HEMPHILL COUNTY Underground Water Conservation District Conserving a Texas Oasis

MINUTES OF THE

Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District

Board Meeting
June 19, 2023, @ 5:30 P.M
Hemphill County UWCD District Board Room

The Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District Board met with the following in attendance: Marty Carr, Spencer Hanes, Elizabeth Light, Tom Isaacs and Craig Cowden.

Others Present: Janet Guthrie-General Manager HCUWCD, Lucas Moreno, Intern for HCUWCD, Kaycee Long, Field Tech HCUWCD and Michelle Sutherland, Technical Consultant

Members Absent: Non

1) ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Following roll call President Marty Carr established a quorum of the Board was present and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. on 06-19-2023.

2)Public Comment

None

3) Consent Agenda

(a) Review and Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting held as follows

• May 25, 2023

<u>Action:</u> Motioned by Spencer Hanes and seconded by Tom Isaacs to approve Consent Agenda Item 3 (a)

Vote:4-0 In Favor

4)Action Agenda-These items may not have been addressed in the order in which they are listed:

a. Award Depository for Banking Services

Action: Motion by Elizabeth Light and Seconded by Craig Cowden move the board accept the proposal for Depository Contract for Banking Services to InterBank for a two year period commending August 1, 2023 and ending July 31, 2025 with the option to renew the same terms and conditions for another two years if both parties agree.

Vote: 5-0

b. Hear presentation form Michelle Sutherland of new cross section maps, update to the 3D Visualization Model and present the well bore drilling tool

Michelle Sutherland explained the difference between a visualization model and a groundwater availability model. Mrs. Sutherland reported the 3D Model now has over 2600 data points and the red bed elevation has 20 new pics since 2016. The water elevation has 109 data points. Mrs. Sutherland reviewed each scene from the model and explained the basis of the scene and what is depicted. Mrs. Sutherland presented the Well Bore Drilling Tool and demonstrated how the tool would work despite the display difficulties. The final presentation was the cross section maps. Mrs. Sutherland defined the Ogallala as an unconfined aquifer and demonstrated that water does indeed flow downhill. Mrs. Sutherland opened the floor to questions, and she was asked about the indentions in the red bed and Mrs. Sutherland explained it was evidence of collapsed features and erosion.

<u>Action:</u> Motion by Spencer Hanes second by Tom Isaacs for the District accept the update to the 3D Visualization Model, Cross Section Maps and completion of training to the staff and board by Michelle Sutherland and authorize payment upon receipt of an invoice in the amount of \$9,000.00 **Vote:** 5-0

(c). Take up, consider and take action on Contract with Michelle Sutherland for Technical Services

<u>Action:</u> Motion by Craig Cowden and Seconded by Elizabeth Light to approve the contract for Technical Services with Michelle Sutherland to commence on June 19, 2023 and end on September 30, 2024 in the amount not to exceed \$38,000 or \$19,000 per fiscal year.

Vote: 5-0

(d) Authorize seeking bid from Doshier, Pickens and Francis LLC for financial audit services for fiscal year ending September 30, 2023

<u>Action:</u> Motioned by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Spencer Hanes to authorize the General Manager to invite the firm of Doshier Pickens and Francis LLC to submit a proposal for financial audit services for fiscal year ending September 30, 2023.

Vote: 5-0 In Favor

(e) Take Up, Consider and Take Action on Management Report from General Manager, discussing recent meetings attended, well Registrations and permits acted on by the General Manager, status of any administratively incomplete applications, field and water quality lab activity report, activities related to District's Education program, rainfall information

Action: Motioned by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Spencer Hanes to approve the management

<u>Action:</u> Motioned by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Spencer Hanes to approve the management report for May 2023.

Vote: 5-0 In Favor

(f) Take Up, Consider and Take Action to Approve May 2023, Financial Reports, Ratify Bills Paid for May 2023

<u>Action:</u> Motioned by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Criag Cowden for the board to approve the May 2023, financial reports and ratify the bills paid in May 2023.

Vote: 5-0 In Favor

(g) Legislative Update

GM Janet Guthrie provided a list of bills that had become law and those that were still to be considered by the Governor. Mrs. Guthrie pointed out that several bills would require rule amendments to implement new procedures and exemptions.

Action: No Action – discussion item only

Vote: None taken

(h) Budget Work Session FY 2023-2024

General Manager Janet Guthrie presented a draft budget that had the estimated tax roll at the same rate. Mrs. Guthrie advised the board that she will have certified values by June 25, 2023 and would have the 3 required tax rates for consideration at the next board meeting. The board worked through several items of discussion. The board advised the GM:

- 1. Capital Outlay get bid from Michael Kerrigan
- 2. Field Contract proceed with same network of WL site and offer to Jeff Hohertz
- 3. WL Maps in name of Contractor
- 4.Insurance TML options discussed Action under Agenda item 4(i) TML Option 1 same allocations to family and Health Savings Account but keep option open to other alternative insurance sources.
- 5. Payroll discussion was to keep the hours allocated for an intern and give 3% pay increase to field technician
- 6. TWDB Grant Application not now
- 7. Legislative Consultant place holder for new contract

<u>Action:</u> No Action – discussion item only with directives for future items of consideration and action.

Vote: No vote taken

(i) Take up consider and take action to Select Medical, Dental and Vision insurance provider and plan for fiscal year 2023-2024

<u>Action:</u> motion by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Spencer Hanes to obtain Medical, Dental and Vision Insurance with TML Option 1 medical plan and provide \$200 contribution toward family medical and make a \$3,000 contribution to each employee's Health Savings Account to offset the increase in the deductible.

Vote: 5-0 in Favor

(j) Rules Work Session to discuss Chapter 5

<u>Action:</u> No Action – discussion item only – Discussed different allocation amounts and methods.

Vote: No vote taken

(5) Discussion Agenda

(a) Discuss Items for Future Board Meeting Agenda and Set Next Meeting Date and Time Action: following open discussion, the next meeting date will be July 20, 2023 at 5:30 pm.

6.) Adjournment

<u>Action:</u> Motioned by Elizabeth Light and seconded by Craig Cowden for the board to adjourn at 9:01 pm.

Vote: 5-0 In Favor

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Marty Carr, President
Elizabeth Light, Secretary