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Refugio Groundwater Conservation District  
Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2026

THE STATE OF TEXAS  
REFUGIO COUNTY

The Board of Directors of the Refugio Groundwater Conservation District convened a meeting at the First Baptist Church of Woodsboro Fellowship Hall, 309 Johnson Street, Woodsboro, Texas, on April 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM.

**Item 1 - Call the meeting to order and welcome guests.**

Mr. Andruss explained that the staff completed the necessary public notification requirements for the meeting.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and called the roll of representatives:

Precinct 1: Mr. John Snyder, Vice President: Present.

Precinct 2: Mr. Carroll Borden, President: Present.

Precinct 3: Ms. Cynthia Rose, Treasurer: Present.

Precinct 4: Mr. Fredric Biery, Secretary: Present.

At Large: Vacant: \_\_\_\_\_ .

General Manager: Mr. Tim Andruss: Present.

General Counsel: Mr. James Allison: Present.

**Item 2 - Receive Public Comment**

Mr. Borden accepted public comment from public representatives in attendance.

**Item 3 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater management including the efforts and activities of the District regarding permitting, complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases associated with permitting.**

**Topic 3.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Well Registration Processing

As of April 15, 2026, staff had received 9 well registration applications (ARWs) since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had received 13 Notices of Intent to Drill a Well (NIDWs) since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Production Permit Renewal Processing

As of April 16, 2026, staff had received 0 production permit renewal requests (ARPs) since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Permit Processing

As of April 15, 2026, staff had initiated 1 permitting request cases (PRCs) since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had 1 permitting request cases pending.

1. PRC-20241212-01 - ANHUPPWS-20241211-01 - Town of Woodsboro - Approved/Unexecuted - Mayor Kay Roach for The Town of Woodsboro seeks, under permitting request case PRC-20241212-01, a standard-capacity non-historic-use production permit authorizing the production of groundwater from a non-grandfathered well system for municipal uses at rates not to exceed 499 gallons per minute or 249 acre-feet per year. The subject well system is located on a 2.3-acre tract of land near the intersection of 2nd Street and Johnson Street, and a 0.3-acre tract of land near the intersection of Summit Avenue and Chaparral Street, in the Town of Woodsboro, Refugio County, Texas.

As of April 6, 2026, staff had 23 active or approved production permits recorded in the permitting database with a combined amount of authorized groundwater production per year of 1,886 acre-feet.

Regarding Groundwater Production Report Processing

As of April 15, 2026, staff had processed 36 groundwater production reports for the preceding calendar year since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had recorded groundwater production reports for 36 water wells reporting reporting 890acre-feet of groundwater production during CY2025. (TWDB estimated the volume of groundwater produced for rural domestic, livestock, mining, and rig supply exempt uses in Refugio County in Year 2020 was 580 acre-feet. See:

[https://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/management\\_areas/exempt\\_use/GMA\\_15\\_ExemptUse\\_2020.pdf](https://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/management_areas/exempt_use/GMA_15_ExemptUse_2020.pdf).)

Regarding Manage Investigations related to Permitting Violations

As of April 15, 2026, staff had initiated 2 investigation related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had 2 active investigations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting).

1. INV- 20260206-01 - Unpermitted Non-Exempt Use - Active
2. INV- 20260205-01 - Failure to Satisfy Rules of the District - Production Reporting for CY2025 - Active

Regarding Manage Enforcement Cases related to Permitting Violations

As of April 15, 2026, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2025. As of April 15, 2026, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement cases related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting).

Regarding Permit Report Processing

As of April 16, 2026, staff had processed 0 permit reports to permittees since October 1, 2025.

As of April 16, 2026, staff had 0 permit report outstanding.

Regarding Brackish Groundwater Assessment

On March 6, 2026, Dr. Young of Intera submitted a final report titled Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources from Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties. Additional work is scheduled to be completed as part of the project including the delivery of technical data and model files as well as the support regarding the development of draft rule revisions related to deep-saline groundwater production permitting.

**Topic 3.2 - Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources from Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties**

Mr. Andruss explained that on April 22, 2025, the Board of Directors of the Refugio Groundwater Conservation District authorized the general manager to 1) accept the proposal submitted by Intera related to characterizing the brackish groundwater, 2) provide notice to Intera to begin the project, and 3) share the costs of the project in an amount not to exceed \$20,000, contingent upon similar cooperation approval by Calhoun County GCD and Texana GCD.

On May 30, 2025, Mr. Andruss provided to Dr. Young of Intera, via email, notice to proceed with the project as proposed in the the Proposal to Characterize and Investigate Options to Manage Brackish Resources in Jackson, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties with a combined cost of \$60,000.

On January 15, 2026, Dr. Young of Intera submitted a draft report titled Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources from Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties. On March 6, 2026, Dr. Young of Intera submitted a final report titled Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources from Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties. The report provides detailed information regarding stratigraphy, lithology, estimations of sand percentages of formations, estimation of total dissolved solids concentrations, salinity zone maps, salinity zone cross-sections,

documentation regarding the Central Gulf Coast Brackish Groundwater Flow (CGCBGWF) Model developed for the brackish groundwater resources in the region, and drawdown simulations related to hypothetical deep-saline groundwater production scenarios.

On March 27, 2026, Tim Andruss initiated the rulemaking effort associated with this project and requested the assistance of Steve Young in that effort.

On April 10, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Victoria County GCD approved the proposal to expand Project PRJ-20263100.09 - Brackish Groundwater Assessment to include the evaluation of the cumulative effects of large-scale brackish groundwater projects in Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties using the recently developed Central Gulf Coast Brackish Groundwater Flow (CGCBGWF) Model in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00.

On April 13, 2026, Intera was notified of the acceptance and approval of the expansion of the project to include the evaluation of the cumulative effects of large-scale brackish groundwater projects in Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties using the recently developed Central Gulf Coast Brackish Groundwater Flow (CGCBGWF) Model.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to accept the report titled Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources from Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties and instruct the General Manager to post the report on the website of the district. Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Topic 3.3 - Large-scale, groundwater production permitting in San Patricio County**

Mr. Andruss explained in response to concerns raised by local elected officials, landowner representatives, and previous inquiries made by directors of the District, management has investigated the details regarding the large-scale, groundwater production permitting under consideration by the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District.

