

Minutes
Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting
January 8, 2025

The Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") Board of Directors held their meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at the La Salle County Airport Jet Center, 550 Airport Road, Cotulla, Texas.

1. President Bill Martin called the meeting to order at 11:58 a.m.
2. Directors present were President Martin; Vice-President J. R. Ramirez; Secretary Chris Meyer; and Director Martin Kruger. Staff present were General Manager Debbie Farmer and Field Technician Paula VanCleve. Legal counsel, Peter Gregg, and Technical Consultant, Ron Green, were in attendance. Visitors present were Diana Nichols – Kelly Hart; Mary Adair – Branscomb Law; Gary and Beverly Box; E.T. Page, representative for the City of Cotulla; Gary and Beverly Box; and Brian and Tracy Marbury.
3. There was no public comment.
4. The minutes of the November 13, 2024 Board Meeting and the November 18, 2024 Board Meeting and Work Session were reviewed. Vice-President Ramirez made a motion to approve the minutes for both meetings as reviewed. Secretary Meyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
5. The financial statements and bills for payment for the months of November and December 2024 were reviewed. Vice-President Ramirez made a motion to approve the financial statements and bills for payment as reviewed. Secretary Meyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
6. General Manager Farmer presented the Manager's Report for the months of November and December 2024.
7. The Board has received a written letter of resignation of Treasurer Mario Escobar. President Martin noted that Ed Ritchie of Zavala County would be willing to serve as director to fill the Zavala County Director vacancy. Secretary Meyer made a motion publish a notice in the newspaper in Zavala County and to post on the District's website allowing the public to be aware of the vacancy and submit qualifications to the District for consideration. Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Agenda Item 8 was tabled until the end of the meeting.
9. A draft of the District's Complaint Form was discussed and reviewed. Secretary Meyer made a motion to approve the Complaint Form as reviewed and to allow a complaint to be filed anonymously, without the requirement of a signature. Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.
- 10-12. Dr. Ron Green presented a slideshow for Agenda Items 10, 11, and 12 "Evaluating Water Resources in the Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District" covering the subjects of "Preparing for Next Cycle of Joint Planning," "Future Health of the Aquifer," and "Retrievable Storage."
13. Secretary Meyer presented an update regarding the review of the District's rules by the committee of Secretary Meyer, Vice-President Ramirez, and Director Von Box. The only suggested rule change would be to change the "end user" to "end use" to match Texas Water Code Chapter 36. The only other suggestion was to review the application and attempt to make it user friendly.

14. E. T. Page – City of Cotulla (the “City”) discussed the City’s plans to establish a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ,) and to request the District to consider issuing a letter of support that would include no opposition to the inventory (ad valorem) tax exemption. There was no action taken.
15. The annual personnel evaluation for GM Farmer was tabled until the next Director’s meeting.
16. The requirement of TWC Chapter 36 and the District’s Investment Policy to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) from the banks within the District was discussed. The RFQs received will be reviewed by the Board to choose a bank to serve as depository for the District’s funds.

Agenda Item 8:

Pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.071, President Martin announced the Board would go into Executive Session for the purpose of a private consultation with the Board’s attorney to discuss the Hearing Procedure for the Patti Coleman Application to Amend Existing Permit No. PD00574.

President Martin recessed the regular meeting at 1:46 p.m.

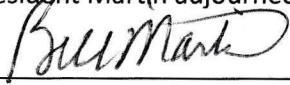
President Martin called the Executive Session to order at 1:47 p.m.

President Martin adjourned the Executive Session at 1:58 p.m.

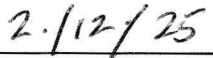
President Martin reconvened the regular meeting at 1:59 p.m.

Secretary Meyer made a motion to refer the application to the State Office of Administration (SOAH.) Vice-President Ramirez seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

17. Other Business: GM Farmer discussed the possibility of purchasing IPADS and appropriate software to be used by the Directors in Board meetings.
18. Vice-President Ramirez made a motion to adjourn. Director Martin Kruger seconded the motion. President Martin adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.



Bill Martin, President



Date



Chris Meyer, Secretary



Date

Wintergarden Groundwater Conservation District
 Board of Directors Meeting
 January 8, 2025

Sign-in Sheet

Name	Company/Title
Debbie Farmer	GM/WGCD
Paula VanCleve	Field Technician
E.T. PAGE III	CITY OF COTULLA / AIRPORT
Ron Green	Consultant
Christopher R. Meyer Dee Marie	DIRECTOR LASALLE DIMMIT CO.
Diana Nichols	Kelly Hart
J.R. Ramirez	Director
Mary Odair	Branscomb Jew
BRIAN & Tracy MARBURY	
Marty Kugler	DIRECTOR - LASALLE
Mary Bot	
Peter Gregory	Counsel