

Refugio Groundwater Conservation District Meeting Notice and Agenda

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code and Section 36.064 of the Texas Water Code that the Refugio Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors will hold a meeting on July 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM at First Baptist Church of Woodsboro Fellowship Hall, 309 Johnson Street, Woodsboro, Texas 78393.

AGENDA

1. Convene the Meeting and receive a report from the general manager.
2. Receive public comments.
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.
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.
5. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater monitoring.
6. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater conservation.
7. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater resource planning including Joint Planning of Groundwater Management Area 15, regional water planning, and proposed Desired Future Conditions (DFCs)
 - a. Public hearing regarding the proposed desired future conditions (DFCs) of Groundwater Management Area 15.
8. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater policy, including the Management Plan of the District, and the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District.
 - a. Rulemaking hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District that specify the regulations related to drilling and plugging water wells, registration of water wells, permitting groundwater production, historic-use of groundwater, non-historic-use of groundwater, high-capacity non-historic-use of groundwater, non-historic-use of deep-saline (brackish) groundwater, groundwater transfer, waivers and petitions regarding groundwater regulations, curtailment of groundwater production, district fees, enforcement of regulations, and procedures related to proceedings.
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, the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2025, the

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Annual report of the District, budget preparation and tax rates, and support services provided to and from other groundwater conservation districts.

10. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to legal counsel report.

11. Adjourn.

The Refugio Groundwater Conservation District may close the meeting, if necessary, to conduct private consultation with legal counsel regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code or to discuss matters regarding personnel pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Government Code. The Refugio Groundwater Conservation District will return to open meeting, if necessary, to take any action deemed necessary based on discussion in closed meeting pursuant to Section 551.102 of the Government Code.

In Accordance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we invite all attendees to advise us of any special accommodations due to disability. Please submit your request as far as possible in advance of event you wish to attend.

Item 1 - Convene Meeting

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11. Item 11.0 Adjourn Meeting

Topic 1.1 - Roll Call

Management Discussion:

Staff completed the necessary public notification requirements for the meeting.

RGCD - Meeting Notice - PN-20260720-03.pdf



File

RGCD - GMA 15 DFC Hearing Notice - PN-20260720-01a.pdf



File

RGCD - Rulemaking Notice - PN-20260720-02.pdf



File

Management Recommendation:

Call the meeting to order and call the roll of representatives:

_____: Precinct 1 Director: Mr. John Snyder, Vice President.

_____: Precinct 2 Director: Mr. Carroll Borden, President.
_____: Precinct 3 Director: Ms. Cynthia Rose, Treasurer.
_____: Precinct 4 Director: Mr. Fredric Biery, Secretary.
_____: At Large Director: Ms. Stephanie Blaschke.
_____: General Manager: Tim Andruss.
_____: General Counsel: Jim Allison.

Topic 1.2 - General Manager Report

Groundwater Management (Permitting)

Regarding General Groundwater Permitting

Regarding Well Registration Processing

As of July 7, 2026, staff had received 19 well registration applications (ARWs) since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had received 20 Notices of Intent to Drill a Well (NIDWs) since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Production Permit Renewal Processing

As of July 7, 2026, staff had identified 3 Production permits due to expire during the fiscal year. Staff mailed courtesy notices regarding the pending expiration and the need to renew the subject permit to permittees in April 2026.

Regarding Permit Processing

As of July 7, 2026, staff had received 2 applications related to production permits since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had 0 administratively incomplete applications related to production permits.

Applications to amend a production permit: **NONE**.

Applications to renew a production permit: **NONE**.

Applications for Historic-Use Production Permit: **NONE**.

Applications for Standard-Capacity Non-Historic-Use Production Permit: **NONE**.

Applications for High-Capacity Non-Historic-Use Production Permit: **NONE**.

Applications for Deep-Saline Non-Historic-Use Production Permit: **NONE**.

Applications for a Waiver: **NONE**.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had initiated 2 permitting request cases (PRCs) since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had 2 permitting request cases pending.

1. PRC-20260506-01- AAP-20260304-01 - T Michael O' Connor - Mr. T. Michael O'Connor May seeks, under permitting request case PRC-20260506-01, an amendment to reflect change of ownership to L. O'Connor Exempt Trust, T. O'Connor Exempt Trust, and N. O'Connor Exempt Trust, T. Michael O'Connor Trustee. for non-grandfathered well NW-00597.
2. PRC-20260513-01- AAP-20260304-02 - T Michael O' Connor - Mr. T. Michael O'Connor May seeks, under permitting request case PRC-20260513-01, an amendment to reflect change of ownership to L. O'Connor Exempt Trust, T.

O'Connor Exempt Trust, and N. O'Connor Exempt Trust, T. Michael O'Connor Trustee. for non-grandfathered well NW-00596.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had 48 active or approved production permits recorded in the permitting database with a combined amount of authorized groundwater production per year of 1,879.26 acre-feet.