The intention of the investigative effort was to obtain complete and reliable information regarding the potential impact, if any, the proposed groundwater project (Evangeline Laguna Project) would have on the groundwater resources of Refugio County.

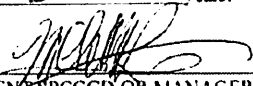
Based on the information contained within documents obtained from the website of the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District it appears that a groundwater production permit authorizing the production of 28,486 acre-feet per year at 1,500 gallons per minute on a 22,789 acre tract of land for a period of 5 years was approved on May 16, 2019. The permit is identified as Permit Number 140. The well site is located immediately North of the Town of Sinton, East of Hwy 181, West of Hwy 77, and South of Aransas River. A well log included with the permit document

(Tracking ID 508865) indicates a new well was drilled to produce groundwater for industrial uses with a total depth of 1,160 feet below the surface, an annular seal extending down to 80 feet in the borehole, and variable screens placed between 237 feet below the surface to 1,119 feet below the surface.

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This permit is approved for:

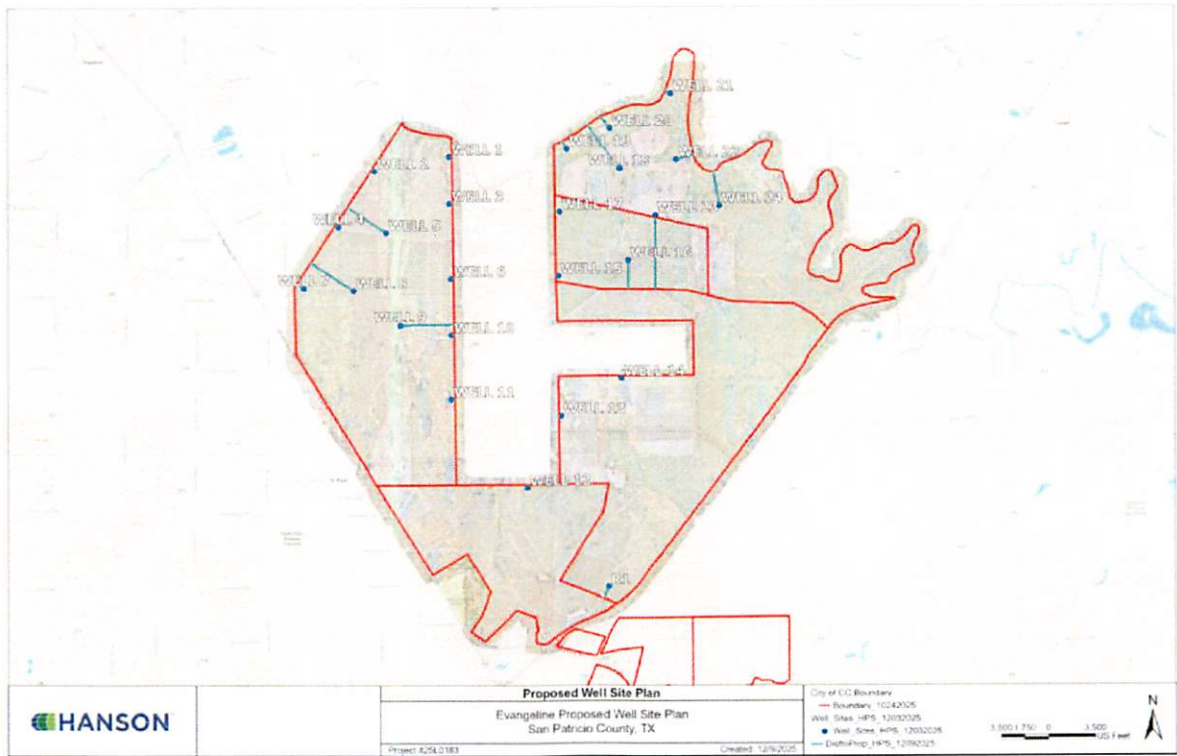
- 1) operating the above described water well;
- 2) production of 28,486 gallons ~~or Ac.Ft.~~ of water annually; and
- 3) a production rate not to exceed 1500 gallons per minute.
- 4) term of the operating permit 5 years.

This permit is approved, subject to the rules of the SPCGCD:   
PRESIDENT SPCGCD OR MANAGER OF SPCGCD

Permit Number: 140  
Date: 5-16-19

On or about December 11, 2025, permitting applications from Evangeline Laguna Water, LP associated with drilling an additional 22 water wells and transporting the groundwater produced under Permit Number 140 out of the San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District.

The image below illustrates the planned well configuration.

