Blanco-Pedernales Groundwater Conservation District

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Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Present: President Jimmy Klepac, Vice President Tom Murrah, Directors James Sultemeier, Gregory Stevens and Rob Reynolds

Staff: Erik Kubinski (GM), Amy Haynes (Office Mgr.), Danielle Mauldin (Records Mgr.) and Erin Elizabeth (Ops. Associate.)

Greg Ellis, General Counsel (represented electronically)

Citizens: Sign-In Sheets filed separately

1. Call to Order

President Jimmy Klepac called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Invocation

Given by Director Greg Stevens.

3. Recognition of George Cofran

General Manager Kubinski honored retiring Precinct 3 Director Cofran with a plaque and flowers, thanking him for his mentorship and support.

4. Swearing-in of Robert G. Reynolds, Precinct 3

County Judge Brett Bray administered the oath and praised district staff.

5. Public Comments

Blanco County resident Mike Park made a 3-minute public comment.

6. Consent Agenda

Approved the September 10 minutes, monthly financial and operational reports, and the Quarterly Public Funds Investment Report. GM Kubinski noted the financial reports now reflect the adopted budget and new account numbers, and that well records scanning is complete. He explained the Security State Bank transition to Insured Cash Sweep (ICS) account and how that impacted the Quarterly Public Funds Investment Report.

Motion: Sultemeier/Murrah. Carried by voice vote.

7. Public Hearing — Rule Amendments 4.1.D and 4.3.B

The public hearing opened at 1:45 p.m. Rule 4.1.D was redlined and revised over several months; Rule 4.3.B was recommended by the district's consulting hydrogeologist. Both were properly posted, and no public comment was received. The hearing closed at 1:46 p.m.

8. Adoption of Rule Amendments 4.1.D and 4.3.B

President Klepac recused himself for Rule 4.1.D due to a conflict of interest as an agricultural irrigator. Rule 4.1.D creates an agricultural use exemption from annual production reporting, requiring written certification, 90-day notification of use changes, and permitting District verification inspections. Rule 4.3.B increases minimum grouting depth for new wells from 10 to 50 feet (with field approvals available for shallower potable strata) and mandates aquifer isolation documentation for wells penetrating Edwards-Trinity, Upper Glen Rose, or Marble Falls aquifers.

The board adopted both rule revisions, effective November 1, 2026, and directed the GM to notify the public through outreach, social media, and press releases. Drillers will receive the press release and rule change during well registration.

Motions: Sultemeier/Murrah (4.1.D) carried 4-0 with 1 abstention, and Reynolds/Stevens (4.3.B) carried unanimously.

9. FY25 Financial Audit

Lead Auditor Taylor Boeker from Seidel Schroder presented a audit materials for the year ended September 30, 2025, with a clean, unmodified opinion.

Motion to adopt the report: Stevens/Murrah. Carried unanimously.

10. FY27 Fee Schedule

The board approved a revised FY27 Fee Schedule adding export permit fees: a $3,000 application fee and 20.6 cents per thousand gallons of water exported. This change was required per the rule change in April 2026. No other fees changed.

Motion: Sultemeier/Reynolds. Carried unanimously.

11. Lagom Ranch Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law

The findings were prepared after an information request, reviewed by General Counsel, and sent to the applicant, who did not reply. The board had already approved the permit; adopting the findings finalizes the order. General Counsel Ellis explained that the applicant may file a motion for rehearing within 20 days, and any lawsuit must follow that process. Courts would review the adopted findings under the substantial evidence rule.

Motion: Sultemeier/Murrah. Carried unanimously.

12. INTERA Work Order 8 — Hydrogeology Support

GM Kubinski presented Work Order 8 from INTERA for Hydrogeological Support. The WO is a continuation of last year's WO that expired on Sept 30, 2026. The terms did not change from last year where they are on a time-and-materials basis and capped at $10,000 through September 30, 2027.

Motion: Stevens/Sultemeier. Carried unanimously.

13. Legislative Priorities

The board adopted a resolution with five priorities for the 90th Texas Legislature: local board management, clarifying takings, state legal defense, regulating high-water-demand projects, and balancing conservation with property rights. The GM and General Counsel are authorized to advocate for them. A letter to Senator Campbell and Rep. Troxclair, has already been prepared on the first priority advocating for local board management.

Motion: Reynolds/Murrah. Carried unanimously.

14. Drought Conditions

The GM reported the Pedernales watershed is solidly in stage 3 drought and the Blanco watershed near stage 2, with recent rain insufficient to recharge the aquifer. He recommended moving to stage 3. Director Stevens asked about separate stages by watershed, the board kept one countywide stage to avoid confusing residents. The drought stage was raised from stage 2 to stage 3, effective immediately, with public notice authorized.

Motion: Stevens/Sultemeier. Carried unanimously.

15. General Manager's Report

General Counsel Ellis updated the board on LCRA v. Lost Pines GCD, heard by the Texas Supreme Court on October 6, which will decide whether rehearing motions expire at 91 days (Water Code) or 55 days (Texas Administrative Procedure Act).

GM Kubinski provided updates on Region K, GMA 9, the TWDB grant, Job Descriptions and local news and industry updates. He also provided updates on the HCA Leadership Summit, the Edwards Aquifer Authority outreach center tour, Well-Informed 2026 partnership with AgriLife Extension for water testing that will happen on Nov 18.

16. Future Meetings

Next regular meeting: Thursday, November 19. December meeting moved from Thursday, December 17 to Tuesday, December 15 at 1:30 p.m.

17. Adjournment. Motion

Sultemeier/Murrah. The meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Approved and adopted by the Board of Directors on this 19th Day of November, 2026.

Gregory Stevens, Board Secretary-Treasurer

Date Signed: November 19, 2026

Jimmy Klepac, Board President

Date Signed: November 19, 2026