Regarding Groundwater Production Report Processing

As of July 7, 2026, staff had processed 38 groundwater production reports for the preceding calendar year since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had recorded groundwater production reports for 38 water wells reporting 924.712 acre-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: TWDB - Projected Exempt Groundwater Use Estimates.)

Regarding Manage Investigations related to Permitting Violations

As of July 6, 2026, staff had initiated 2 investigations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2025.

As of July 6, 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 July 6, 2026, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2025.

As of July 6, 2026, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement cases related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting).

Regarding Permit Report Processing

As of July 6, 2026, staff had processed 0 permit reports to permittees since October 1, 2025.

As of July 6, 2026, staff had 0 permit report outstanding.

Groundwater Protection

Regarding General Groundwater Protection

Regarding Well Inspections

As of July 7, 2026, staff had recorded 15 well inspection forms (WIFs) since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Manage Investigations related to Groundwater Protection

As of July 6, 2026, staff had initiated 1 investigations related to Groundwater Protection since October 1, 2025.

As of July 6, 2026, staff had 1 active investigations 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 July 7, 2026, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to Groundwater Protection since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement case violations related to Groundwater Protection.

Regarding Well Plugging Sponsorship

As of July 7, 2026, staff had received 0 requests for assistance with well plugging since October 1, 2025.

Groundwater Monitoring

Regarding General Groundwater Monitoring

Regarding Drought Condition Monitoring

As of July 7, 2026, the U.S. Drought Monitor (<https://www.drought.gov/states/texas/county/refugio>) indicates that 0% of Refugio County was experiencing drought conditions.

As of July 7, 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 0% of Refugio County was experiencing drought conditions.

Regarding Water Level Monitoring

As of July 7, 2026, staff had collected 15 water level measurements since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Water Quality Aquifer Monitoring

As of July 7, 2026, staff had collected 5 water quality field measurements since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had collected 0 water quality samples since October 1, 2025.

As of July 7, 2026, staff had received 0 water quality lab reports since October 1, 2025.

Regarding Advanced Aquifer Monitoring

The charts of automated measurements can be viewed at the following web address: <https://www.rgcd.org/real-time-aquifer-monitoring-charts>.

Regarding Water Level Assessment

Regarding Water Quality Assessment

Regarding Subsidence Assessment

Groundwater Conservation

Regarding General Groundwater Conservation

Regarding Promote Conservation

Groundwater Resource Planning

Regarding General Groundwater Resource Planning

Regarding Regional Water Planning Participation

On June 24, 2026, Tim Andruss, General Manager of the District, participated in a meeting of the Guiding Principles and By-Laws Subcommittee of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region L). The next meeting of the planning group is scheduled for August 27, 2026 at 9:30 AM at the offices of the San Antonio Water System.

Regarding GMA 15 Joint Planning

On May 13, 2026, the staff of the District completed the public notice requirements to conduct a public hearing, beginning at 6:30 PM, to receive public comment and consider possible action on the proposed desired future conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Regarding GMA 15 Administration

Groundwater Policy

Regarding General Groundwater Policy

Regarding Management Plan Revisions

Regarding Rule Amendments

On June 19, 2026, the staff of the District completed the public notice requirements to conduct a rulemaking hearing to receive public comment and consider possible action on the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District.

Regarding Legislative Support and Lobbying

Administration

The next meetings of the Board is scheduled for August 17, 2026, and October 19, 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. On June 25, 2026, the Victoria County GCD received informal notification that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) authorized the negotiation of terms of grant agreements associated with its Groundwater Science, Research, and Data Collection Grant Program. The District submitted a grant application for funding of a proposed project to complete a comprehensive subsidence analysis and installation of a long-term subsidence monitoring station, with a total estimated cost of \$281,000. The grant application submitted on behalf of the cooperating districts sought a grant of \$231,000. TWDB authorized the partial funding of the project in an amount of \$158,500. Management anticipates the staff-negotiated grant agreement and details regarding administrative and financial commitments of the cooperating districts will be presented to the Board for consideration in August 2026.

Item 2 - Receive Public Comment

Item 3 - Groundwater Management (Permitting)

Considerations

Item 4 - Groundwater Protection Considerations

Item 5 - Groundwater Monitoring Considerations

Topic 5.1 - Water Quality Assessment

Management Discussion:

On January 17, 2025, the Board authorized a cost-share arrangement with the cooperating districts to fund a project by DBSA to evaluate water quality across the Victoria, Jackson, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties to serve as a baseline for future evaluations and trend analysis. The project was funded at \$74,000, with \$55,500 contributed by the other cooperating districts. The District has paid \$66,288.45 to DBSA for the project to date.

On March 27, 2026, Neil Blandford of Daniel B. Stephens and Associates (DBSA) submitted the final report regarding the general groundwater quality within Victoria, Jackson, Calhoun, and Refugio Counties. The report is titled *Four County Groundwater Quality Study*. Through the completion of the project, DBSA complied and documented water quality information regarding total dissolved solids concentration of groundwater, assigned formation information where possible, analyzed the data, and developed time-based water quality charts, and water quality contours for Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties. DBSA provide recommendations regarding monitoring that would be useful for improving water quality monitoring by the districts.