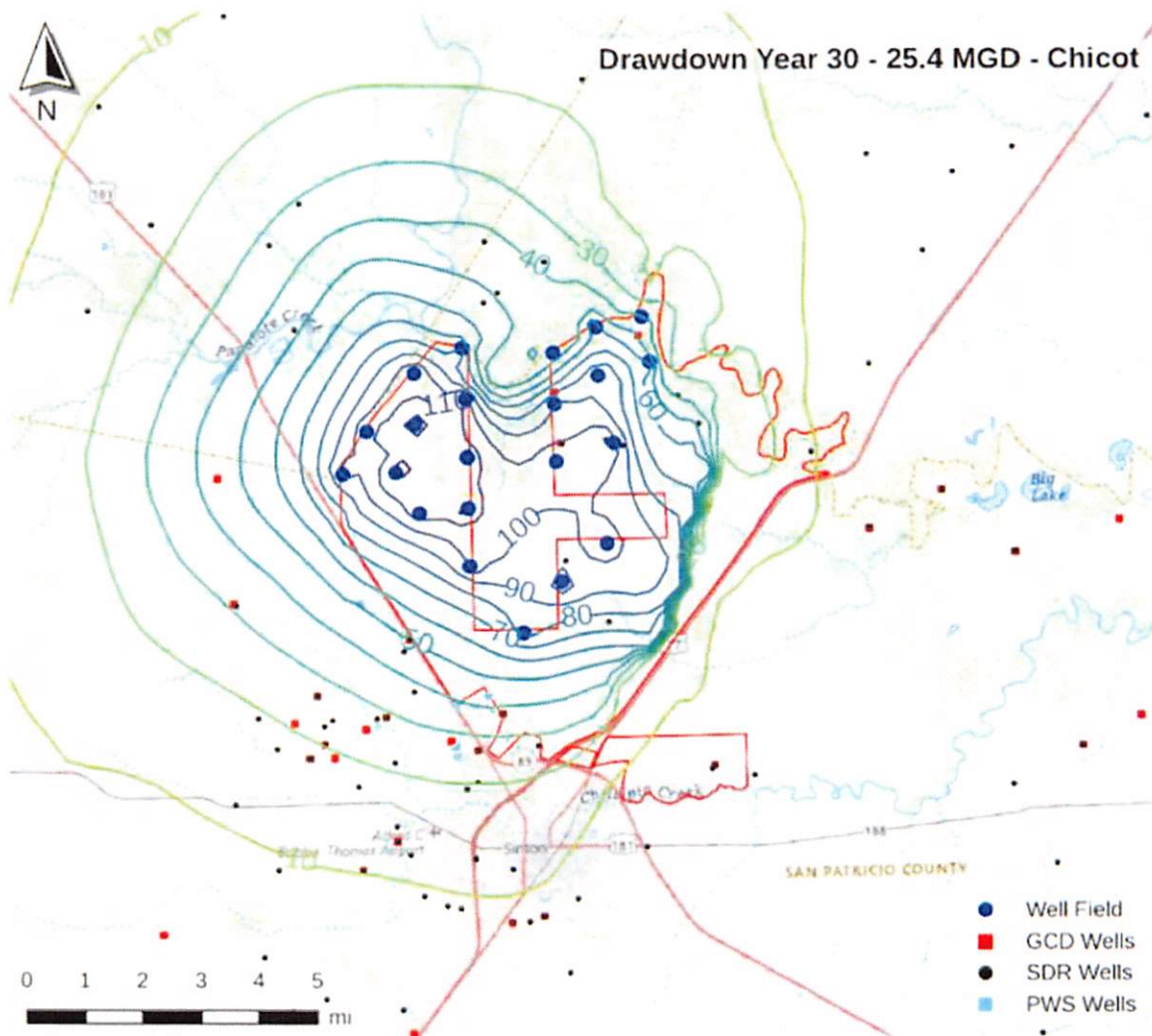


The image below illustrates the means of water transfer to be used for the produced and transported groundwater from the well site.

