

**Refugio Groundwater Conservation District**  
**Meeting Minutes for February 18, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Refugio Groundwater Conservation District convened a meeting at 708 Commerce St., Refugio, Texas 78377 on February 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

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

Mr. Borden called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and called the roll of representatives:

Precinct 1: Mr. John Snyder, Treasurer: Present.

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

Precinct 3: Ms. Cynthia Rose: Present.

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

At Large: Vacant:

General Manager: Mr. Tim Andruss: Present.

General Counsel: Mr. James Allison: Absent.

**Item 2. Receive public comments.**

No public comments were offered at the meeting.

**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 for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had received 6 well registration applications (ARWs) since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had received 14 Notices of Intent to Drill a Well (NIDWs) since October 1, 2024.

Regarding Production Permit Renewal Processing for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had received 0 production permit renewal requests (ARPPs) since October 1, 2024.

Regarding Permit Processing for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had initiated 2 permitting request case (PRCs) since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 3 permitting request cases pending.

- a. PRC-20201215-01 - ADW-20201210-01/AOW-20201210-02 - Chandra Purnama - Pending / Uncontested
- b. PRC-20241212-01 - ANHUPPWS-20241211-01 - Town of Woodsboro - Pending/Uncontested
- c. PRC-20250103-01 - AAP-20250102-01 - Bad Bull 2023 LLC. - Pending/Protested

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 20 active or approved production permits recorded in the permitting database with a combined amount of authorized groundwater production per year of 1,891 acre-feet.

Regarding Groundwater Production Report Processing for CY2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had processed 28 groundwater production reports (GPRs) for the preceding calendar year since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had recorded groundwater production reports for 27 water wells reporting 655 acre-feet of groundwater production during CY2024. (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 for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had initiated 1 investigations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 1 active investigations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting):

- a. INV- 20250122-01 - Failure to report groundwater production - Active

Regarding Manage Enforcement Cases related to Permitting Violations for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting) since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement case violations related to groundwater management (i.e., permitting):

- a. 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 follow information:

Regarding Well Inspections for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had recorded 2 well inspection forms (WIFs) since October 1, 2024.

Regarding Manage Investigations related to Groundwater Protection for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had initiated 0 investigations related to Groundwater Protection since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 1 active investigation related to Groundwater Protection.

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

Regarding Manage Enforcement Cases related to Groundwater Protection for FY2025.

As of February 12, 2025, the Board had initiated 0 enforcement case violations related to Groundwater Protection since October 1, 2024.

As of February 12, 2025, staff had 0 unresolved enforcement case violations related to Groundwater Protection.

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

### **Topic 5.1 - Report**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Monitor Drought Conditions for FY2025.

As of February 13, 2025, the U.S. Drought Monitor (<https://www.drought.gov/states/texas/county/refugio>) indicates that 50.1% of Refugio County was experiencing abnormally dry or drought conditions.

As of February 13, 2025, 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 all portions of Refugio County are experiencing abnormally dry or drought conditions.

Regarding Synoptic Aquifer Monitoring for FY2025.

As of February 13, 2025, staff had collected 0 water level measurements since October 1, 2024.

Regarding Advanced Aquifer Monitoring for FY2025.

Regarding Baseline Water Quality Aquifer Monitoring for FY2025.

Regarding Ad-Hoc Baseline Water Quality Sampling for FY2025.

As of February 13, 2025, staff had collected 0 water quality field measurements since October 1, 2024.

As of February 13, 2025, staff had collected 2 water quality samples since October 1, 2024.



Regarding Rule Amendments for FY2025.

Regarding Legislative Support and Lobbying for FY2025.

