

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

September 12, 2016

Members present: Jack Clark, Herbert McCaleb Ruthe Foster and Frank Price
Manager; Scott Holland, Assistant Manager; Diana Thomas and Accountant; Karen Hodges.
Visitors present: None

The public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed 2016 tax rate of \$0.01796 was opened at 8:00 am by Jack Clark, Chairman. There being no visitors present Jack Clark, Chairman, closed the hearing at 8:15 am.

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

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

After reviewing the bills as presented by the accountant, Ruthe Foster moved to transfer \$10,000 from the MMDA to the checking account and pay all bills. Frank Price seconded and the motion passed. After discussion on awarding merit pay and Frank Price moved to award both the manager and assistant manager merit pay. Herbert McCaleb seconded and all voted in favor.

The Manager's report included: WTWMA had a very slow July and is back to square one for state matching funds after the new ED at TDLR removed it from the budget. Billy Kniffen gave a presentation on rainwater harvesting using his home as an example. TAGD held the regular meeting with the TWDB presenting information on the new "MAG Peak Factor and is currently accepting public comment on the rule. TAGD will be re-vamping its website and has elected to maintain all due and fee rate for the next fiscal term. The TAGD Summit included panels of media, moving groundwater, groundwater and surface water interaction, ownership of groundwater, legislators, legislative staff and discussion of case law. The meeting with consultant Bob Turner was to discuss and give him information to give to legislators and staff addressing issues brought out in the interim hearings. Diana has worked up three one page information sheets for legislative distribution through Bob in cooperation between Irion, Sterling and Sutton county districts. The TML webinar covered Affordable Care Act determination of large and small businesses and how to count employees for reporting requirements. Two Notice of Intent to Drill were received from J. Dorsey and C. Madrid for domestic wells. Well surveillance included: Water levels, J. Manning, J. Durham and K. Davis Duncum. Discussion was held on the administratively incomplete permit applications for Hull Barbee. To honor the previous commitment made, the board instructed pumping information be calculated from information from application and cut in half to complete the permit since no pumping information has been received from Mr. Barbee.

After discussing line item changes Frank Price moved to amend the FY 2015-16 Budget to reflect those changes. Herbert McCaleb seconded and the motion passed.

Frank Price moved to adopt a FY 2016-17 budget of \$160,800 to be amended later to include a cash reserves vehicle purchase. Herbert McCaleb seconded and all voted in favor.

Herbert McCaleb then moved to adopt a 2016 tax rate of \$0.01796 which is 4.5% above the effective rate and would raise taxes \$4.21 on a \$100,000 home to fund the proposed budget. Ruthe Foster seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-1 with Frank Price voting against the motion.

There being no further business, Frank Price moved and Herbert McCaleb seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Ruthe Foster

Attesting Signature

Jack W. Clark

Presiding Officer

Date: 10-10-16