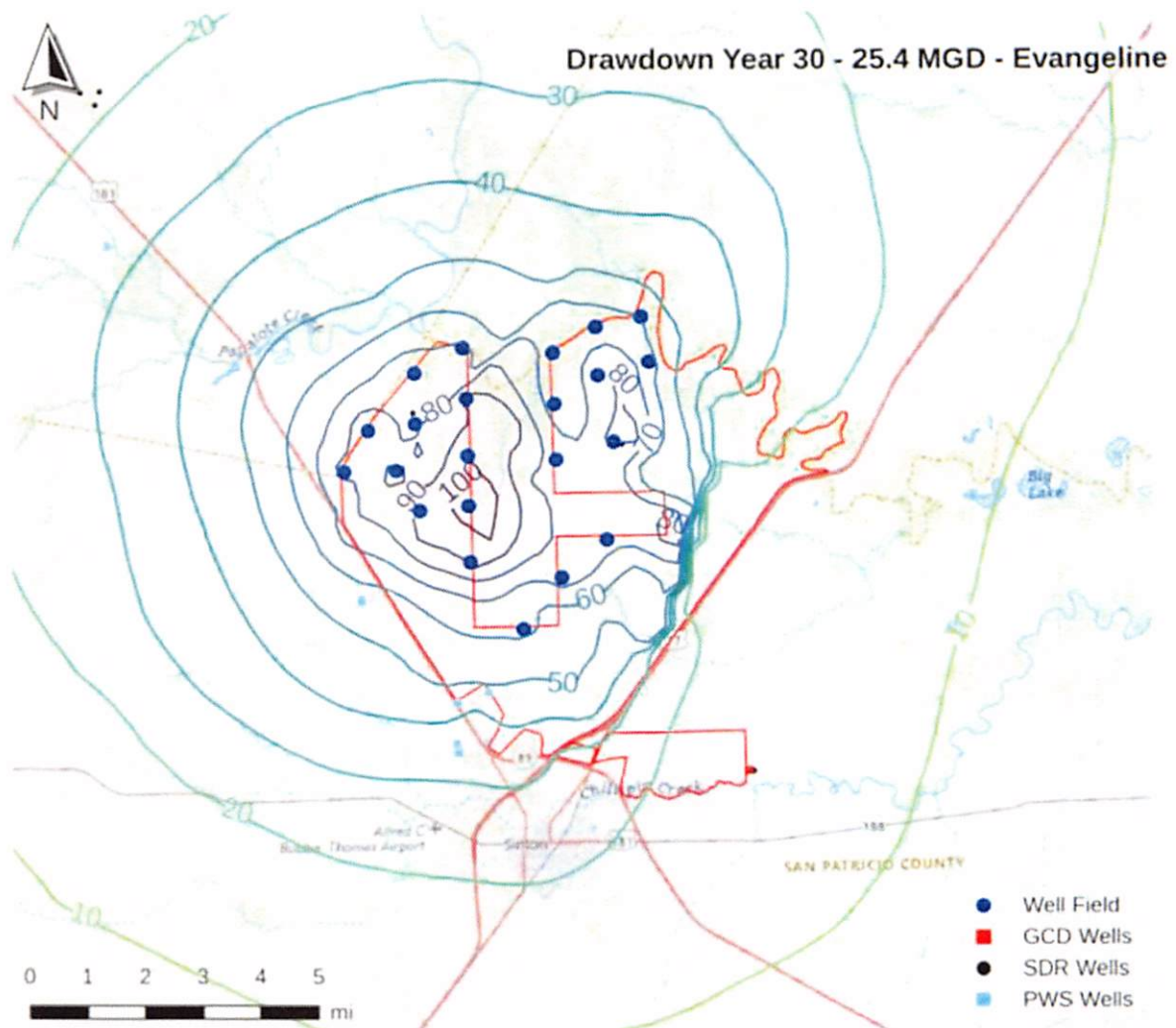


On April 4, 2026, Lonnie Stewart of San Patricio Groundwater Conservation District provided a technical memorandum from Steve Young of Intera, dated January 7, 2026, regarding modeling results related to the proposed well field at the Evangeline Laguna wells site. The memorandum contains illustration of predicted drawdown after 5 years, 15 years, and 30 years in the Chicot Aquifer Component and the Evangeline Aquifer Component of the Gulf Coast Aquifer resulting from model simulations of 25.4 MGD (28,450 acre-feet per year) of continuous groundwater production.

The image below illustrates the simulated drawdown in the Chicot Aquifer Component after 30 years of pumping reported in the memorandum.



The image below illustrates the simulated drawdown in the Evangeline Aquifer Component after 30 year of pumping in the memorandum.



The illustrations indicate that the groundwater production proposed under the existing production permit and proposed well field could result in groundwater level declines in excess of 40 feet in the Chicot Aquifer Component and 50 feet in the Evangeline Aquifer Component in portions of Refugio County.

**Board Action:** None.

**Topic 3.4- Investigation INV-20251006-01 re Unpermitted Non-Exempt-Use**

Mr. Andruss explained that on October 6, 2025, staff of the district created investigation INV-20251006-01 to investigate expired and unpermitted non-exempt use wells. On November 4, 2025, Mike Benavides, Compliance Specialist began a review of potential unpermitted non-exempt use wells using in Refugio County. See: [INV- 20260206-01 - Unpermitted Non-Exempt Use - Active](#)

As of April 15, 2026, staff of the district could not identify potential unpermitted non-exempt use wells in Refugio County. Staff will review and identify locations associated

with expired permits for existing water wells and no overlapping active production permit to support the notification of landowner of the potential violation of the Rules of the District if groundwater production for non-exempt-use purposes. A courtesy notice will be developed and sent to each property owner as recorded in the Refugio Central Appraisal District online records.

**Board Action:** None.

**Item 4 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater protection including complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases related to groundwater contamination and waste.**

**Topic 4.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Well Inspections

As of April 15, 2026, staff had recorded 10 well inspection forms (WIFs) since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Manage Investigations related to Groundwater Protection

As of April 15, 2026, staff had initiated 0 investigations related to groundwater protection since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had 1 active investigation related to groundwater protection.

1. INV-20191202:1017 - Potential Contamination of Groundwater at Woodsboro Farmers Cooperative - Active

Regarding Manage Enforcement Cases related to Groundwater Protection

As of April 15, 2026, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to groundwater protection since October 1, 2025.

As of April 15, 2026, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement case violations related to groundwater protection.

Regarding Well Plugging Sponsorship

As of April 14, 2026, staff had not received any requests for assistance with well plugging since October 1, 2025.

**Item 5 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater monitoring.**

**Topic 5.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Drought Condition Monitoring

As of April 17, 2026, the U.S. Drought Monitor

(<https://www.drought.gov/states/texas/county/refugio>) indicates that 100% of Refugio County was experiencing drought conditions.

As of April 17, 2026, drought condition information related to the district and the surrounding region of Texas collected from the Water Data for Texas website <https://www.waterdatafortexas.org/drought>) indicates that 100% of Refugio County are experiencing drought conditions.

#### Regarding Water Level Monitoring

As of April 17, 2026, staff had collected 12 water level measurements since October 1, 2025.

#### Regarding Water Quality Aquifer Monitoring

As of April 17, 2026, staff had collected 4 water quality field measurements since October 1, 2025.

As of April 17, 2026, staff had collected 0 water quality samples since October 1, 2025.

As of April 17, 2026, staff had received 0 water quality lab reports since October 1, 2025.

#### Regarding Water Level Assessment

On February 18, 2026, Dr. Young of Intera submitted the draft report of the assessment of calendar years 2024 and 2025 water levels using geostatistical techniques as requested by the cooperating districts. On April 9, 2026, Nick Lamkey of Intera provided the final report of the project for advanced geostatistical evaluation of water level measurements for calendar year 2024 and 2025.

#### Regarding Water Quality Assessment

On March 27, 2026, Neil Blandford of Daniel B. Stephens and Associates (DBSA) completed the work on the project regarding the general groundwater quality within Victoria, Jackson, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties.

#### Regarding Subsidence Assessment

On March 12, 2026, the VCGCD submitted, on behalf of the cooperating districts, a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board for a project titled The Development of the CGCBGF Model for Groundwater Management and Planning.

The proposed project would 1) integrate hydrogeologic data, measured subsidence, groundwater production and water levels since 1940 to update the Central Gulf Coast Brackish Groundwater Flow (CGCBGF) Model to support the simulation of subsidence using the MODFLOW 6 CSUB subsidence module; 2) determine subsidence rates from 2018 to 2025 from satellite-based InSAR data and deformation measurements from NOAA stations for the four counties within the jurisdictions of the cooperating districts; 3) provide the cooperating districts with the information to refine their rules incentivizing the safe development of

brackish groundwater, 4) advance the best available science for modeling impacts from brackish production including subsidence; 5) provide a tool for evaluating the potential impacts of developing brackish groundwater resources, and 6) includes the installation and operation of a subsidence monitoring station.

The proposed project is estimated to cost \$281,000 with the cooperating district contributing \$40,000 (\$10,000 per cooperating district) from the cooperating districts' operating budgets . The application seeks \$231,000 from the grant program. See: VCGCD - TWDB GRSDC Grant - Application - FY2026, VCGCD - TWDB GRSDC Grant - SOW - FY2026, and VCGCD - TWDB GRSDC Grant - Project Budget - FY2026.