As of February 13, 2025, the following bills had been introduced at the Texas Legislature related to groundwater:

- 89(R) HB 279 - Author: Guillen - Caption: Relating to procedural requirements for uranium mining production area authorizations.
- 89(R) HB 873 - Author: Wilson - Caption: Relating to air quality permits for aggregate production operations and concrete batch plants.
- 89(R) HB 914 - Author: Thompson, Senfronia - Caption: Relating to repealing civil asset forfeiture provisions and establishing criminal asset forfeiture in this state.
- 89(R) HB 1050 - Author: Dorazio - Caption: Relating to the award of attorney's fees in certain suits involving a groundwater conservation district.
- 89(R) HB 1322 - Author: Hopper - Caption: Relating to municipal approval of subdivision plans or plats in certain municipalities.
- 89(R) HB 1400 - Author: Harris - Caption: Relating to creation of the groundwater science, research, and innovation fund to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board.
- 89(R) HB 1438 - Author: Zwiener - Caption: Relating to climate change planning and reporting.
- 89(R) HB 1523 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to a prohibition on the authorization by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality of the use of a Class V injection well for certain aquifer storage and recovery projects.
- 89(R) HB 1529 - Author: Goodwin - Caption: Relating to production fees imposed by the Southwestern Travis County Groundwater Conservation District; authorizing an increase in the rate of the fee.
- 89(R) HB 1618 - Author: Harris Davila - Caption: Relating to aquifer storage and recovery projects that transect a portion of the Edwards Aquifer.
- 89(R) HB 1633 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment.
- 89(R) HB 1643 - Author: Oliverson - Caption: Relating to the authority of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District over the North Harris County Regional Water Authority.
- 89(R) HB 1689 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to the use of certain groundwater export fees collected by a groundwater conservation district.

- 89(R) HB 1690 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to an application for a permit for the transfer of groundwater out of a groundwater conservation district.
- 89(R) HB 1730 - Author: Morales Shaw - Caption: Relating to a study regarding the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health.
- 89(R) HB 1827 - Author: Slawson - Caption: Relating to the repeal of the additional ad valorem taxes imposed as a result of a change of use of certain land.
- 89(R) HB 2015 - Author: Zwiener - Caption: Relating to the consideration of water conservation by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality when determining whether to grant or deny a petition for the creation of a municipal utility district.
- 89(R) HB 2034 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to the issuance of groundwater permits to certain aliens or foreign entities.
- 89(R) HB 2077 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to persons eligible to appeal the desired future conditions adopted by a groundwater conservation district.
- 89(R) HB 2078 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to the joint planning of desired future conditions in groundwater management areas.
- 89(R) HB 2080 - Author: Gerdes - Caption: Relating to the review of the duties of a groundwater conservation district by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
- 89(R) HB 2246 - Author: Cain - Caption: Relating to the terminology used in statute to refer to the partially landlocked body of water on the southeastern periphery of the North American continent.
- 89(R) HB 2347 - Author: Zwiener - Caption: Relating to the adoption of a water conservation program by certain counties.
- 89(R) HB 2384 - Author: Guillen - Caption: Relating to county regulation of subdivisions and approval of subdivision plans or plats.
- 89(R) HB 2422 - Author: Goodwin - Caption: Relating to seller's disclosures regarding water services for and water rights in residential real property.
- 89(R) HB 2500 - Author: Spiller - Caption: Relating to certain proceedings by the Public Utility Commission of Texas regarding water or sewer service.
- 89(R) HB 2612 - Author: Zwiener - Caption: Relating to the establishment and functions of the Texas Carbon Dioxide Sequestration Policy Council.
- 89(R) HB 2626 - Author: Buckley - Caption: Relating to creating the Central Texas Water Alliance; providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent domain; providing authority to impose fees.

