

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

August 14, 2017

Members present: Jack Clark, Josh Gaines, Herbert McCaleb, and Ruthe Foster
Manager; Scott Holland, and Assistant Manager; 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 meeting. Herbert McCaleb seconded the motion and it carried.

After reviewing the bills as presented by the accountant, Herbert McCaleb moved to transfer \$21,000 from the MMDA to the checking account and pay all bills. Josh Gaines seconded and the motion passed.

The Manager's report included: WTWMA, and High Plains/Sutton County GCD Lunch in San Angelo, 4H Water Ambassadors Program in Menard and Sonora, Region F in Big Spring,, and Dr. Charles interview in Sterling Office.

WTWMA flew 7 days in June and 9 in July bringing the season total to 22. The few USDA research seeding missions using charged water droplets had very promising results when compared with current dual flare seeding. Diana joined the 4H kids and contributed to the tour of the Menard Spanish irrigation canals and Sonora caverns. Region F has begun to examine water use estimates for the next 5 year planning cycle and redefining water users based on legislative language changes. The joint GCD lunch discussed interim study plans for the legislature and opportunities for more effective communication with representatives. Dr. Charles is conducting a study looking at how decisions are made at GCDs, from staff to the board. Both Diana and Scott were participants in Dr. Charles's study. Well surveillance included: Water levels, M Blanek, J Durham, TxDOT, W Hodges and S Foster. Rainfall varied since April from 2-6.5" with the northeast corner receiving the least.

Following the budget workshop Herbert McCaleb moved to propose a FY 2017-18 budget of \$159,390. Ruthe Foster seconded and all voted in favor. Josh Gaines then move to propose a 2017 tax rate of \$0.02046 which is 1% above the effective rate. Herbert McCaleb seconded and it passed unanimously.

The Rules workshop covered only permitting requirements and matching our paperwork to our rules. The review of rules will continue next month.

There being no further business, Ruthe Foster moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Josh Gaines and the meeting adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

Ruthe Foster
Attesting Signature

Jack W. Clark
Presiding Officer

Date: 9-11-17