**Topic 5.2 - Water Level Assessment**

Mr. Andruss explained that on February 3, 2026, Tim Andruss notified Steve Young of Intera of the approval of the project for advanced geostatistical evaluation of water level measurements for calendar year 2024 and 2025 by each of the boards of CCGCD, RGCD, TGCD, and VCGCD. The fixed cost approved for the project by the cooperating districts is \$24,000.00.

On April 9, 2026, Nick Lamkey of Intera provided the final report of the project for advanced geostatistical evaluation of water level measurements for calendar year 2024 and 2025. See report titled Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2024 and 2025 Water Levels.

The image below, representing Table 4 from the report, documents the estimated changes in water levels computed for Refugio County since calendar year 2000.

Table 4 Average annual water level (ft, msl) and change in the average annual water level for Refugio County for the Chicot Aquifer, the Evangeline Aquifer and the Chicot & Evangeline aquifers

Aquifer	Water Level/ Change	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Chicot	avg. WL (ft)	24.8	23.6	28.3	27.2	24.5	28.3	24.6	27.4	29.0	24.3	22.7	23.5	23.0	19.4	4.5	14.5	19.6	19.2	19.0	20.0	18.4	14.9	19.6	17.3	15.5	18.5
	change (ft)*	0.0	-1.2	3.6	2.5	-0.2	3.5	-0.1	2.6	4.3	-0.5	-2.1	-1.2	-1.8	-5.4	-20.2	-10.3	-5.2	-5.6	-5.8	-4.8	-6.4	-9.9	-5.2	-7.5	-9.3	-6.3
Evangeline	avg. WL (ft)	32.5	31.7	34.2	39.8	37.9	40.7	38.3	35.4	31.2	31.7	21.7	31.6	33.1	27.0	23.9	22.3	24.6	30.4	20.5	28.2	30.9	24.6	28.3	24.1	21.1	27.7
	change (ft)*	0.0	-0.8	1.6	7.2	5.3	8.1	5.8	2.8	-1.3	-9.9	-10.8	-1.0	0.5	-5.5	-8.6	-10.3	-7.9	-2.2	-12.0	-4.3	-1.7	-7.9	-4.2	-8.4	-11.4	-4.8
Chicot & Evangeline	avg. WL (ft)	26.3	25.4	29.1	31.0	28.6	31.8	29.9	29.0	28.5	26.1	20.7	25.6	25.8	21.4	11.9	16.7	20.4	22.8	18.6	22.4	22.6	17.8	22.2	19.0	18.1	22.7
	change (ft)*	0.0	-0.9	2.8	4.7	2.5	5.6	2.6	2.7	2.2	-0.1	-5.5	-0.7	-0.5	-4.9	-14.4	-9.5	-5.8	-3.5	-7.7	-3.9	-3.7	-8.4	-4.1	-7.3	-8.2	-3.6

\* change is measured relative to the year 2000; avg WL is measured relative to mean sea level

The analysis indicates that water levels in the Chicot Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County have declined by 6.3 feet in calendar year 2025 relative to year 2000. The 5-year rolling average of water level change in the Chicot Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County indicates that the recent trend is a 7.6 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The analysis indicates that water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County have declined by 4.8 feet in calendar year 2025 relative to year

2000. The 5-year rolling average of water level change in the Evangeline Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County indicates that the recent trend is a 7.3 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The analysis indicates that the water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County have declined by 3.6 feet in calendar year 2025 relative to year 2000, in aggregate. The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2025 indicates that the recent trend is a 6.3 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2024 indicates that the recent trend is a 6.3 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2023 indicates that the recent trend is a 5.5 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2022 indicates that the recent trend is a 5.6 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2021 indicates that the recent trend is a 5.4 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of water level changes of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Refugio County ending in year 2020 indicates that the recent trend is a 4.9 feet decline as compared to calendar year 2000.

The images below, representing Figure 7 and Figure 12 from the report, illustrate the spatial distribution of changes in water levels computed for the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers in Refugio County as of calendar year 2025 relative to calendar year 2000, respectively.

