

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

July 11, 2016

Members present: Jack Clark, Josh Gaines and Ruthe Foster
Manager; Scott Holland, Assistant Manager/Technician; Diana Thomas and Accountant;
Karen Hodges.

Visitors present: None

Following the Public Hearing on the DFC for the E/T (Plateau) Aquifer the meeting was called to order at 8:15 am by Jack Clark, Chairman.

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

After reviewing the bills as presented by the accountant, Josh Gaines moved to move \$10,000 from the MMDA to the checking account and pay all bills. Ruthe Foster seconded and the motion passed.


The Manager's report included: TDLR Water Well Construction Training in San Angelo, Senate Ag and Water Resources and House Natural Resource Committees live broadcast and TAGD Legislative Brackish Subcommittee conference call. The TDLR Training program consisted of in classroom time and in field time inspecting recently drilled wells. Well construction standards, licensee procedures, and GCD powers of enforcement were all reviewed. The House Natural Resource Committee interim hearing covered several interim charges dealing mainly with surface water and regional planning. Discussion on potential revisions to regional planning including more direction from state authorities was heard, SWIFT allocation guidelines were identified as 5 year goals, and GCD permitting requirements and DFC establishment were discussed. The Senate Committee of AG, Water, and Rural Affairs hearing covered only the State Water Plan. There was much discussion on the dis-uniformity and inconsistency across the planning regions from projects to by-laws. The 5 year planning window was discussed along with pros and cons of lengthening that time frame. The application of the MAG in regional planning was discussed with suggestions to remove the planning cap for the regions much like GCDs. The TAGD Legislative Brackish Subcommittee discussed refining brackish legislation passed last session to define a desal project and subsequently a significant impact to other aquifers. Hull Barbee was contacted and is waiting on sprinkler system and pump to be installed in 2-3 weeks before he will know pumpage amounts to complete his permit application. Well surveillance included: Water levels, L. Dorn and M. Freeman

Following the personnel review Josh Gaines moved to increase salaries by 3% concurring with ICWCD for the FY 2016-17. Ruthe Foster seconded and all voted in favor.

There being no further business, Ruthe Foster moved and Josh Gaines seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 A.M.



Attesting Signature



Presiding Officer

Date: 8-8-16