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Management Recommendation:

Move to accept the report.

Item 6 - Groundwater Conservation Considerations

Item 7 - Groundwater Resource Planning Considerations

Topic 7.1 - Public Hearing regarding Proposed Amended Desired Future Condition for GMA 15

NOTE: this topic cannot be considered before 6:30 PM due to the publication of the associated hearing notice identifying a 6:30 PM start time.

Management Discussion:

On April 7, 2026, the proposed desired future conditions were mailed to the districts marking the beginning of the public comment period for the member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15.

The proposed amended desired future condition for Groundwater Management Area 15 does not include revisions to the condition specified for Refugio County.

On May 13, 2026, the staff of the District completed the public notice requirements to conduct a public hearing to receive public comment and consider possible action on the proposed desired future conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15.

RGCD - GMA 15 DFC Hearing Notice - PN-20260720-01a.pdf

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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."

Management Recommendation 1:

Move to:

1. open the Public Hearing regarding Proposed Amended Desired Future Condition for GMA 15; and
2. accept any public comments regarding the Public Hearing regarding Proposed Amended Desired Future Condition for GMA 15.

Management Recommendation 2:

Move to:

1. close the Public Hearing regarding Proposed Amended Desired Future Condition for GMA 15 after receiving all offered public comments; and
2. close the public comment period.

Management Recommendation 3:

Move to instruct the General Manager to 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.

Item 8 - Groundwater Policy Considerations

Topic 8.1 - Brackish Groundwater Characterization and Rule Development

Management Discussion:

On June 15, 2026, the Board acted to request that Dr. Young prepare for and attend the District's meeting scheduled for July 20, 2026, to report on and discuss his

work to support the district's efforts to develop deep-saline groundwater production regulations and rules.

On June 18, 2026, Intera, Inc. submitted a proposal in response to management's request for a project to simulate drawdowns resulting from deep-saline production scenarios that correspond to the recommended deep-saline production caps, recommended deep-saline special groundwater management zones, and recommended transmissivity classes. The cost of the proposed work is \$10,000 with resulting report being submitted before the next meeting of the directors scheduled for July 20, 2026.

VCGCD - Intera Proposal - Cumulative Effect Simulations - 20260618 .pdf



File

On June 22, 2026, the Board of the Calhoun County GCD acted to approve the *Proposal to perform additional simulations of brackish groundwater production in Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties*, authorize the payment of the associated fees, and instruct the general manager to seek cost-sharing arrangements with cooperating districts.

On July 9, 2026, Intera delivered the resulting report titled *Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources for Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties Addendum #2. Simulation of Drawdowns Caused by Brackish Groundwater Production*.

VCGCD - Intera Brackish Proposed Rules Production Simulations - 20260709.pdf



File

The report documents the simulation of brackish groundwater water resources in the four county area within the cooperating districts' jurisdictions at production levels and production zones that align with the deep-saline non-historic-use production caps proposed under the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District of each of the cooperating districts. The simulations predict significantly smaller drawdown impacts as compared to the pumping simulations evaluated in the report titled *Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources for Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties Addendum #1. Simulation of Drawdowns Caused by Large-Scale Production* produced by Intera for the cooperating districts.

On July 10, 2026, Victoria County GCD reviewed the proposal, accepted the resulting report titled *Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources for Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties Addendum #2. Simulation of Drawdowns Caused by Brackish Groundwater Production*, authorized the cost sharing arrangement with Calhoun County GCD, and instructed management seek support for the cost-sharing arrangement by the other cooperating districts.

On July 16, 2026, Intera provided a comparison, by county, of drawdown impacts simulated under the two addendum reports .

VCGCD - INTERA Impact Summary by County - 20260716.pdf

Management Recommendation:

Move to 1) accept and approve the proposal, 2) share the cost for the project with the cooperating districts, and 3) accept the resulting report titled *Characterization of Brackish Groundwater Resources for Calhoun, Jackson, Refugio, and Victoria Counties Addendum #2. Simulation of Drawdowns Caused by Brackish Groundwater Production.*

Topic 8.2 - Rulemaking Hearing**Management Discussion:**

On June 15, 2026, the Board of Directors instructed the General Manager to post a rulemaking notice regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District.

On June 16, 2026, the public notice for the rulemaking hearing was posted on the website of the district with a copy of the proposed rules and a comparison document of the proposed rules to the current rules of the district.

On June 19, 2026, the public notice requirements for the rulemaking hearing were completed.

In order to assist the Board in its consideration of public comments regarding deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting a summary of substantive changes (additions, modification, and deletions) related to deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting in the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District has been developed.

DEFINITIONS

The proposed revisions to the following definitions represent substantive changes as compared to the existing definitions and fundamentally alter the regulatory framework associated with brackish groundwater permitting within the District: DEEP-SALINE SPECIAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONE, DEEP-SALINE SPECIAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONES, DEEP-SALINE TRANSMISSIVITY CATEGORY, and DEEP-SALINE TRANSMISSIVITY ZONES.