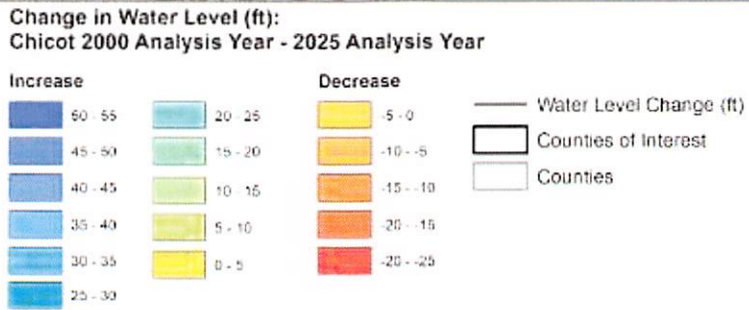
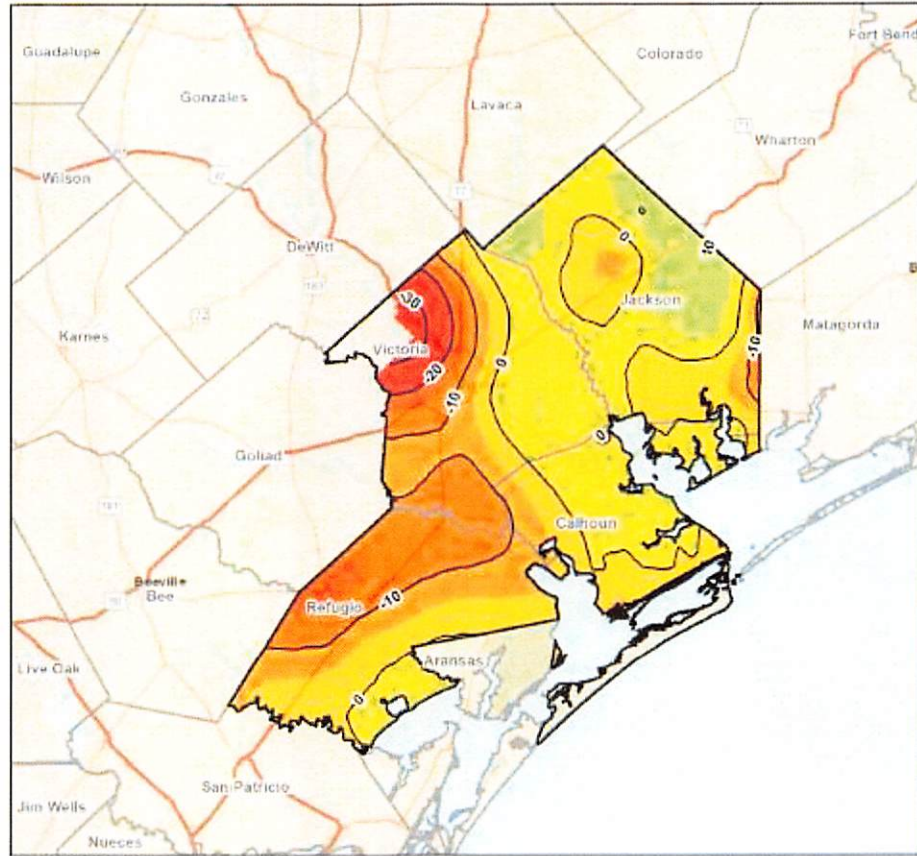
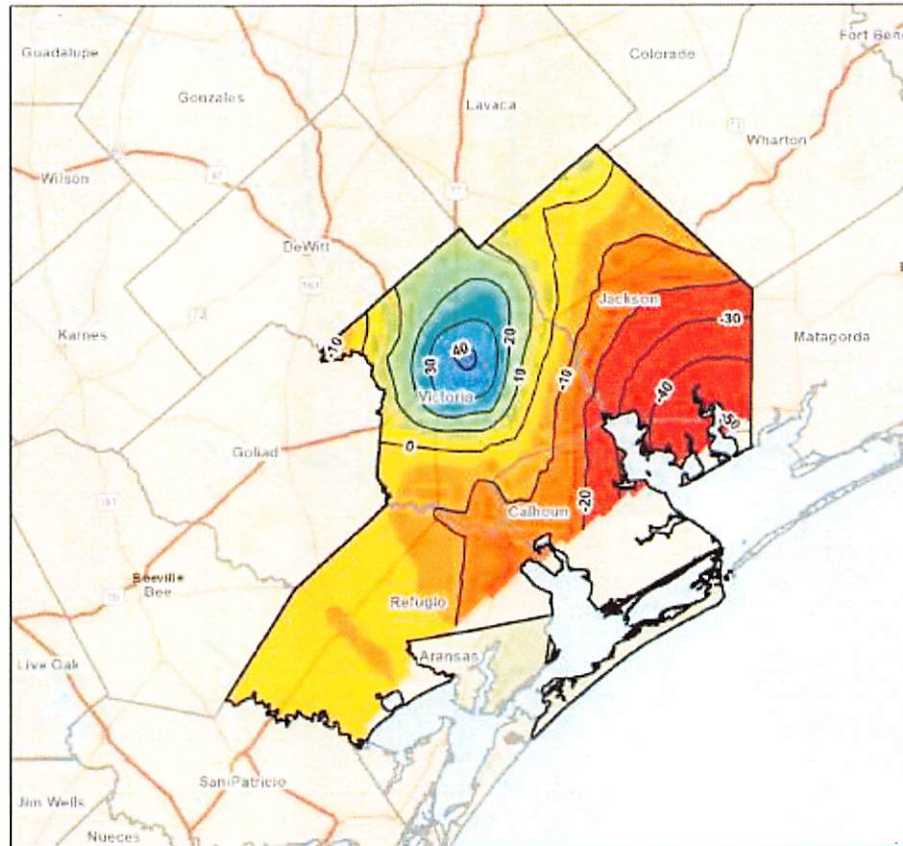


Figure 7 Contours of the change in water levels in the Chicot Aquifer from the 2000 Analysis Year to the 2025 Analysis Year



**Change in Water Level (ft):  
Evangeline 2000 Analysis Year - 2025 Analysis Year**

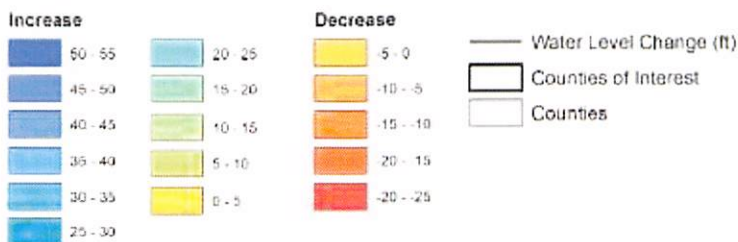


Figure 12 Contours of the change in water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer from the 2000 Analysis Year to the 2025 Analysis Year

The District is a member of and contained completely within Groundwater Management Area 15 (GMA 15). The desire future condition for GMA 15 is expressed as follows:

The representatives of Groundwater Management Area 15 proposed the following Desired Future Conditions for Adoption on April 8, 2021:

1. The Desired Future Condition for the counties in the groundwater management area (gma-specific DFC) shall not exceed an average drawdown of 13 feet for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System at December 2080; and
2. The Desired Future Conditions for each county within the groundwater management area (county-specific DFCs) shall not exceed the values specified in Table A at December 2080:

Table A. Desired Future Conditions for Counties of GMA 15 expressed as an Average Drawdown between January 2000 and December 2080.

- Aransas County: 0 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Bee County: 7 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Calhoun County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Colorado County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers; and 25 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer.
- DeWitt County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Fayette County: 44 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Goliad County: 4 feet of recovery of the Chicot Aquifer; 2 feet of recovery of the Evangeline Aquifer; 7 feet of drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer; and 14 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer.
- Jackson County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Karnes County: 22 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Lavaca County: 18 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Matagorda County: 11 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers.
- Refugio County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Victoria County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System.
- Wharton County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to accept the report, instruct the General Manager to post the report on the website of the district, and instruct the General Manager to investigate and compare monitoring datasets to identify any significant changes over

time that may be influencing the analysis. Mr. Biery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 6 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater conservation.**

**Topic 6.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Promote Conservation

On April 9, 2026, staff updated the website of the district to include a brochure titled Water Conservation Tips published by the Texas Water Development Board.

