

**Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting**  
**640 Kennedy Court**  
**Belton, TX**  
**Wednesday, August 13, 2025**  
**Minutes**

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a Workshop and Board meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, in the Clearwater UWCD Board Room located at 640 Kennedy Court, Belton, Texas.

**Board Members Present:**

Jody Williams, President, Pct 3  
Leland Gersbach, Vice Pres, Pct 1  
Gary Young, Secretary, Pct 2  
Scott Brooks, Director, Pct 4  
Jim Brown, Director, At-Large

**Absent:**

**Staff:**

Dirk Aaron, General Manager  
Whitney Ingram, Asst. General Manager  
Shelly Chapman, Admin. Manager

**Guests:**

Mike Keester – KT Groundwater  
Chuck Brashear  
Cole Ruiz – Lloyd Gosselink (online)

Neil Deeds – Intera  
Peter DiLillo

Sandra Blankenship – WCID#1  
Steve Dowell – Morgan’s Point Resort

**Workshop convened with President, Jody Williams, at 1:30 p.m.**

**Workshop Item #1: Receive information related to the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session and Groundwater Legislation.**

Dirk Aaron briefed the Board on Groundwater Legislation related to this Legislative session. He highlighted HB215, HB216, HB217, and HB218. Cole Ruiz also gave some insight on these bills.

**Workshop Item #2: Receive information related to the FY26 Tax Rate and District Budget.**

Whitney presented items of interest related to the FY26 Tax Rate and District budget. She presented study and data enhancement proposals. She presented additional considerations to the proposed FY26 budget to include an additional increase in salary for Tristin Smith.

Whitney asked the Board to review the draft budget worksheet and consider funding recommendations as presented.

The Board discussed proposed budget and conveyed their thoughts related to a proposed tax rate.

**Workshop Item #3: Receive proposed redline changes to the District Rules.**

Whitney presented redline changes to the District Rules. The proposed revisions and amendments incorporate changes made to Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code by the 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature. Cole answered questions related to the changes.

**Workshop Item #4: Receive proposed redline changes to the Administrative Fee Schedule.**

In January 2025, the Board discussed establishing an annual review and associated hearing of the Administrative Fee Schedule to take place before the adoption of the district budget. Whitney presented background related to the changes. She presented the proposed changes and noted that all changes will be adopted, by resolution, at the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and will take effect immediately. In January of 2026, the staff will invoice for transport fees incurred during calendar year 2025 according to the new rate adopted in the Administrative Fee schedule.

**Workshop Item #5: Discuss plans for the 2025 Bell County Water Symposium.**

Whitney noted that the date for the 2025 Bell County Water Symposium has been set for November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Candence Bank Center. She is currently working on discussion topics and speakers.

**Workshop Item #6: Receive updates related to GMA8 DFC determination, per TWC section 36. 108, and plans for the next round.**

Neil Deeds (Intera) gave an update on the draft model. He noted that all changes have been completed, and they should have results of the run in the next couple of weeks.

Whitney inquired about the appointment of representatives to GMA 8 once Dirk retires. Dirk commented that Whitney will step into his place, and the Board can appoint an alternate. Jody stated that Gary is currently the alternate and asked if he would like to continue serving in that capacity for GMA 8. Gary confirmed that he would still like to continue as alternate for GMA 8. Whitney will draft a letter for GMA 8 stating that she will be replacing Dirk at GMA 8 and Gary will continue to serve as her alternate.

**Workshop closed with President, Jody Williams, at 3:47 p.m.**

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

President Jody Williams lead the invocation.

Secretary, Gary Young, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. *Public Comment.***

No public comments.

**3. *Approve minutes of July 9, 2025, Board meeting and workshop.***

Board members received the minutes of July 9, 2025, Board meeting and workshop in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Vice President, Leland Gersbach, moved to approve the minutes of July 9, 2025, Board meeting and Workshop as presented. 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 July 2025 (FY25) as presented.***

Board members received the monthly financial report for July 2025 in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Director, Jim Brown, moved to accept the July 2025 financial report 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 July 2025 (FY25) as presented.***

Board members received the monthly investment Fund account report for July 2025 in their Board packet to be reviewed prior to the meeting.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to accept the monthly Investment Fund account report for July 2025 as presented. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**6. *Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to approve the FY25 line-item budget amendments as requested.***

Shelly presented the line-item budget amendment request as follows:

**1. Baylor University – line-item 53110.4 Spring Shed (Baylor Study – AJ):**

At the Board meeting in July, the Board directed staff to make the final payment for the sponsored study in the FY25 fiscal year instead of carrying it over to FY26. Shelly is requesting a line-item budget amendment of \$20,000 of \$17,355 to be moved from 53120.1-Coalition (RHCP) and the remaining balance of \$2,645 from 53130.5-Geo Logging.