- 89(R) HB 2774 - Author: Virdell - Caption: Relating to the authority of the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District to regulate structures near Medina Lake.
- 89(R) SB 325 - Author: Perry - Caption: Relating to county regulation of subdivisions and approval of subdivision plans or plats.
- 89(R) SB 444 - Author: Hinojosa, Juan "Chuy" - Caption: Relating to a requirement that certain special purpose districts cause certain information to be posted on an Internet website.
- 89(R) SB 616 - Author: Schwertner - Caption: Relating to aquifer storage and recovery projects that transect a portion of the Edwards Aquifer.
- 89(R) SB 624 - Author: Kolkhorst - Caption: Relating to the criteria considered by groundwater conservation districts before granting or denying a permit or permit amendment.
- 89(R) SB 718 - Author: Kolkhorst | et al. - Caption: Relating to creation of the groundwater science, research, and innovation fund to be administered by the Texas Water Development Board.
- 89(R) SB 729 - Author: Johnson - Caption: Relating to the operation of rock crushing facilities.
- 89(R) SB 740 - Author: Perry - Caption: Relating to certain proceedings by the Public Utility Commission of Texas regarding water or sewer service.
- 89(R) SB 766 - Author: Zaffirini - Caption: Relating to the correction of references to the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.
- 89(R) SB 768 - Author: Menéndez - Caption: Relating to a study regarding the effects of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl chemicals on public health.
- 89(R) SB 976 - Author: Eckhardt - Caption: Relating to the establishment of an advisory board to study surface water and groundwater interaction.
- 89(R) SB 1055 - Author: Nichols - Caption: Relating to permit fees for groundwater wells imposed by the Southeast Texas Groundwater Conservation District.
- 89(R) SB 1061 - Author: Parker - Caption: Relating to procedural requirements for uranium mining production area authorizations.
- 89(R) SB 1194 - Author: Flores - Caption: Relating to creating the Central Texas Water Alliance; providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent domain; providing authority to impose fees.
- 89(R) SB 1211 - Author: Perry - Caption: Relating to an exemption from sales and use taxes for certain tangible personal property used in hydraulic fracturing.

- 89(R) SB 1226 - Author: Hinojosa, Juan "Chuy" - Caption: Relating to the creation of certain regional conservation and reclamation districts.

**Item 9 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to administration and management including the minutes of previous meetings, 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**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

Regarding Election Coordination for CY2025.

Regarding Financial Audit for FY2024.

Regarding Investment Management for FY2025.

Regarding Financial Record Processing and Reporting for FY2025.

Regarding Budget Development for FY2026.

Regarding Asset Tracking for FY2025.

Regarding Public Funds Training for FY2025.

Regarding Website Improvements for FY2025.

Regarding Public Notice and Meeting Coordination for FY2025.

The next meetings of the Board are scheduled for March 24, 2025, 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.

Regarding Performance Audit for FY2024.

Regarding Project Management for FY2025.

Regarding Administrative Policy Review for FY2025.

Regarding Transparency Reporting for FY2025.

Regarding Cybersecurity Training for FY2025.

Regarding Consultant Review for FY2025.

Regarding Open Government Training for FY2025.

Regarding District Liability Insurance Review and Renewal for FY2025.

Regarding Digital Record Archiving for FY2025.

Regarding Physical Record Archiving for FY2025.

**Topic 9.2 - Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Mr. Andruss provided the following Information:

The minutes for the previous meeting were sent to the board members prior to the meeting and informed the board members upon discussion with legal council that future meetings should be held at locations generally accessible to the public or public facilities.

**Board Action:** Mr Borden moved to accept and approve the January 21, 2025 meeting minutes as drafted. Mr. Snyder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

The investment report for December 2024 has been sent to the board prior to the meeting.

The balance of all the funds of the district, as of December 31, 2024, is \$1,537,267.90.

**Board Action:** Mr Snyder moved to accept the investment report for December 2024 and authorize the general manager to deposit \$500,000 from Account 11658 into TexPool . Mrs. Rose seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Andruss provided a list of accounts payable records that were recorded since January 1, 2025, as of February 13, 2025 and a list of accounts receivable records that were recorded since January 1, 2025, as of February 13, 2025.

### **Topic 9.5 - Bank Depository Agreement**

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

On December 19, 2025, Ms. Nixon of Vantage Bank Texas offered to extend the depository service agreement until January 20, 2027.

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to authorize the general manager to execute the depository services agreement extension with Vantage Bank Texas as drafted. Mr. Biery seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Andruss provided the following information:

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

- i. ACCTP-20250218-03 - \$250.00 - Fredric Biery - February 2025 Meeting
- ii. ACCTP-20250218-04 - \$250.00 - Cynthia Rose - February 2025 Meeting
- iii. ACCTP-20250218-02 - \$250.00 - John Snyder - February 2025 Meeting
- iv. ACCTP-20250218-01 - \$250.00 - Carroll Borden - February 2025 Meeting

### **Item 10 - Consideration of and possible action on matters related to legal counsel report.**

The item was not discussed or acted upon during the meeting.

### **Item 11.0 - Adjourn Meeting**

**Board Action:** Mr. Borden moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2025.

ATTEST:

Careel E. Borden  
District Director

Audri Biery  
District Director