

**STERLING COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

June 13, 2016

Members present: Jack Clark, Herbert McCaleb, Ruthe Foster and Frank Price
Manager; Scott Holland, Assistant Manager/Technician; Diana Thomas and Accountant; Karen Hodges.

Visitors present: None

The meeting was called to order by Jack Clark, Chairman.

Ruthe Foster moved to accept the minutes of the previous meetings. Frank Price seconded the motion and it carried.

After reviewing the bills as presented by the accountant, Ruthe Foster moved to move \$9,000 for April bills and \$5,000 for May bills from the MMDA to the checking account and pay all bills. Herbert McCaleb seconded and the motion passed.

The Manager's report included: WTWMA in San Angelo, GMA 7 in Fredericksburg, SPE Environmental Seminar in Midland, TAGD in Austin, Collier Consulting in Sterling City and Senate Ag and Water Resources and House Natural Resource Committees live broadcast. WTWMA has the support of Senator Uresti, Representative Darby and TDLR to include weather modification grants as part of the TDLR budget. The radar has been crated and shipped to Argentina. GMA 7 met to set DFCs for the 14 aquifers within the area: Blaine, Igneous, Lipan, Marble Falls, Seymour and Trinity are nonrelevant for regional planning; Capitan Reef and Rustler are relevant only in Pecos Co.; Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory are relevant only in Gillespe, Mason, McCulloch, Menard and Kimble Co; Ogallala is relevant only in Glasscock Co; Dockum is relevant only in Pecos and Regan Co; and Edwards/Trinity (Plateau)/Pecos Valley have an average drawdown of 8' in the next 50 years. A public hearing will be held on the Edwards/Trinity (Plateau)/Pecos Valley probably in July. The SPE seminar discussed the aquifer study done on University Lands in West Texas, all study documents are available for free on the University Lands website. Our legislative consultant is working with urban legislators to educate them on balancing urban and rural water needs in the future. Collier Consulting gave a presentation of their software program to assist the district in groundwater management including mapping water quality and depths. The regular TAGD meeting started with an investment training review. Retention and destruction policies were reviewed along with the importance of records management. How to successfully protest before the RRC was highlighted, including what to include in a protest and what to exclude. Adam Foster from the TDLR offered to host in district training on well construction standards, and will be in Sterling this month. The Senate Ag, Rural, and Water Committee interim hearing covered ownership, production, and transfer of water in Texas. Topics mostly covered surface water, including one senators desire to re-visit the "first in time, first in right" allocation scheme. Testimony did highlight the stress of water transfers tends to fall on groundwater due to high restrictions placed on surface water transfers. The Supreme Court of Texas issued a ruling on the Coyote Lake Ranch case and was presented to the Board. Texas population projections were presented from the Office of the State Demographer. A Texas A&M collaborative study on the feasibility and economics of using brackish water for fracking in the Eagle Ford shale was presented. Well surveillance included: Water levels Kaysee Davis, J. Durham, Reed Roping arena, Mims Reed, K Davis Duncn, D Fox and M Blanek.

Discussion was held on how to obtain information needed to complete the permit applications submitted by Hull Barbee last year. The district will write a letter informing him that unless informed otherwise they will estimate pumpage using pump HP.

There being no further business, Frank Price moved and Ruthe Foster seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 A.M.

Ruthe Foster
Attesting Signature

Frank Price
Presiding Officer
Date: 7/11-16