**Item 7 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater resource planning including Groundwater Management Area 15 Joint Planning, proposed amended desired future conditions, and regional water planning.**

**Topic 7.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following:

Regarding Regional Water Planning Participation

The South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region L) will meet on May 7, 2026 at 9:30 AM. See: <https://www.regionltexas.org/>.

The South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee (SCTWAC) will meet in Seguin on Friday, April 24, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. at the GBRA Annex Board Room located at 905 Nolan St., Seguin, TX 78155.

Regarding GMA 15 Joint Planning for 4th Planning Cycle

The representatives of Groundwater Management Area 15 met on March 12, 2026, at the consolidated offices of Victoria County, Calhoun County, Refugio, and Texana GCD in Victoria, Texas. Mr. Andruss attended the meeting to participate in 4th Cycle of the Joint Planning as required under Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code. See: <https://www.vcgcd.org/groundwater-management-area-15>.

The representatives have completed most of the tasks and activities to complete the process of proposing a desired future condition for Groundwater Management Area 15. The representatives approved numerous proposals to amend the adopted desired future condition for Groundwater Management Area 15 and reviewed the management plans of member districts. Those proposals included eliminating the GMA-Wide DFC and changes to the County-Specific DFCs for Goliad and Matagorda Counties. The letters transmitting the proposed amended desired future conditions for GMA 15 were mailed to the member districts on April 7, 2026.

**Topic 7.2 - GMA 15 Proposed Amended DFC**

Mr. Andruss explained that on March 13, 2026, the representatives of the member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15 approved a motion, by a record vote, to propose the adoption of amended DFCs, interim DFC values, and the plain-language explanation/justification for the proposed change to the previously adopted DFCs for GMA 15 for distribution to the districts in the management area in accordance with 36.108(d-2) of the Texas Water Code. See letter from the GMA 15 Chair, Tim Andruss, to the District dated April 7, 2026.

Per 36.108(d-2) of the Texas Water Code, "A period of not less than 90 days for public comments begins on the day the proposed desired future conditions are mailed to the districts. During the public comment period and after posting notice as required by Section 36.063, each district shall hold a public hearing on any proposed desired future conditions relevant to that district. During the public comment period, the district shall make available in its office a copy of the proposed desired future conditions and any supporting materials, such as the documentation of factors considered under Subsection (d) and groundwater availability model run results. After the close of the public comment period, the district shall compile and submit to the district representatives for consideration at the next joint planning meeting: (1) a summary of relevant comments received; (2) any suggested revisions to the proposed desired future conditions, and the basis for those revisions; and (3) any supporting materials, including new or revised groundwater availability model run results."

**Board Action:** Mr. Biery moved to authorize the General Manager to complete all necessary actions to comply with the requirements established under 36.108(d-2) of the Texas Water Code related to the public comment period and prepare for a hearing on the proposed amended DFC at the meeting of the Board of Directors scheduled for July 10, 2026. Mr. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Topic 7.3 - Review of Management Plans**

Mr. Andruss explained that Section 36.108 states that (b) If two or more districts are located within the boundaries of the same management area, each district shall forward a copy of that district's new or revised management plan to the other districts in the management area. The boards of the districts shall consider the plans individually and shall compare them to other management plans then in force in the management area.

At the GMA 15 meeting held on January 8, 2026, Mr. Andruss requested that each representative submit to the GMA 15 Administrator, by March 12, 2026, their written consideration of the performance of each member district or its management plan, as appropriate, using the following prompts:

Prompt 1: regarding 36.108(c-1)(1) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the impact of the district's management plan on planning throughout the management area.

Prompt 2: regarding 36.108(c-1)(2) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the effectiveness of the measures of the district's management plan for conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste within the district and the management area in general.

Prompt 3: regarding 36.108(c-1)(4) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the degree the district achieving the relevant desired future conditions through the implementation of its management plan and rules.

Note 3a: please identify the specific management plan reviewed by specifying the district and the adoption date of the plan.

Note 3b: please identify the specific rules reviewed by specifying the district and the adoption date of the rules.

Note 3c: please identify any additional information such as annual reports or monitoring data reviewed to support the consideration of the degree of achievement of the relevant desired future conditions.

Mr. Andruss developed the following consideration of the management plans, rules, and performance of the member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Member Districts of GMA 15	Consideration of Performance under 36.108(c-1)(1)	Consideration of Performance under 36.108(c-1)(2)	Consideration of Performance under 36.108(c-1)(4)
<p>Bee GCD Documents reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Plan (dt: 1/25/2024)</li> <li>• Rules (dt: 10/18/2012)</li> <li>• Performance Report (dt: 12/18/2025)</li> </ul>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan on planning throughout the management area should be positive.</p>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan should effectively result in the conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste within the district and the management area in general.</p>	<p>The district appears to be achieving the desired future conditions established during the joint planning process through the implementation of the district's management plan and the enforcement of its rules.</p>
<p>Calhoun County GCD Documents reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Plan (dt: 4/24/2023)</li> <li>• Rules (dt: 10/28/2024)</li> <li>• Performance Report (dt: 5/14/2025)</li> </ul>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan on planning throughout the management area should be positive.</p>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan should effectively result in the conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste within the district and the management area in general.</p>	<p>The district appears to be achieving the desired future conditions established during the joint planning process through the implementation of the district's management plan and the enforcement of its rules.</p>
<p>Coastal Bend GCD Documents reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management Plan (dt: 3/11/2025)</li> <li>• Rules (dt: 11/14/2023)</li> <li>• Performance Report (dt: ...)</li> </ul>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan on planning throughout the management area should be positive.</p>	<p>The implementation of the district's management plan should effectively result in the conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste within the district and the management area in general.</p>	<p>The district appears to be achieving the desired future conditions established during the joint planning process through the implementation of the district's management plan and the enforcement of its rules.</p>

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to coordinate a joint meeting between Refugio GCD and surrounding counties regarding groundwater resource management. Mr. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 8 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater policy including the Management Plan of the District, the Rules of the District, and draft revisions.**

**Topic 8.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Rule Amendments

Staff and legal counsel continue work drafting potential rule revisions for consideration by the Board at a future meeting. Staff awaits input from Intera regarding brackish groundwater resources based on the information developed and provided to the District in the characterization report. In order to develop draft rule revisions necessary to complete the District's deep-saline production permitting regulations, staff and legal counsel will need to consider appropriate designations of deep-saline groundwater production zones and associated production limitations based on the information provided by Intera.

