
Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District
Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2026

THE STATE OF TEXAS

VICTORIA COUNTY

The Board of Directors of the Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District convened a meeting at the Crossroads Plaza, Ste 104, 1501 E. Mockingbird Lane, Victoria, Texas on September 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM.

Item 1 - Convene Meeting and receive a report from the general manager.

Topic 1.1 - Roll Call

Mr. Meek called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and called the roll of representatives:

Present: Precinct 1 Director: Mr. Jerry Hroch, Vice President.

Present: Precinct 2 Director: Mr. Thurman Clements, Jr.

Present: Precinct 3 Director: Mrs. Barbara Dietzel, Secretary.

Present: Precinct 4 Director: Mr. Mark Meek, President.

Present: At Large Director: Mr. Kenneth Eller.

Present: General Manager: Tim Andruss.

Present: General Counsel: Jim Allison.

Item 2 - Receive Public Comment

No public comment given.

Item 9 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to administration and management including minutes of previous meetings, amendments to the annual budget, the tax rates, certified tax roll, bank accounts, investments, financial reports of the district, bills and invoices of the district, general elections, management goals and objectives of the district, administrative policies, staffing, consultant agreements, interlocal cooperation agreements, the annual report of the District, support services provided to and received from other groundwater conservation districts, Budget for Fiscal Year 2027, Public hearing regarding the Proposed Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026, Certified tax roll for Tax Year 2026, and November 2026 General Elections.

Topic 9.1 - Budget for FY2027

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

On August 7, 2026, the Board authorized the publication of a proposed a tax rate not exceeding the Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 of \$0.00724/\$100 of taxable value.

Management developed a draft budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2027, that attempts to fund the operations of the District in a manner which provides for 1) the accomplishment of the management plan goals and objectives, and 2) the completion of projects and tasks associated with the administration of the district, groundwater conservation, groundwater management and permitting, groundwater monitoring, groundwater policy development, groundwater protection, groundwater research, and groundwater resource planning.

To facilitate future comparisons of adopted budgets to financial audits and to simplify bookkeeping tasks, the draft budget has developed using a single fund referred to as the General Fund instead of developing a budget using two funds, Operating Fund and Reserve Fund.

The draft budget anticipates purchases and projects that are not routine in nature including funding for increased legal expenses, increased district fees, expanded water level assessment, increased legislative support expenditures, site-specific monitoring and assessments, CGCBGF Model improvements, expanded DFC modeling.

For the purposes of budgeting revenue, the draft budget anticipates the collection of \$839,200 in tax revenue based on the computed tax levy for the proposed tax rate for Tax Year 2026 of \$0.00723/\$100 of taxable value (a tax rate below the Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026). The draft budget anticipates the expenditure and reimbursement of \$158,500 for the implementation of the TWDB grant-funded subsidence study.

Board Action: Mr. Clements moved to adopt the budget for Fiscal Year 2027 by order, as drafted. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.2 - Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

On August 7, 2026, the public notice requirements were completed for the proposed tax rate for Tax Year 2026.

Board Action: Public Hearing regarding the proposed tax rate was open at 9:14 AM.

Mr. Clements moved to close the public hearing after accepting public comment regarding the proposed tax rate at 9:16 AM. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Clements moved to adopt a tax rate of \$0.00723/\$100 of taxable value as the adopted tax rate by order. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.3 - Appraisal Roll for Tax Year 2026

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

On August 5, 2026, the District received corrected documentation related to the corrected 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet from the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector.

The 2026 Certified Appraisal Roll should be adopted by order.

Board Action: Mr. Clements moved to accept and approve the appraisal roll for Tax Year 2026 and adopt the Order Approving the 2026 Appraisal Roll.

Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.4 - November 2026 General Elections

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

The terms of the following offices are scheduled to expire in 2026: Director, Precinct 1; (currently held by Mr. Jerry Hroch); Director, Precinct 3; (currently held by Mrs. Barbara Dietzel).

On June 18, 2026, the District posted the Notice Of Deadline to File An Application for Place on the Ballot as approved by Mr. Andruss, General Manager of the District, with the end of the filing period identified as August 21, 2026.

On August 10, 2026, the District posted a updated Notice Of Deadline to File An Application for Place on the Ballot as approved by Mr. Andruss, General Manager of the District, with the end of the filing period identified as August 17, 2026.

The District received applications for a place on the ballot from Mr. Hroch for the Director, Precinct 1 Office and Mr. Meacham for the Director, Precinct 3 Office before 5:00 PM on August 17, 2026.

The District received an application for a place on the ballot from Mr. Hawn for the Director, Precinct 1 Office before 5:00 PM on August 21, 2026, after the corrected deadline for filing an application.

The District did not receive write-in applications by 5:00 PM on August 21, 2026.

On August 24, 2026, after reviewing Mr. Hawn's application and consulting with legal counsel, Mr. Andruss notified Mr. Hawn that his application was rejected. The application was reject because 1) Mr. Hawn was not a resident or registered voter of County Commissioner Precinct 1 and 2) Mr. Hawn filed the application after the filing deadline. Mr. Andruss notified Mr. Hawn that this matter would be presented to the Board with an apology for the impact of the original notice error.

As a result of receiving only one application for a place on the ballot for each office up for election, it is appropriate for the Board to cancel the election for November 2026 by order after the certification of unopposed candidates are executed by the Ms.

Dietzel, Board Secretary.

Board Action: The Board went into closed executive session at 9:32 AM, and concluded at 9:38 AM. Mr. Clements moved to cancel the election for all positions by order. Mr. Hroch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.5 - Investment Report

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

The investment reports for May, June, and July 2026 have been developed by Lisa Ramirez, Administrator Coordinator, and reviewed and approved by Caitlynn Davenport, Investment Officer of the District, and were sent to the directors prior to the meeting.

The balance of all funds of the district as of July 31, 2026, was \$5,810,102.80.

Board Action: Mr. Clements moved to accept the investment reports for May, June and July 2026. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.6 - Unpaid Invoices

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

The District has outstanding bills and invoices that are NOT considered regular and routine nor has the Board previously authorized the requested payment.

Board Action: Mr. Clements moved to authorize the general manager to pay the following items:

1. ACCTP-20260911-01 - \$1,186.36 - Tim Andruss - TEC-20260805-01
2. ACCTP-20260911-02 - \$250.00 - Kenneth Eller - September Meeting
3. ACCTP-20260911-03 - \$250.00 - Barbara Dietzel - September Meeting
4. ACCTP-20260911-04 - \$250.00 - Jerry Hroch - September Meeting

Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 9.7 - Equipment Purchase

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

The District needs to purchase the following equipment and services to support aquifer monitoring activities and permitting activities:

1. 1 Field Laptop - \$1,000.00
2. 2 TLC Meters - \$4,500.00
3. 2 Discrete Interval Samplers - \$5,000.00
4. Additional GIS Cloud Subscriptions - \$4,500.00

Board Action: Mr. Clements moved to authorize the general manager to purchase the needed field equipment and services. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 10 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to legal counsel report.

Topic 10.0 - Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Allison was present and gave his report.

Item 11 - Adjourn

Topic 11.0 - Adjourn Meeting

Board Action:

Mr. Clements moved to adjourn the meeting after concluding all business of the District at approximately 9:52 AM. Mr. Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE _____ DAY OF _____ A.D. _____.

Director of the
Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District

ATTEST:

Director of the
Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District