

**Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting**  
**700 Kennedy Court**  
**Belton, TX**  
**Wednesday, September 8, 2021**  
**Minutes**

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a Board meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at the Clearwater UWCD Building, located at 700 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas.

**Board Members Present:**

Leland Gersbach, President, Pct 1  
David Cole, Vice President, At Large  
Gary Young, Secretary, Pct 2  
Jody Williams, Director, Pct 3  
Scott Brooks, Director, Pct 4

**Absent:**

**Staff:**

Dirk Aaron, General Manager  
Shelly Chapman, Admin Manager

**Guest:**

Steve Manning – NRS	Steve Young – Intera	Neil Deeds – Intera
Madelyn Todd - NRS	Brandon Belt – Coryell County Attorney	
James Beach – AGS	David Blackburn – Bell County Judge	
Cole Ruiz – Lloyd Gosselink	Sandra Blankenship – WCID #1	

**Workshop convened with President, Leland Gersbach at 1:30 p.m.**

**Workshop Item #1: Receive update from INTERA on items related to Aquifer Storage and Recovery Feasibility Study.**

Received presentation from Neil Deeds and Steve Young on the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Feasibility Study.

**Workshop Item #2: Receive update on Bell County Adaptive Management Coalition related to the Species Status Assessment.**

Received presentation from Maddie Todd with NRS on matters related to the Species Status Assessment.

**Workshop Item #3: Receive update from Judge David Blackburn on items related to the RHCP.**

Judge Blackburn gave an update and explanation of the RHCP, what it means for Bell County, and the importance of collaboration with Coryell County.

**Workshop Item #4: Receive update related to the 2021 Bell County Water Symposium.**

Dirk gave an update on plans for the Bell County Water Symposium. The venue has changed to the Bell County Expo Center – Assembly Hall. The date of the Symposium has changed to November 17<sup>th</sup>. Because of the rise in Covid cases in our area, there was a concern that Texas A & M – Central Texas would require the District to limit the number of attendees in order to social distance. Having the event at the Expo Center will allow for more people to attend and still maintain social distancing.

Dirk presented the theme of the event and discussed some of the topics to be discussed.

**Workshop closed and regular Board meeting convened with President, Leland Gersbach, at 3:59 p.m.**

**1. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.**

Vice President, David Cole, gave the invocation.  
Secretary, Gary Young, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Public Comment.**

None.

**3. Approve minutes of the August 25, 2021 Board meeting.**

Board members received the minutes of the August 25, 2021 Board meeting and workshop in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2021 Board meeting and Workshop. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**4. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to accept the monthly financial report for August 2021 (FY21) as presented.***

Board members received the monthly financial report for August 2021 in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Vice President, David Cole, moved to accept the monthly financial report for August 2021 as presented. Secretary, Gary Young, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**5. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to accept the monthly Investment Fund Account report for August 2021 (FY21) as presented.***

Board members received the monthly investment fund account report for August 2021 in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Director, Scott Brooks, moved to accept the monthly investment fund account report for July 2021 as presented. Director, Jody Williams, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**6. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to approve the FY21 line-item budget amendments as requested.***

Shelly Chapman noted there were no budget amendment requests at this time.

**7. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to approve employment contract with the District General Manager.***

The Board pointed out certain language laid out in the contract and suggested changes. Concerns that this was not reviewed by the District's legal counsel were mentioned. After much discussion regarding other details of the contract, it was decided to table this item until the next meeting in order to make changes and clean up certain language within the contract and possible legal review.

Vice President, David Cole, moved to table this item until the next meeting. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**8. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary, to direct the District GM to determine process for establishing a method of legal live broadcasting Board meetings in accordance with the open meetings act.***

Dirk spoke with the District's attorney regarding live broadcasting of Board meetings. He explained the rules required in order for the meetings to be properly/legally conducted. Dirk noted that it would be an expensive task to properly equip the Board room for live streaming. The Board advised GM to continue to be aware of options for live streaming meetings.

No action taken.

**9. *General Manager's report concerning office management and staffing related to District Management Plan.***

- Working on sponsorship for the Water Symposium. AgriLife will be assisting with the event. Water Ambassadors will man a booth.

- There are a couple of permits on the horizon. JHM is requesting an increase to their aggregate permit. Stillman Valley Ranchettes will be doing a groundwater availability study for the project.
- Platting of land has accelerated. Fielding numerous calls from developers asking lots of questions.
- Need to formalize role with County to conduct a full evaluation of the groundwater availability studies. This would require an MOU with the County.
- Victory Rock is NOT using their well. Dirk has verified this. They have received their permits and are moving forward to get their well done. They have chosen not to utilize the 2 acre-ft given to them since they are not currently operating.

**10. Review monthly report and possible consideration and Board action on the following:**

- Drought Status Reports***
- Education Outreach Update***
- Monitoring Wells***
- Rainfall Reports***
- Well Registration Update***
- Aquifer Status Report & Non-exempt Monthly Well Production Reports***

(Copiers of the Monthly Staff Reports were given to the Board Members to review. No action required. Information items only.)

**11. Director's comments and reports.**

- **Leland Gersbach:** Commented how impressed he is with Judge Blackburn. He stated that he is the best Judge the County has had as far as management goes and his forward thinking.
- **Jody Williams:** None
- **Gary Young:** Thanked Dirk for bringing in Judge Blackburn and the other consultants to talk about ASR. He really enjoyed it.
- **Scott Brooks:** Encouraged Dirk to look into the Federal funds that might be available to compliment the District's budget. These funds could give the District room to continue scientific studies and provide competitive salaries.
- **David Cole:** None

**12. Discuss agenda items for the next meeting.**


- Permits – JHM and possible Stillman Valley Ranchettes.
- Revisit tabled agenda item #7 regarding employment contract for District GM.

**13. Set time and place of next meeting.**

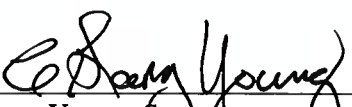
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

**14. Adjourn.**

**Board meeting adjourned with President, Leland Gersbach, at 5:12 p.m.**

  
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 Leland Gersbach, President

**ATTEST:**

  
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 Gary Young, Secretary or  
 Dirk Aaron, Assistant Secretary