr. Palmore offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Regular Agenda

Current Water Supplies & Projections

Mr. Yates updated the Board on current HCR levels and noted that the District is currently under Stage 1 restrictions.

No Board action is needed.

PK Pump 1 Emergency Replacement

Mr. Yates discussed with the Board that Pump 1 at Possum Kingdom was pulled and after review was found to be damaged beyond repair. He said that the District accepted bids for pump replacement and that C & P Pump Services was awarded the bid. Mr. Yates told the Board that the cost to replace the pump was \$67,551.00 and the project was complete in a short period of time. He explained to the Board that Staff had to get a little creative when they installed the strainer since it did not fit exactly in the hole. He told the Board that pictures were included in the book showing the employees installing the strainer by boat.

No Board action is needed.

Mr. Archibald joined the meeting at 9:45 am.

Booster 1 Motor Control Replacement

Mr. Yates told the Board that the most recent Motor Control Replacement project has been ongoing since 2022. He said that all of the panels have been installed and tested and that the total amount of the contract was \$683,969. Mr. Yates stated that he will submit the project for closure once all final punch list items are complete.

No Board action is needed.

Boat Ramp Sign Installation

Mr. Yates updated the Board on the boat ramp sign installation project and reminded the Board that they directed Staff to install signs at the ramp entrances instead of putting up concrete barriers at the last meeting. He stated that the signs that were installed emphasize the hazardous conditions and advise boat operators to launch at their own risk. Mr. Yates reported the project is complete.

No Board action is needed.

Fort Griffin SUD (FGSUD) Contract

Mr. Yates discussed the proposed contract with FGSUD for Board approval. The Board shared concerns about the contract in regards to the length of the contract and whether it would benefit the City of Albany in the long run. President Harris commented that the pricing for the contract can be reviewed annually when the Board sets water rates. Mr. Yates reminded the Board that the contracts the District inherited from the Brazos River Authority state that FGSUD receives free transportation and that this contract could replace the existing one and transportation charges could be included.

Mr. Williams made a motion to approve the Fort Griffin SUD contract with an adjustment to section 10.03 signifying that FGSUD is giving up free water transportation from the District. Mr. Cleveland offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board took a short break at 10:45 am. Mr. Chase left the meeting at 10:55 am. A quorum was still present. Ms. Ramsay joined the meeting at 10:55 am and the Board reconvened in an open meeting at 10:55 am.

Pipeline Customer Service Agreement

Mr. Yates addressed the Board and stated that Staff would like to update the rate and fee structure for non member city (pipeline) customers as well as revise the District's existing pipeline customer agreements. He stated that the District has several versions of contracts for pipeline customers and he would like for the District to offer one contract for all pipeline customers instead of multiple varieties as we do now. Mr. Yates reviewed the revised Pipeline Customer Service Agreement with the Board. He told the Board that the intent is to implement this Agreement immediately for any new or renewing customers and to transition

existing customers to the new Agreement within the next six months with October 1, 2025 being the official start date of the new Agreement for existing customers.

Mr. Archibald made a motion to approve the proposed Pipeline Customer Service Agreement. Mr. Thompson offered a second and the motion passed unanimously.

System Rates and Fees

Mr. Yates told the Board that Hubbard Creek Reservoir (HCR) rates have not changed since 2010. He then held a discussion with the Board items listed below:

- Guiding principles for setting rates & fees – Mr. Yates highlighted that the law states to charge a reasonable and non discriminatory rate and the District's enabling legislation requires for charges to be billed per 1,000 gallons. He would like for the District to offer uniform rates for all non member city (pipeline) customers for water.
- Current rate structures – Mr. Yates reviewed the multiple rate structures that are billed currently and how time consuming it can be for Staff to process billings each month.
- Comparable rates and fees – Mr. Yates highlighted rates that other Districts and entities charge per 1,000 gallons and compared to the District's wide range of rates.
- Metering maintenance - Mr. Yates told the Board that he would like for the District to collect a monthly meter fee so that the District could use those funds to buy and repair meters and that all meters would be owned by the District.
- Water conservation & surcharges – Mr. Yates noted that the Agreement includes a section for water conservation and he is proposing a surcharge for water use that would reach 100,000 gallons per month for customers that use that amount.
- Impacts on customers at various set points – Mr. Yates stated that some customers will see a decrease in their billings but HCR customers will see an increase.
- Impact on District revenues – Mr. Yates told the Board that impact on the total revenues would be minimal especially since there are many meters that are currently receiving free water, but those customers will start paying for the water beginning October 1, 2025.

Mr. Yates offered the following rate recommendations to the Board:

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| • Base Raw Water Rate: | \$1.29 per 1,000 gallons |
| • Conservation Surcharge | \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons (\$1.49 total) |
| • Trigger for Conservation Surcharge | 100,000 gallons per month |
| • Monthly Meter Fee | \$20.00 per month for <u>each</u> meter |
| • Activation Fee | \$120.00 for each new unlocked meter |
| • Pipeline Tap Fee | \$2,500.00 for each new tap in pipeline |

Mr. Yates told the Board that these rates are only his suggestions and that they could offer any input they would like. The Board held a short discussion on the rates and then Mr. Benham made a motion to approve the Resolution setting raw water rates & fees with the rates included as Mr. Yates recommended. Mr. Thompson offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

President Harris announced the Board will enter Executive Session at 11:50 am. He identified the sections of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to be considered as those sections included on the agenda.

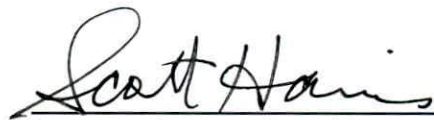
The Board opened in General Session at 12:08 pm.

President Harris assigned Mr. Archibald, Mr. Cleveland, and Mr. Thompson to serve as a nominating committee to assign Board Officers for June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026.

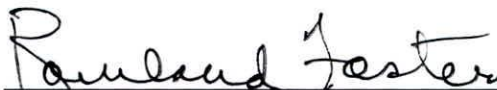
Mr. Thompson motioned to set a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Staff for the next fiscal year budget based off of the inflation rates as of the end of March each year. He noted that the COLA for FY2026 will include all employees which includes the General Manager. Mr. Herndon offered a second and the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business before the Board, the 424th meeting adjourned at 12:08 pm.

Approved this 21st day of May, 2025.



Scott Harris, Board President



Rowland Foster, Board Secretary