

STERLING COUNTY UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

May 11, 2026

Members Present: Chairman of the Board Jack Clark, Kade Hodges, Evan Canady, General Manager Diana Thomas, and Technician Ashley Masters

Visitors Present: accountant Karen Hodges

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM. by Jack Clark, Chairman of the Board.

Evan Canady moved and Kade Hodges seconded to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Accountant Karen Hodges presented the financial report and bills to the Board. The bills included standard monthly bills, vehicle repairs, seminar registration, and annual website hosting fee. After reviewing the bills as presented, Kade Hodges moved to pay all bills and to transfer \$5,000 from the MM account to the checking account. Evan Canady seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Thomas announced that Sterling County has its first 4-H Water Ambassador participant this coming summer. District participation in the program was reviewed, and program requirements for community service hours that could include the District was discussed. Kade Hodges moved to award \$300.00 scholarship to cover participation costs in the 4-H Water Ambassador Program. The scholarship will be paid to the participant once proof of enrollment is present to the District. Evan Canady seconded and motion passed unanimously.


The Manager's report included: WTWMA in San Angelo, TAGD Education Committee in Waco, Data Center Community Meeting in Dove Creek, GMA 7 in Sonora, TWDB Field Day in Dove Creek, and TAGD Education Committee Virtual Meeting. The WTWMA conducted two flights in April before having their license pulled for additional information needed. The Howard County Commissioners Court petitioned and were approved to join the WTWMA. Ashley Masters attended the TAGD Education Committee in Waco, touring the Bledsoe-Miller STEAM Center and had the opportunity to see the various outreach program available to the community. Local tours of the Waco Mammoth Site National Park and the Lake Waco Wetlands tours highlighted the importance of natural water cycling and how it can be incorporated for the benefit of community in a multifaceted approach to conservation. Ashley participated in Project WET Educator Training: Water in Earth Systems and now is a certified project WET educator. Diana Thomas attended a data center community meeting in Dove Creek to stay informed of potential heavy water use just across the ICWCD jurisdictional boundary. GMA 7 met in Sonora to vote on DFCs. Increased pumping in Schleicher County resulted in a slight increase in drawdown in Sterling and Irion counties. A 90-day public comment period on the DFCs is now underway. TWDB field day at Dove Creek, continued previous monitoring of spring conditions including water quality, spring flow, and invertebrate species sampling, new with Ben Schartz of Texas State University. District staff completed well surveys including utilizing the well

camera, static water level measurements, and GPS database expansion of previously unrecorded wells. Ashley participated in the virtual TAGD Education Committee meeting which included a recap on the recent Waco meeting, made plans for an in-person meeting in October, finalized meeting plans associated with the June TAGD Business meeting, and opening the upcoming workshop around The Art of Gathering to all TAGD members. A presentation on the TREC Proposed Water Notice: Seller's Disclosure about Groundwater and Surface Water Rights was given noting that the form will be optional in real estate documents beginning May 4, 2026 and will be required starting July 1, 2026.

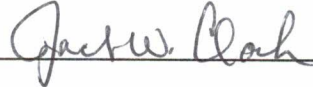
Well surveillance was not completed for the month due to time restraints, rain, and field conditions. No Intent to Drills were received for the month. The well camera was operated for three wells in Irion County.

The Sterling County Appraisal District (SCAD) notified the District that the review board had amended their previous resolution on retention of surplus funds. They are anticipating a lawsuit to be filed and are requesting to retain surplus funds for legal fees. In addition, funds can only be reimbursed if a majority of taxing entities request it. The amended resolution was presented to the Board and after discussion Kade Hodges moved to grant the SCAD request to retain surplus funds. Evan Canady seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There being no further business Kade Hodges moved and Evan Canady seconded to adjourn at 1:49 PM.



Attesting Signature



Presiding Officer

Date: 6-8-2026