On April 10, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Victoria County GCD authorized the completion of a project by Intera in evaluate the cumulative effects of substantial groundwater production simulated in deep, brackish groundwater zones across Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties.

Staff will postpone development and presentation of potential rule revisions until the completion and public release of the cumulative effects evaluation by VCGCD is completed in an effort to ensure any draft revision include appropriate safeguards to conserve and protect fresher groundwater resources while incentivizing deep-saline groundwater resources to meet future water demands.

Regarding Legislative Support and Lobbying

Staff and legal counsel continue to coordinate regarding legislative matters. In particular, the interim charges from the Texas Senate and Texas House have been reviewed and scheduled hearings are being tracked.

**Item 9 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to administration and management including the minutes of previous meetings, amendments to the annual budget of the district, bank accounts, investments, financial reports of the district, bills and invoices of the district, management goals and objectives of the district, administrative policies, staffing, consultant agreements, interlocal cooperation agreements, and support services provided to and from other groundwater conservation districts.**

**Topic 9.1 - Report**

Ms. Ramirez provided the following information:

explained that the next meetings of the Board is scheduled for May 18, 2026, with each meeting to convene at 6:00 PM. Regular meetings will be rescheduled as necessary and special meeting may be scheduled to address unforeseen issues.

#### **Topic 9.2 - Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Mr Andruss explained the minutes for previous meeting were drafted by the Administrative Coordinator, reviewed by the alternate Administrative Coordinator, and available to the directors for review prior to the meeting. The minutes appear to accurately reflect the actions taken by the board and the contest in which those actions were taken. The minutes for the previous meeting were sent to the board members prior to the meeting.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to accept and approve the meeting minutes for February 17, 2026, as drafted. Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Topic 9.3 - Investments of the District**

Mr. Andruss explained that the investment reports for January and February 2026 have been sent to the board prior to the meeting, and as of February 28, 2026, the district's cash-basis fund balance totaled \$1,579,722.28.

**Board Action:** Mr. Snyder moved to accept the investment reports for January and February 2026. Mr. Biery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Topic 9.4 - Financial Transaction Report**

Mr. Andruss explained since February 1, 2026, as of April 20, 2026, there have been 16 accounts payable transactions and 8 accounts receivable transactions recorded.

#### **Topic 9.5 - Financial Reports of the District**

Mr. Andruss explained that the internal control review and internal financial reports for January and February 2026, have been compiled by Lisa Ramirez, Administrative Coordinator, reviewed by Caitlynn Davenport, Administrative Coordinator, and then forwarded to the directors before the meeting.

**Board Action:** Mr. Biery moved to accept and approve the financial reports for January and February 2026. Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Topic 9.6 - Unpaid Invoices and Bills**

Mr. Andruss explained that the District had outstanding accounts payable invoices that are *NOT* considered regular and routine for which the District has received the goods and services billed for under the invoices.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to authorize the general manager to pay the following items:

1. ACCTP-20260220-01 - \$520.00 - ABM, LLC - July - Aug. 2025 - Legal Consultation

2. ACCTP-20260309-01 - \$6,000.00 - VCGCD - Intera - ILA-20260309-01-R
3. ACCTP-20260401-01 - \$880.00 - No. 7787 - ABM, LLC - Sept. - Oct. 2025 - Legal Consultation
4. ACCTP-20260407-01 - \$31,500.00 - VCGCD - RR Fees 2027 - ILA-202604-01-R
5. ACCTP-20260409-01 - \$838.35 - VCGCD - ILA-202204-02-R - Dec'25-Feb'26 Reimb.
6. ACCTP-20260420-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - April Board Meeting
7. ACCTP-20260420-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - April Board Meeting
8. ACCTP-20260420-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - April Board Meeting
9. ACCTP-20260420-04 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - April Board Meeting

Mr. Biery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 9.7 - Designation of Investment Officer**

Mr. Andruss explained that the position of Investment Officer has been held by Mr. Andruss, General Manager, for many years in large part due to staffing limitation. With the expansion of the staff of the District in response to the long-term cooperative arrangement with other cooperating district, the staffing limitations have been alleviated and provided the opportunity for other staff members to be adequately trained regarding public funds investment and collateralization. In particular, Caitlynn Davenport, Administrative Coordinator, has completed the required Public Funds Investment Act Training for several years with Mr. Andruss. Ms. Davenport has assisted Mr. Andruss with the development of the investment reports for several years as well. Designating Ms. Davenport as the Investment Officer of the District would improve operations while continue the safeguards in place protecting the funds of the District.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to designate Ms. Davenport the Investment Officer of Refugio Groundwater Conservation, rescind the designation of Investment Officer of the Refugio Groundwater Conservation from Mr. Andruss, and require Mr. Andruss to approve all fund transfer associated with investing funds of the District. Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Item 10.0 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to legal counsel report.**

Mr. Allison was present and gave his report, and called for a closed session. Mr. Borden opened the closed session at 8:02 pm. Mr. Biery moved to close the closed session at 8:26 PM. Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.


**Item 11.0 - Adjourn**

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM, after concluding all business of the District. Mr. Biery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_  
DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. \_\_\_\_\_.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Groundwater Conservation District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of the Victoria County

ATTEST:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Groundwater Conservation District

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of the Victoria County