



WEST-CENTRAL-TEXAS-MUNICIPAL-WATER-DISTRICT

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421st Meeting of the Board of Directors

STATE OF TEXAS COUNTIES OF: JONES,
SHACKELFORD, STEPHENS, TAYLOR,
EASTLAND, AND PALO PINTO

REGULAR MEETING
October 16, 2024, 9:30 AM
ABILENE, TEXAS

DIRECTORS PRESENT

ABILENE

Norm Archibald Russell Berry
Sam Chase Dani Ramsay
Bob Benham

ALBANY

David Cleveland

ANSON

Rowland Foster Bob Herndon

BRECKENRIDGE

Will Thompson Scott Harris

DIRECTORS ABSENT

ABILENE

Anthony Williams

ALBANY

Randall Palmore

ANSON

BRECKENRIDGE

STAFF AND OTHER GUESTS PRESENT

Brian Yates, General Manager
Blake Woodall, Planning/Dev. Manager
Ronnie Tilly, Asst. GM/Operations Mgr.
Christy Ferguson, Admin Svcs Manager
Jeremy Walker, GIS Specialist

Mark Zachary, Attorney

Call to Order

President Scott Harris called the 421st meeting of the West Central Texas Municipal Water District Board of Directors to order at 9:05 a.m. on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, in accordance with the statutes of the State of Texas. A quorum was present.

Public Comment

President Harris stated that no one was in attendance for public comment so he chose to move to the next agenda item which is the review of the District's history. He asked Mr. Yates to please begin his presentation.

Board Workshop

Mr. Yates welcomed the Board and noted that this meeting is intended to follow a different format than other meetings in that this is more of a workshop to discuss the current status as well as the future of the Water District. Mr. Yates reviewed the formation of the District including the history of obtaining water rights and the District's enabling legislation. He discussed the city contracts and the allocations included in each contract to provide water to the cities. His discussion included the one year safe yield quantities as well as allotted water that each city is allowed to take at various lake levels.

Mr. Yates highlighted the current financial structure included in the contracts for budgeting and billing the member cities and other customers. He noted that charges include such items as Standby Charges which are General and Administrative expenses, Operations Charges, and Electric costs. Mr. Yates told the Board about the complex account structure as well as the complex billing cycle staff currently follows.

Mr. Yates also included a conversation on the Raw Water Roughing Facility (RWRF) and that Abilene is working to commission this facility in order to be able to pump water from Possum Kingdom (PK). Mr. Yates said that if pumping from PK increases, then new pumps and a booster would need to be installed to handle the pumping capacity.

He then turned to the main question and discussion item for the Board; Is the District a water provider only for the four member cities or could it be a regional water supplier? He noted that the District's enabling legislation allows for the District to supply water outside the current territory.

The Board then held a discussion on many topics including:

- Expenses and Revenues for the District
- Future (possible) customers
- Rate structures to charge for water
- Investment in infrastructure
- PK water availability and contracting
- Member city contracts
- What the District's enabling legislation allows

The discussions included questions from the Board as to recalculating the safe yield, charging the customers who are currently getting free water, protecting the four member cities in that they will get priority for water, and the question as to whether or not the District should sell the WCBWDS system and move forward without being a regional water supplier.

The Board agreed that there was not an opposition to the possibility of becoming a regional water supplier. They agreed that changes do need to be made and that this is the time to consider them. Mr. Zachary provided the detailed wording to the Board regarding the enabling legislation and the limitations in it as well as what it allows the District to do. He noted that changing the legislation could take quite some time to do if that is something that the Board wants to consider.

The Board took no action but offered guidance to Mr. Yates on what he needs to research in order for the District to be a regional water supplier. They directed him to make sure that he includes discussions with the four member cities and receives their feedback and acceptance of this. Mr. Yates thanked the Board for their time and stated that he will draft a resolution for the Board to consider at their next meeting (November 13, 2024) that would include what steps to take in order to become a regional water supplier.

Adjournment

President Harris stated that since there is no further business before the Board that the 421st meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Approved this 13th day of November, 2024.


Scott Harris, Board President


Rowland Foster, Board Secretary