

Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District Meeting

640 Kennedy Court

Belton, TX

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Minutes

The Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (CUWCD) held a Workshop and Board meeting at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 10, 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:

Whitney Ingram, General Manager
Shelly Chapman, Admin. Manager
Tristin Smith, Education & Compliance
Corey Dawson, Field Tech

Guests:

None

Board meeting convened with President, Jody Williams, at 1:31 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.

Written public comments were received from Dr. John Asbury. A copy will be provided to Board members.

3. Approve minutes of November 12, 2025, Board meeting and workshop.

Board members received the minutes of November 12, 2025, Board meeting and workshop in their Board packet to review prior to the meeting.

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to approve the minutes of November 12, 2025, 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 November 2025 (FY26) as presented.

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

Vice President, Leland Gersbach, moved to accept the November 2025 financial report as presented. Director, Jim Brown, 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 November 2025 (FY26) as presented.

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

Director, Jim Brown, moved to accept the monthly Investment Fund account report for November 2025 as presented. Vice President, Leland Gersbach, seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

6. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to approve the FY26 line-item budget amendments as requested.

Shelly Chapman presented the request for a line-item budget amendment to cover the Director Surety Bond for a 3-year period instead of 1 year. By paying the Surety Bond in full for 3 years the District will receive a discounted rate. Should Board members change during that 3-year period, the Surety Bond will transfer to the incoming Director.

	Line Item	Invoice \$	Available Funds	Amount Requested	From	Available Funds	Remaining Funds
TML	54103-Surety Bond	\$560.00	\$300.00	\$260.00	50250-Contingency	\$77,375.00	\$77,115.00

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

Motion carried 5-0.

7. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to approve Director Jim Brown as the Alternate Representative for Clearwater UWCD, in GMA 8 Joint Planning efforts, by resolution.

The District assigned Whitney Ingram, General Manager, to represent CUWCD in GMA 8 Joint Planning efforts, effective September 1, 2025. Director Gary Young is currently the Alternate Representative. Whitney informed the Board that Gary has requested to step down as the Alternate Representative for the District and recommends that Director Jim Brown take his place as the Alternate Representative. Jim has agreed to take on this role, if approved. Gary will still be encouraged to attend GMA 8 meetings as his time allows.

Director, Scott Brooks, moved to approve Jim Brown as Alternate Representative in GMA 8. Vice President, Leland Gersbach, seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

8. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to set calendar dates for 2026.

Each year the Board sets dates for the 2026 Calendar and Holiday Schedule. Whitney presented the proposed dates which include regular Board meets, dates to approve the FY27 budget and tax rate, and tentative date for the Bell County Water Symposium. The Board meetings are typically scheduled for the 2nd Wednesday of each month unless noted to avoid conflicts with planned conference events.

Whitney commented that the 14 standard County holidays and 11 Federal Government holidays were taken into consideration. She noted that the District has previously observed 8 standard holidays and staff is requesting the addition of Good Friday to the proposed schedule.

Proposed 2026 CUWCD Calendar dates:

Board Meeting	Tuesday	*January 13, 2026	2 nd Tuesday
Board Meeting	Wednesday	February 11, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	March 11, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	April 8, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	May 13, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	June 10, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	July 8, 2026	
Board Meeting	Wednesday	August 12, 2026	
Tax Rate Hearing	Wednesday	August 26, 2026	Tentative - TBD
TAGD Summit	Wednesday	Sep 1 – Sep 3, 2026	San Antonio
Board Meeting	Wednesday	*September 16, 2026	3 rd Wednesday
Board Meeting	Wednesday	*October 7, 2026	1 st Wednesday
Board Meeting	Wednesday	November 11, 2026	
Water Symposium	Thursday	November 12, 2026	Tentative - TBD
Board Meeting	Wednesday	*December 16, 2026	3 rd Wednesday

(* Notes special dates to avoid conflicts with the Bell County Crops Conference, Texas Water Leaders, TWCA & TAGD events)

Proposed 2026 CUWCD Holiday Schedule:

New Year's Day	Thursday	January 1, 2026
Good Friday	Friday	April 3, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25, 2026
Independence Day	Friday	July 3, 2026
Labor Day	Monday	September 7, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 26, 2026
Thanksgiving	Friday	November 27, 2026
Christmas Day	Thursday	December 24, 2026
Christmas Holiday	Friday	December 25, 2026

Secretary, Gary Young, moved to approve the 2026 calendar dates and holiday schedule as proposed. Director, Scott Brooks seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

9. Discuss, consider, and take appropriate action, if necessary, to elect candidate(s) in the Bell County Tax Appraisal District Board of Directors entity election, by resolution.