**2. North Texas GCD – line-item 50615 GAM Development (GMA 8):**

Shelly is requesting a line-item budget amendment of \$3,416.24 to be moved from 50250-Contingency to cover additional expenses for GMA 8.

**3. Lloyd Gosselink – line-item 53703 Legal-General Rules/Accountability:**

Shelly is requesting a line-item budget amendment of \$941.50 to be moved from 53702-Legal/Endangered Species to cover additional legal expenses related to rule changes.

	Line Item	Invoice \$	Available Funds	Amount Requested	From	Available Funds	Remaining Funds
Baylor Univ	53110.4-Pring Shed(BAYLOR	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$17,355.00	53120.1-Coalition (RHCP)	\$17,355.00	\$0.00
				\$2,645.00	53130.5-Geo Logging	\$3,000.00	\$355.00
				\$20,000.00			
NTGCD	50615-GAM Development	\$3,417.13	\$0.89	\$3,416.24	50250-Contingency	\$7,277.00	\$3,860.76
Lloyd Goss	53703-Legal Rules/Accountab	\$1,943.00	\$1,001.50	\$941.50	53702-Endangered Species	\$2,500.00	\$1,558.50

Director, Scott Brooks, moved to approve the line-item budget amendments as requested. Secretary, Gary Young, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**7. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to set the preliminary tax rate for tax year 2025 on the proposed budget for FY26.**

The preliminary tax rate was discussed at length during workshop item #2. Based on that discussion, Scott commented that he would support keeping the tax rate at .002230 but would prefer to set it at the “no new revenue” rate of .002130. Leland concurred with Scott.

Director, Jim Brown, moved to set the preliminary tax rate at .002230 for tax year 2025 on proposed budget for FY2026. Secretary, Gary Young, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**8. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to set the public hearing date and adoption of the FY26 budget.**

Based on posting and notice deadlines for public hearings, it was recommended that the Board set the date for the public hearing to adopt the FY2026 budget for Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Director, Scott Brooks, moved to set the public hearing for adoption of the FY2026 budget for Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. Director, Jim Brown, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**9. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to set the public hearing date and adoption of the tax rate for tax year 2025.**

Based on posting and notice deadlines for public hearings, it was recommended that the Board set the date for the public hearing to adopt the tax rate for tax year 2025 on Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to set the public hearing to adopt the tax rate for tax year 2025 for Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. Director, Jim Brown, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

**10. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action if necessary to adopt, by resolution, the appointment of Dirk Aaron as founding member representative to the Central Texas Water Alliance.**

With the creation of the CTWA by the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Clearwater UWCD has the authority to appoint a representative to serve as one of the Alliance’s founding members. The Board has already appointed and approved Dirk Aaron to serve in this role.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to adopt, by resolution, the appointment of Dirk Aaron as a representative to the CTWA. Director, Scott Brooks, seconded the motion.

**Motion carried 5-0.**

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

Whitney Ingram presented the General Manager's report.

- Management plan has been submitted to TWCD for approval. It has not been reviewed yet. TWDB could not say when the review would be completed.
- Drilling permit updates: City of Temple still in process; Mustang Spring was issued their PWS # and the CCN released from Georgetown.
- Future drilling permits on the horizon are: Salado Airport, Morgan's Point Resort (one of two wells), and WCID #2.

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

- a) Drought Status Reports***
- b) Education Outreach Update***
- c) Monitoring Wells***
- d) Rainfall Reports***
- e) Well Registration Update***
- f) Aquifer Status Report & Non-exempt Monthly Well Production Reports***

Copies of the Monthly Staff Reports were given to the Board Members to review. No action is required. Information items only. Whitney gave a brief overview of items listed.

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

- **Gary Young:** None
- **Scott Brooks:** None
- **James Brown:** Toured the lettuce plant with Whitney and the Water Ambassadors. He was impressed with their operation and thoroughly enjoyed the tour.
- **Jody Williams:** Jody thanked the staff for all their hard work.
- **Leland Gersbach:** None

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

- Update from Mike Keester
- Update on Groundwater Management Plan
- Public Hearing to adopt FY26 and set tax rate for tax year 2025
- Reception for Dirk 11:00-1:00

**15. Set the time and place of the next meeting.**

Wednesday, August 27, 2025, 1:30 – CUWCD Board Room – 640 Kennedy Court, Belton

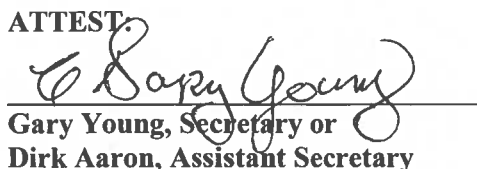
**16. Adjourn.**

**Board meeting adjourned with President, Jody Williams, at 4:40 p.m.**



Jody Williams, President or  
Leland Gersbach, Vice President

ATTEST:



Gary Young, Secretary or  
Dirk Aaron, Assistant Secretary