1. *DEEP-SALINE SPECIAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONE means a special groundwater management zone designated by the district comprised of water-bearing strata at least 1,000 feet below the surface of the ground within the jurisdictional boundaries of the district that:*
 1. *contains saline groundwater existing below the middle depth between the 1,000 TDS contours and the 3,000 TDS contour as illustrated in Figure 1a, and*
 2. *where at least 100 feet of clay thickness composed from individual clay intervals of 10 feet or greater, as determined by interpretation of core samples or geophysical logs, exists between a) the top of 1,000 TDS contour illustrated in Figure 1 and b) the middle depth between the 1,000 TDS contours and the 3,000 TDS contour illustrated in Figure 1a.*
2. *DEEP-SALINE SPECIAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONES designated by the district are limited to:*

1. **SLIGHTLY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE** means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone with groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) **equal to or greater than** two thousand milligrams per liter (2,000 mg/L) and 2) **equal to or less than** three thousand milligrams per liter (3,000 mg/L).
2. **MODERATELY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE** means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone [with] groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) **greater than** three thousand milligrams per liter (3,000 mg/L) and 2) **equal to or less than** ten thousand milligrams per liter (10,000 mg/L).
3. **EXTREMELY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE** means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone [with] groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) **greater than** ten thousand milligrams per liter (10,000 mg/L)

The use of measured hydrogeological parameters (e.g., depth to slightly saline groundwater, depth to moderately saline groundwater, and sediment lithology) at a proposed production area to define the DSGMZ creates a flexible regulatory approach of establishing any particular deep-saline production zone at a production area and establishing the associated zone of protection by identifying the presence of aggregate clay barriers.

The use of calculated hydrogeological parameters (e.g., transmissivity) at a proposed production area to define the production ratios of a particular DSGMZ creates a flexible regulatory approach that accounts for a primary factor influencing the amount of impact (i.e. drawdown) anticipated by the production of groundwater from the DSGMZ at the specific production area.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed definitions was to articulate clear criteria for defining specific deep-saline special groundwater management zones (DSGMZs) using parameters that can be measured, sufficiently protect better-quality groundwater resources, and increase the certainty that deep-saline non-historic-use production permits issued will achieve the policy goal to increase the protection and conservation of shallower better-quality water through the incentivization of safe development of deep brackish groundwater resources.

SPACING LIMITATIONS

The proposed revisions to the well spacing limitations of deep-saline wells represent substantive changes as compared to the existing limitations as follows:

1. Under Rule 2.3(1), the required offset of a deep-saline well from the boundary of the contiguous tract of land ownership is increased from 0.5 feet to 1.0 feet per gallon per minute for each gallon per minute of groundwater production capacity of the deep-saline well.
- 2.

Under Rule 2.3(1), the required offset of a deep-saline well from the boundary of the contiguous tract of groundwater ownership is increased from 0.5 feet to 1.0 feet per gallon per minute for each gallon per minute of groundwater production capacity of the deep-saline well.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to avoid authorizing production of groundwater, through the issuance of a deep-saline non-historic use production permit and potentially greater impacts (e.g., increased encroachment on existing or future water well, increased proximity of production impacts such as drawdown or well interference) on adjacent landowner through deep-saline groundwater production than would be authorized under standard-capacity or high-capacity production permits.

PRODUCTION LIMITATIONS

The proposed revision to the aggregate production limitations of deep-saline groundwater by GROUNDWATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATIONS (production caps) represents substantive changes as compared to the existing limitations as follows:

1. Under Rule 6.4(2), the total volume of **slightly** saline groundwater production per year to be permitted in the District is set to **10,000** acre-feet per year.
2. Under Rule 6.4(2), the total volume of **moderately** saline groundwater production per year in the District is set to **7,000** acre-feet per year.
3. Under Rule 6.4(3), the total volume of **extremely** saline groundwater production per year in the District is set at **5,000** acre-feet per year.

With the proposed annual production volume for slightly, moderately, and extremely saline groundwater production, the combined proposed limits for deep-saline groundwater production within the District represents 22,000 acre-feet of groundwater production per year.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to 1) avoid over-permitting deep-saline groundwater production that results in excessive regional groundwater production-related impacts such as significant wide-spread subsidence or wide-spread excessive drawdown, 2) avoid issuing deep-saline non-historic-use production permits under which the permitted production cannot be sustained and satisfy regional management goals such as achievement of desired future conditions (DFCs), and 3) avoid issuing unreliable production permits and the potential development of a district-level water crisis.

The proposed addition of production limitations for the initial 24-months of production under a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4(4), the maximum annual production of **slightly** saline groundwater during the initial **24-month period** of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit is limited to **5,000** acre-feet per year.
- 2.

Under Rule 6.4(5), the maximum annual production of **moderately** saline groundwater during the initial **24-month period** of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit is limited to **3,500** acre-feet per year.

