

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
BRUSH COUNTRY GROUNDWATER §
CONSERVATION DISTRICT §

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. and the roll was called. Board members' presence at the meeting or absence is as follows:

- Also in attendance were General Manager Luis Pena, Emily Rogers Legal Counsel. Marco Ramirez administrative assistant Brush Country GCD, Robert Howard Legislative consultant. Andy Garza General Manager Kenedy County GCD. George Gonzalez General Manager Duval County GCD. Also, in attendance Mrs. Irma Menchaca Brooks County Resident. Tim May ITC corporation.

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- A. Report on Kenedy County GCD meeting March 19th, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m. Mr. Pena asked Mr. Andy Garza to give a brief update on his meeting, Mr. Garza mentioned that for the GMA 16 the new GAM was posted for public comment period. Mr. Garza mentioned that they had given their tax collections update, also mentioned purchasing chairs for the courtroom. Mr. Garza also mentioned that on the water level reports he had one well that had actually gone up and came out of the casing.
 - B. Report on Duval County GCD March 25th, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m. Mr. Pena asked George Gonzalez to give a brief report, Mr. Gonzalez mentioned that they had a Healthy Streams Workshop, had 72 attendees, had speakers talk about the watershed. Had one speaker talk about prescribed burning and ranch management, another speaker mentioned Nilgai impact and feral hogs creating bacteria.
 - C. Report on visit to Brownsville Public Utilities Plant March 11th, 2025. Mr. Pena mentioned that the tour was very informative, 17 wells at approximately 350 to 400 feet deep producing 30 percent of the water used in Brownsville comes from this desal/brackish water plant. Also mentioned that out of 100 gallons produced, the ratio is 75% fresh and 25% would be the discharge.
 - D. Report on Spring water level reports. Mr. Pena mentioned that they were only half way complete with the water levels.
 - E. Report on Statewide Priority Water Bills. Mr. Pena gave a summary on the Statewide Priority Water Bills In November 2023, Texas voters approved the creation of the Texas Water Fund and unlocked \$1 billion to help finance water infrastructure. In February, Governor Greg Abbott announced a “Texas sized investment in water infrastructure” as an emergency item. Informational purposes only.
6. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on approving financial statement and investment/pledge report 2025. Mr. Pena presented the financial statement for the month of February. He mentioned that the tax collection account has a balance of \$515,833.68. The operating account has a balance of \$17,010.10 and the reserve account has a balance of \$2,056,204.20. All three accounts total \$2,589,047.98. The interest earned on all three accounts for February 25 \$7,25.68 and for the fiscal year interest earned \$44,819.00. Mr. Pena also mentioned that the pledge report was from January and Mrs. Ericelda De Leon had called and mentioned that she was adding \$100,000 more to be pledged sufficiently. Motion made by Paul Goranson to accept the financial statement and pledge report as presented. Seconded by Burt Martinez, motion carries unanimously.
 7. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on unauthorized transactions from District’s bank account. Mr. Pena mentioned that he had emailed Texas Ranger Ed Groves, no new reports at this time. Informational purposes only.
 8. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on Texas Drought Monitor. Mr. Pena showed the map of Texas. Our area is still under severe drought conditions. A motion was made by Paul Goranson to accept the drought monitor as presented, seconded by Bill Botard, motion carries unanimously.

9. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on appointing a replacement for the remainder of unexpired term vacated by the passing of A.C. (Dick) Jones IV for the agricultural interests of Jim Hogg County. Jessie Howell made the motion to appoint Whit Jones III (son of Dick Jones IV), seconded by Paul Goranson, motion carries unanimously.
10. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on proposal from ITC Corporation on ADA compliance on Website. Motion was made by Bill Botard to accept the proposal from ITC Corporation on ADA compliance presented by Tim May ITC, motion was seconded by Bob Scott, motion carries unanimously.
11. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Interlocal Agreement with Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool. Mr. Pena mentioned that he had Mrs. Ashley Martin from Texas Municipal League via telephone, policy to add core plus. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to add core plus coverage and sign the interlocal agreement, motion was seconded by Humberto Martinez, motion carries unanimously.
12. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on payment of bills for March 2025. Mr. Pena mentioned that the bills may seem a little higher than usual since all the taxing entities/tax collections were all being paid at the same time. Motion was made by Paul Goranson to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Bob Scott, motion carries unanimously.
13. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on legislative report from Robert Howard. Mr. Robert Howard mentioned that the deadline for filing bills was March 14, 2025. He mentioned that 33 bills had been sent to the legislative committee which were considered "Actionable Bills" as a batch of bills. He mentioned that with the drought the City of Mathis was having drought problems. Mr. Howard also mentioned HB 1689 on mitigation. Mr. Howard mentioned as a follow up on the Statewide priority bills that Mr. Pena had previously mentioned in his general managers report. Informational purposes only.
14. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on GMA 16 issues. Mr. Pena mentioned that the next meeting of the GMA 16 would be held on April 22nd, 2025. Informational purposes only.
15. Discuss, consider, and possibly act on new business and select date for next meeting. New business would be Whit Jones III to replace the vacancy created by the unexpected passing of A.C. Jones IV to represent the agricultural interests in Jim Hogg County for the term that expires in July 2028.
16. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn at 10:53 a.m. was made by Paul Goranson, seconded by Bill Botard, motion carries unanimously.

Passed and approved this 25th, day of March, 2025.

President, Board of Directors

Attest by:

Secretary, Board of Directors