

# IRION COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

July 8, 2024

Members Present: Vice-Chairman of Board Robert Richey, Sid Sullenger, James Furr  
General Manager Diana Thomas, and Technician Ashley Masters

Visitors Present: Macy Hartley, Accountant

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M. by Robert Richey, Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Sid Sullenger moved, and James Furr seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meetings. The motion carried.

After reviewing the bills as presented by the accountant, Sid Sullenger moved to transfer \$8,500 from the MMDA to the checking account and to pay all bills but the annual Irion Newsletter. Bills included standard monthly bills, rain gauges, and water analysis. Following discussion on the availability of minutes on the District website the Board declined to continue participation in the Irion Newsletter. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Manager's report included: two WTWMA in San Angelo, Senate WAR virtual hearing, TWDB at Dove Creek Springs, Region F and lunch meeting with Sen. Sparks staff in Big Spring, TAGD HR Webinar, WTRGA virtual meeting, TAGD Legislative Committee virtual meeting, TAGD PFIA Training and TAGD Regular Business meeting in Round Rock, TAGD Executive Committee virtual meeting, and TAGD Conference Planning Committee virtual meeting. The WTWMA season has seen slim opportunities for seeding operations with one day in April and 6 days in May. Long-term forecasts are hot and dry with the potential of a record-breaking summer. The Sente WAR committee has kicked off interim hearings, though groundwater is not the focus yet. Staff met with the TWDB at Dove Creek Springs for a site visit for assessment of spring flow monitoring and completing a water quality analysis. A future visit to install flow transducers will occur in July. Region F discussed past plan infeasible strategies and current plan surface water strategies. Several WTRGA members met with Juan Delgado of Sen. Sparks Big Spring office as an introduction to GCDs in his senate district. Staff attended a HR webinar discussing harassment and hostility. The WTRGA met to discuss the staffer lunch and possibly drafting a response to House interim charges. The TAGD Legislative Committee also met to discuss interim charges and to plan subcommittees. District manager Diana Thomas completed her bi-annual PFIA training requirement and attended the quarterly TAGD business meeting. Speakers covered topics from models to nitrates in groundwater, to carbon capture and storage. The TAGD executive committee met to work through a procedural vote issue that occurred at the business meeting. The TAGD Conference Planning meeting was attended by Ashley and covered the finalizing of speakers, panelist and agenda.

Well surveillance included two months of well water levels for 20 monitor wells throughout county, directors reviewed the individual wells and discussed the varied levels.

Water quality testing was performed for M. Elkins, M. Elkins, G. Tankersley Monitor Well, G. Tankersley Windmill, and C. Tankersley.

A Notice of Intent to Drill was received for K. James (2) Domestic, Walter Oil & Gas Frac supply, J. Mayer Livestock Replacement, and Teage Ranch Livestock Replacement.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments Sid Sullenger moved to accept the application for a Water Sales Permit Renewal for Stinger Disposal, LLC. located at Abstract 828, Section 82, H & TC RR CO Survey for no more than 81-acre feet of water per year. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments Sid Sullenger moved to accept the application for a Water Sales Permit Renewal for Stinger Disposal, LLC. located at Abstract 828, Section 82, H & TC RR CO Survey for no more than 113-acre feet of water per year. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments Sid Sullenger moved to accept the application for a Water Sales Permit Renewal by Stinger Disposal, LLC. located at Abstract 828, Section 82, H & TC RR CO Survey for no more than 65-acre feet of water per year. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments James Furr moved to accept the application for a Public Water Supply Permit Renewal by Dove Creek Partners, located at Abstract 128, Section 782, J.H. Weisheit Survey, for no more than 112-acre feet of water per year. Sid Sullenger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments James Furr moved to accept the application for an Industrial Water Use Permit by Walter Oil & Gas Corporation located at Abstract 97, Section 14, Gonzales County School Lands Survey for no more than 130-acre feet of water per year. Sid Sullenger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

After presentation of the permit application and review of the map attachments James Furr moved to accept the application for an Irrigation Water Use Permit by Michael Curry located at Abstract 998, Section 66, H&TC RR CO Survey for no more than 12 acre feet of water per year. Sid Sullenger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

District general counsel is retiring at the end of 2024 and options for staying with the current firm or looking for new counsel were discussed. The good work and relationship with the current firm was highlighted as well as the desire to explore the potential competitiveness of other firms. James Furr moved to issue a request for qualifications for legal services for new

general counsel for the District. A desired timeframe to allow for firm selection before the end of the year was discussed. Sid Sullenger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Thomas, General Manager, administered the Oath of Office and Statement of Officer for newly elected officials James C. Furr, Director Precinct 2; Robert Richey, Director Precinct 4; and Sid Sullenger, Director at Large, Irion County Water Conservation District.

Sid Sullenger made a motion to re-elect Board Officers Bill Whitley as Chairman, Robert Richey as Vice-Chairman, and James Furr as Secretary. James Furr seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Thomas presented the 2024 Q2 Investment Report, noting that the promotional CD had matured, and those funds were no longer accumulating interest. Sonora Bank's highest interest rate CD is currently a 6-month CD at 4.9% APR with a one-year CD at only 3.0% APR. Sid Sullenger moved to accept the 2024 Q2 Investment Report and to invest the matured funds into a 6-month CD. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Sid Sullenger moved to accept the most recent drought index. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Recycling Program Exemption was presented with no updates due to no change in the status of local recycling capabilities. Sid Sullenger moved to accept the Recycling Program Exemption Declaration. James Furr seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

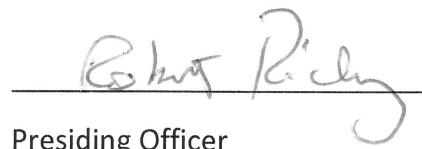
Diana Thomas presented a satisfactory performance evaluation for technician Ashley Masters, highlighting a few areas where she is excelling. A table of accomplishments for both the technician and the general manager were also presented to the Board. Further action on the Personnel Evaluation was tabled for a future meeting to allow input from board members not in attendance today.

Current budget year-end projections were presented to the Board. Most budget categories will remain within budget limits, but insurance budget items will have to be increased in the next fiscal year and amended in the current year. Estimated taxable values were presented with both Tom Green and Irion Counties estimating a loss in taxable value compared to last year.

There being no further business James Furr moved and Sid Sullenger seconded to adjourn at 8:17 PM.



Attesting Signature



Presiding Officer

Date: Aug 12, 2024