3. Under Rule 6.4(6), the maximum annual production of **extremely** saline groundwater during the initial **24-month period** of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit is limited to **2,500** acre-feet per year.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to avoid excessive or unanticipated impacts associated with intense, large-scale production authorized based limited data, modeling, and monitoring data associated with deep-saline production in accordance with the general understanding that deeper zones tend to have greater clay percentages under greater overburden pressures that could lead to subsidence during intense and prolonged pumping (i.e., depressurization in the production zone).

The proposed additions of production limit reductions of cumulative authorized production amounts for existing and future non-historic production permits with overlapping production areas with deep-saline non-historic-use production permits represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline groundwater production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4(8), the volume of groundwater production authorized under existing and future non-historic-use production permits with production areas that intersect the production area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production area for **slightly** saline groundwater, other than the volumes authorized under the deep-saline non-historic-use production permits, would be reduced by **20%**.
2. Under Rule 6.4(9), the volume of groundwater production authorized under existing and future non-historic-use production permits with production areas that intersect the production area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production area for **moderately** saline groundwater, other than the volumes authorized under the deep-saline non-historic-use production permits, would be reduced by **10%**.
3. Under Rule 6.4(10), the volume of groundwater production authorized under existing and future non-historic-use production permits with production areas that intersect the production area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production area for **extremely** saline groundwater, other than the volumes authorized under the deep-saline non-historic-use production permits, would be reduced by **5%**.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to 1) establish a minimum level of conservation to be achieved through the incentivization of deep-saline groundwater production, and 2) establish increasing incentives for the production of deeper, poorer-quality groundwater.

The proposed revisions to define deep-saline groundwater production ratios (i.e., acre-feet/acre controlled production ratios) based on groundwater quality classification and transmissivity categories represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4.1(2-4), the groundwater production ratio for production areas associated with **slightly** saline deep-saline non-historic-use production permits would be set to a range of **4 to 8 acre-feet** of groundwater production per acre per year depending on the designated transmissivity category established for the DSGMZ.
2. Under Rule 6.4.1(5-7), the groundwater production ratio for production areas associated with **moderately** saline deep-saline non-historic-use production permits would be set to a range of **6 to 10 acre-feet** of groundwater production per acre per year depending on the designated transmissivity category established for the DSGMZ.
3. Under Rule 6.4.1(8-10), the groundwater production ratio for production areas associated with **extremely** saline deep-saline non-historic-use production permits would be set to a range of **8 to 10 acre-feet** of groundwater production per acre per year depending on the designated transmissivity category established for the DSGMZ.

Production Ratio Matrix based on 2026 Proposed Rules of the District

		Better-Quality ---> Poorer-Quality		
	Salinity - Transmissivity Ratio Matrix	Slightly Saline DSGMZ	Moderate Saline DSGMZ	Extremely Saline DSGMZ
Greater Spatial Production Impacts ---> Smaller Spatial Production Impacts per Unit of Production	Low Transmissivity Zone	Rule 6.4.1(2): 4 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(5): 6 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(8): 8 AFY
	Moderate Transmissivity Zone	Rule 6.4.1(3): 6 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(6): 8 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(9): 9 AFY
	High Transmissivity Zone	Rule 6.4.1(4): 8 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(7): 10 AFY	Rule 6.4.1(10): 10 AFY

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to 1) create a progressive incentivization for the development of poorer-quality groundwater relative better-quality groundwater while recognizing the inverse relationship between transmissivity and size and extent of cones of depression caused by groundwater production.

PERFORMANCE CONDITIONS

The proposed revisions to performance conditions represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4.(12)(12.3), the maximum level of impact (i.e., increase in TDS concentrations) observed in **slightly** saline DSGMZ would be reduced to **3,000 mg/L** to align with the definition of GROUNDWATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATION.
2. Under Rule 6.4.(12)(12.4), the maximum level of impact (i.e., increase in TDS concentrations) observed in **moderately** saline DSGMZ would be reduced to **10,000 mg/L** to align with the definition of GROUNDWATER QUALITY CLASSIFICATION.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to properly limit the amount of change, in terms of maximum TDS concentrations, that can result from the groundwater production under a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit issued by the District.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The proposed revisions related to monitoring requirements represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4.3(1), the minimum number of dedicated aquifer monitoring wells is increased from 1 to **3 wells**.

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to ensure that the monitoring efforts associated with deep-saline non-historic-use bound and monitor the perimeter of the associated production area.

PERFORMANCE RESPONSES

The proposed revisions related performance responses represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

1. Under Rule 6.4.4(1)(1.1), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit must submit hydrogeological report assessing the degree on cause or contribution to drawdown when the drawdown levels in fresh groundwater monitoring wells exceed drawdown performance conditions.
2. Under Rule 6.4.4(1)(1.2), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit must adjust groundwater production to prevent fresh drawdown in fresh groundwater monitoring wells from exceeding **20 feet** when drawdowns reach **15 feet** relative to initially measured conditions.
3. Under Rule 6.4.4(1)(1.3), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit must reduce non-exempt-use groundwater production located within the production permit area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit in subsequent reporting periods to the lesser of **80%** of volume produced in the subject reporting period or the remainder of the unpumped annual production volume when performance conditions are not achieved for **2 or more** consecutive reporting periods (i.e., 6 months of continuous failure to achieve the performance conditions).
- 4.