Whitney explained the election process to the Board. The entity appointments will work the same as last year. Because there are 2 seats open, there will be 2,000 total votes. Each entity will get a percentage of the 2,000 votes based on the percentage of the total tax levy. Based on the 2024 tax levies, CUWCD will receive 3 out of 2,000 votes.

Whitney recommends the Board select a single candidate and allocate all 3 votes to the at candidate.

The Board discussed the candidates and decided to allocate 3 votes for Sam Fulcher.

Vice President, Leland Gersbach, moved to allocate 3 votes for Sam Fulcher to the Bell County Tax Appraisal Board of Directors, by resolution. Director, Jim Brown, seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0.

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

Whitney Ingram presented the General Manager's report.

- CTWA outreach and ASR 101 event December 2nd was well attended and educational.
- Received a lot of positive feedback from the 2025 Water Symposium and good suggestions to consider for next year.
- Staff is using the dashboard tools to look at potential requests and modeling of specific scenarios.
- CTWA (Ricky Garrett) will begin using the office space offered to them January 19th.
- Staff is considering plans to build a physical mailbox and release the CUWCD PO Box.

11. 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*

Copies of the Monthly Staff Reports were given to the Board Members to review. No action is required. Information items only.

Whitney informed the Board that 4 permit holders have over produced their permit since the close of November. She is in contact with them and discussing permit limits, conservation, and additional options.

Whitney noted that American Rockwool received an Emergency Operation Permit 11/7/25 under the provision that they must use best efforts to prepare and submit an amendment to their existing Operating Permit by December 31st.

Whitney met with Bell-Milam-Falls WSC representatives on 12/9/25. They informed her that they are no longer producing from their Rogers well for the remainder of the year and have reduced production in Bartlett. Whitney received a request on 12/10/25 from them for an Emergency Operating Permit. The request will be granted under the provision that they use best efforts to begin a capacity assessment of the existing wells in January 2026 and present the results to the District.

Whitney will be meeting with Pendleton WSC on 12/16/25 to discuss their groundwater options.

12. Director's comments and reports.

- **Gary Young:** Thanked staff for another good Water Symposium.
- **Scott Brooks:** Wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- **James Brown:** Congratulated the staff on a great Symposium.
- **Jody Williams:** Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked staff for their hard work.
- **Leland Gersbach:** Received a lot of positive comment about the Water Symposium.

13. Discuss agenda items for the next meeting.

- Receive updates from the City of Temple on the Industrial Park.
- Review results of the Bell County Water Symposium.
- Adopt 2026 Investment Policy.
- Election of Board Officers.

14. Set the time and place of the next meeting.

TUESDAY, January 13, 2026, 1:30 – CUWCD Board Room – 640 Kennedy Court, Belton

15. Adjourn.

Board meeting adjourned and Workshop convened with President, Jody Williams, at 2:20 p.m.

Workshop Item #1: Receive final report on the FY25 Aquifer Designation study.

Whitney presented the Aquifer Designation Study by Vince Clause at Freese & Nichols. 357 new wells identified since 2021. Vince recommends this be done every other year. Mike Keester will do a full review of the report.

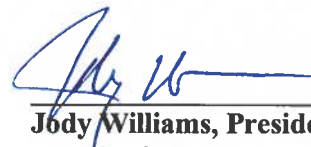
Whitney commented that she doesn't know of any other district that go to this level of effort to have this kind of data. GMA8 Joint Planning is using the District's designations in joint planning. As soon as Mike reviews this report it will be sent to GMA 8.

Workshop Item #2: Receive updates related to GMA 8 DFC determination, per TWC section 36.108.

Whitney stated that the District is actively participating in GMA 8 efforts to support the development and adoption of new DFCs by May1, 2026, to include the feasibility of adopting DFCs for each established management zone and assessing the impact of groundwater use in Williamson County on aquifer conditions in Bell County.


There are 3 technical committee meetings scheduled for December. The first 2 meetings were December 2nd and 8th. The 3rd meeting is scheduled for December 19th. All requested data will be available for the committee review prior to the next GMA 8 meeting. Mike Keester has attended meetings and assisted with communications on behalf of the District.

The next GMA 8 meeting is scheduled for January 29, 2026.



Jody Williams, President or
Leland Gersbach, Vice President

ATTEST:



Gary Young, Secretary or
Whitney Ingram, Assistant Secretary