Under Rule 6.4.4(1)(1.4), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit must reduce non-exempt-use groundwater production located within the production permit area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit in subsequent reporting periods to **1%** of volume produced in the preceding reporting period when performance conditions are not achieved for **8 or more** consecutive reporting periods (i.e., 2 years of continuous failure to achieve the performance conditions).

5. Under Rule 6.4.4(2)(2.1), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit may increase non-exempt-use groundwater production located within the production permit area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit in subsequent reporting periods to **110%** of volume produced in the subject reporting period or the remainder of the unpumped annual production volume when performance conditions are achieved for **2 or more** consecutive reporting periods (i.e., 6 months of continuous success to achieve the performance conditions).
6. Under Rule 6.4.4(2)(2.1), groundwater owners and well operators associated with a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit may increase non-exempt-use groundwater production located within the production permit area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit in subsequent reporting periods to **100%** of annual production volume when performance conditions are achieved for **8 or more** consecutive reporting periods (i.e., 2 years of continuous success to achieve the performance conditions).

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to develop a simple production curtailment and production restoration system to address repeated failure to achieve performance conditions and repeated success in achieving performance conditions.

PERMITTING PROCEDURES

The proposed revisions related to the permitting procedures represent substantive changes to regulations associated with deep-saline non-historic-use production permitting.

Under Rule 6.4.2, applicants for deep-saline non-historic-use production permits must develop and submit of required technical information and operation plans regarding aquifer characteristics present at a proposed production area of a deep-saline non-historic-use production permit with the permit application instead of deferring the development and submittal of the required technical information and operation plans to after the initial permit approval and prior to operation of the associated deep-saline production well(s).

Management's goal for recommending the proposed revisions was to increase the certainty/confidence that deep-saline non-historic-use production permits issued will achieve the policy goal to increase the protection and conservation of

shallower better-quality water through the incentivization of safe development of deep brackish groundwater resources.

The following revisions to the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District are recommended by management:

1. The definition DEEP-SALINE SPECIAL GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONES should be modified to read as follows: "designated by the district are limited to:
 - a. SLIGHTLY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone with groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) equal to or greater than two thousand milligrams per liter (2,000 mg/L) and 2) equal to or less than three thousand milligrams per liter (3,000 mg/L~~).~~) with a spatial extent illustrated in Figure 4.
 - b. MODERATELY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone with groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) greater than three thousand milligrams per liter (3,000 mg/L) and 2) equal to or less than ten thousand milligrams per liter (10,000 mg/L~~).~~) with a spatial extent illustrated in Figure 5.
 - c. EXTREMELY SALINE GROUNDWATER ZONE means the deep-saline special groundwater management zone with groundwater with a total dissolved solids concentration 1) greater than ten thousand milligrams per liter (10,000 mg/L~~).~~) with a spatial extent illustrated in Figure 6."
2. Rule 2.4(9) should be revised to read as follows: "A person drilling a deep-saline well shall not install the well screen of the well above the middle depth between the top of the 1,000 mg/L TDS groundwater-bearing stratum and the 3,000 mg/L TDS groundwater-bearing stratum ~~a depth of one thousand two hundred feet (1,200 feet) below the land surface.~~"
3. Rule 2.4 should be revised to add item (10) that reads as follows: "A person drilling a deep-saline well shall seal the annular space between the wall of the borehole and casing from the top of the 1,000 mg/L TDS groundwater-bearing stratum to the middle depth between the top of the 1,000 mg/L TDS groundwater-bearing stratum and the 3,000 mg/L TDS groundwater-bearing stratum."
4. Rule 4.3(10) should be revised to read as follows: "~~10.~~The applicant, by failing to provide the information requested by the general manager needed to fully evaluate the application relative to the rules of the district within 60 days, causes the application to be automatically terminated."
5. Rule 6.2.1(1) should be revised to add item 1.17 that reads as follows: "a statement certifying, under penalty of law, that the applicant shall avoid waste and achieve water conservation and that reasonable diligence will be used to protect groundwater quality and that the applicant will follow well plugging guidelines at the time of well closure; and"
6. Rule 6.4(12)(12.5) should be clarified as follows: "the amount of drawdown attributed ~~from the operation~~ to the operation of the subject well or subject

well field, as determined from the modeled drawdown and the monitored water levels, calculated for any reporting period, shall not exceed ten feet (10 feet) at any well outside the production area, registered with the district on or before the date of issuance of the production permit, relative to the initial average aquifer conditions established under the production permit for deep-saline non-historic use;"

7. Add Figure 4: Spatial Extent of the Slightly Saline Groundwater Zone.
8. Add Figure 5: Spatial Extent of the Moderately Saline Groundwater Zone.
9. Add Figure 6: Spatial Extent of the Extremely Saline Groundwater Zone.

DSGMZ - RGCD Slightly Saline Groundwater Zone - Spatial Extent.pdf



File

DSGMZ - RGCD Moderately Saline Groundwater Zone - Spatial Extent.pdf



File

DSGMZ - RGCD Extremely Saline Groundwater Zone - Spatial Extent.pdf



File

Management Recommendation 1:

Move to open the public hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District and accept public comment.

Management Recommendation 2:

If the District DID NOT RECEIVE a request before or during the public hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District to consider particular revisions to the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District from the public, move to:

1. close the public hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District,
2. adopt the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District as the Rules of the District,
3. terminate the moratorium adopted under Resolution and Order RES-20260615-01,
4. designate the Rules of the District with the management-recommended revisions described above as the "2026 Proposed Rules of the District - Version 20260720", and
5. instruct the General Manager to post a notice for a rulemaking hearing to receive public comment and consider the adoption of the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District - Version 20260720 for the district meeting scheduled for October 19, 2026.

If the District RECEIVED a request before or during the public hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District to consider particular revisions to the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District from the public, move to:

1. recess and hold open the public hearing regarding the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District,
2. designate the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District with the management-recommended revisions described above as the "2026 Proposed Rules of the

District - Version 20260720",

3. instruct the General Manager to post a notice for the continuation of the rulemaking hearing to receive public comment and consider the adoption of the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District - Version 20260720 for the district meeting scheduled for October 19, 2026, and
4. instruct the General Manager to post the necessary rulemaking notice needed to conduct a rulemaking hearing and consider any proposed rule revisions submitted, on or before August 24, 2026, by an interested party or public at the district meeting scheduled for October 19, 2026.

Item 9 - Administration and Management Considerations

Topic 9.1 - Minutes of Previous Meeting

Management Discussion:

The minutes for the 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 context in which those actions were taken. The minutes for the previous meeting were sent to the board members prior to the meeting.

RGCD - Meeting Minutes - 20260518.pdf



File

RGCD - Meeting Minutes - 20260615.pdf



File

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept and approve the meeting minutes for May 18, 2026, and June 15, 2026, as drafted.

Topic 9.2 - Investments of the District

Management Discussion:

The investment reports for March, April, and May 2026 have been developed by Lisa Ramirez, Administrator Coordinator and reviewed and approved by Caitlynn Davenport, Investment Officer of the District and were sent to the directors prior to the meeting.

RGCD - Investment Report - IR-20260331-01 - FY26M06 - Final.pdf



File

RGCD - Investment Report - IR-20260430-01- FY2026M08 - Final.pdf



File

RGCD - Investment Report - IR-20260531-01 - FY2026M08 - Final.pdf



File

The balance of all funds of the district as of May 2026, was \$1,555,296.74.

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept the investment reports for March, April, and May 2026.

Topic 9.3 - Financial Transaction Report

Management Discussion:

The list below identifies each accounts payable transaction that was recorded since April 1, 2026, as of July 20, 2026:

1. RGCD - ACCTP-20260401-01 - \$880.00 - No. 7787 - ABM, LLC - Sept. - Oct. 2025 - Legal Consultation
2. RGCD - ACCTP-20260401-02 - \$3,287.90 - TML - Risk Pool - 2026 - Liability Insurance
3. RGCD - ACCTP-20260409-01 - \$838.35 - VCGCD - ILA-202204-02-R - Dec25-Feb26 Reimb.
4. RGCD - ACCTP-20260409-02 - \$15.40 - Vantage Bank-1165 - March Bank Analysis
5. RGCD - ACCTP-20260407-01 - \$31,500.00 - VCGCD - RR Fees 2027 - ILA-202604-01-R
6. RGCD - ACCTP-20260409-01 - \$838.35 - VCGCD - ILA-202204-02-R - Dec25-Feb26 Reimb.
7. RGCD - ACCTP-20260420-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - April Board Meeting
8. RGCD - ACCTP-20260420-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - April Board Meeting
9. RGCD - ACCTP-20260420-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - April Board Meeting
10. RGCD - ACCTP-20260420-04 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - April Board Meeting
11. RGCD - ACCTP-20260420-05 - \$100.00 - Jeanette Sabino - Well Access Fees
12. RGCD - ACCTP-20260430-01 - \$4,522.38 - TexPool-449/79982- April 2026 Statement
13. RGCD - ACCTP-20260508-01 - \$414.25 - Victoria Advocate - GMA-15 Public Hearing
14. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - May Board Meeting
15. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - May Board Meeting
16. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - May Board Meeting
17. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-04 - \$960.00 - ABM, LLC - Nov. - Dec. 2026 - Legal Counsel
18. RGCD - ACCTP-20260529-02 - \$16.60 - Vantage Bank - April Analysis
19. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - June Board Meeting
20. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - June Board Meeting
21. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - June Board Meeting
22. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-04 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - June Board Meeting
23. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-05 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - June Board Meeting
24. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-06 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - July Board Meeting
25. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-07 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - July Board Meeting
26. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-08 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - July Board Meeting
27. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-09 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - July Board Meeting
28. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-10 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - July Board Meeting
- 29.

RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-11 - \$1,190.42 - RC Appraisal District - 3rd Qtr. Services

30. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-12 - \$159.70 - Victoria Advocate - Hearing Notice - 2026 Proposed Rule

31. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-13 - \$2,400.00 - CivicPlus - 2026-2027 DocAccess

32. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-14 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - VCGCD - July Board Meeting

The list below identifies each accounts receivable transaction that was recorded since April 1, 2026, as of July 20, 2026:

1. RGCD - ACCTR-20260407-01 - \$1,297.67 - RC Tax Assessor - Collections

2. RGCD - ACCTR-20260422-01 - \$1,446.56 - RC Tax Assessor - April Tax Collections

3. RGCD - ACCTR-20260430-01 - \$6.68 - Vantage Bank-11658 - April Interest

4. RGCD - ACCTR-20260506-01 - \$700.62 - RC Tax Assessor Collector - May Collections

5. RGCD - ACCTR-20260529-01 - \$4,642.94 - TexPool - May Interest

6. RGCD - ACCTR-20260529-03 - \$3.62 - Vantage Bank - May Interest

7. RGCD - ACCTR-20260603-01 - \$1,357.30 - RC Tax Assessor - June Collection

8. RGCD - ACCTR-20260622-01 - \$1,105.51 - RC Tax Assessor - June Collections

9. RGCD - ACCTR-20260630-01 - \$3.83 - Vantage Bank-11658

Topic 9.4 - Financial Reports of the District

Management Discussion:

The internal financial reports of the District for March, April, and May 2026, have been compiled by the district administrative coordinator and sent to the directors prior to the meeting.

RGCD - Financial Transaction Registry - FY2026 20260331.pdf



File

RGCD - Financial Transaction Registry - FY2026 20260430.pdf



File

RGCD - Financial Transaction Registry - FY2026 20260531.pdf



File

RGCD - Adm - FM - Internal Control Review Report - ICRR-20260331-01 - March 31, 2026.pdf



File

RGCD - Adm - FM - Internal Control Review Report - ICRR-20260430-01 - April 30, 2026.pdf



File

RGCD - Adm - FM - Internal Control Review Report - ICRR-20260531-01 - May 31, 2026.pdf

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept and approve the financial reports for March, April, and May 2026.

Topic 9.5 - Unpaid Invoices and Bills**Management Discussion:**

The District has outstanding bills and invoices that are NOT considered regular and routine nor has the Board previously authorized the requested payment.

1. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-04 - \$960.00 - ABM, LLC - Nov. - Dec. 2026 - Legal Counsel
2. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - June Board Meeting
3. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - June Board Meeting
4. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - June Board Meeting
5. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-04 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - June Board Meeting
6. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-05 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - June Board Meeting
7. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-06 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - July Board Meeting
8. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-07 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - July Board Meeting
9. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-08 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - July Board Meeting
10. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-09 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - July Board Meeting
11. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-10 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - July Board Meeting
12. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-14 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - VCGCD - July Board Meeting

Management Recommendation:

Move to authorize the general manager to pay the following items:

1. RGCD - ACCTP-20260518-04 - \$960.00 - ABM, LLC - Nov. - Dec. 2026 - Legal Counsel
2. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-01 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - June Board Meeting
3. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-02 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - June Board Meeting
4. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-03 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - June Board Meeting
5. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-04 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - June Board Meeting
6. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-05 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - June Board Meeting
7. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-06 - \$250.00 - C. Borden - July Board Meeting
8. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-07 - \$250.00 - J. Snyder - July Board Meeting
9. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-08 - \$250.00 - C. Rose - July Board Meeting
10. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-09 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - July Board Meeting
11. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-10 - \$250.00 - S. Blaschke - July Board Meeting
12. RGCD - ACCTP-20260720-14 - \$250.00 - F. Biery - VCGCD - July Board Meeting

Topic 9.6 - Budget Planning**Management Discussion:**

To assist the Board in its efforts to allocate the budget for FY2027 and to adopt a budget during the meeting scheduled for August 17, 2026, staff provides the District's FY2026 budget and descriptions of the FY2026 project for review.



FY2026 - Project Descriptions - 20260716.pdf



Management Recommendation:

If the Board intends to propose and adopt a tax rate that is less than the no-new-revenue tax rate and less than the voter-approval tax rate, move to instruct the General Manager to:

1. develop and present a draft budget with an estimated tax levy for Tax Year 2026 based on the no-new-revenue tax rate at the meeting of the Board of Directors scheduled in August 2026,
2. publish the Notice of Tax Rate (Texas Comptroller Form 50-212, *Notice of Tax Rate*) as soon as possible, and
3. schedule and prepare for the consideration of and action on the adoption of the maximum tax rate that is less than the no-new-revenue tax rate and less than the voter-approval tax rate as calculate by the Tax Assessor-Collect for the District.

Item 10.0 - Legal Counsel Report

Item 11.0 - Adjourn Meeting

Management Recommendation:

Move to adjourn the meeting after concluding all business of the District.