

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

Board of Directors Agenda Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

The Board of Directors convened an in-person/telephonic/video conference meeting at 3:31 p.m. pursuant to public notice having been given at the Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District meeting room in Giddings, Texas. The following members of the Board were present in person: Directors Melissa Cole, Herbert Cook, Patricia Jacobs, Fred Meijering, Debra Phillips, Nancci Phillips-Burgess and Nick Textor. Director Thomas Arsuffi joined the meeting via Zoom at a later time.

Staff members present: Elvis Hernandez, General Manager, Peggy Campion and Claire Marks.

Consultants present: Natasha Martin, Bobby Salehi, Attorneys and Dr. Gretchen Miller, Hydrogeologist via Zoom.

1. *Call to Order.* There being no Board officers, Herbert Cook, the longest tenured Board member in attendance call the meeting to order.

a. Director Cook established a quorum.

b. Director Cook welcomed the public.

c. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

d. The Texas Pledge was recited.

e. *Pursuant to District Rule 2.1, the Board will conduct its annual election for president, vice-president and secretary-treasurer.* Natasha Martin, Attorney, provided a recommendation to the Board an election method procedure. Director Cole moved to adopt the method recommended by counsel. Director Burgess-Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Director Cole made a nomination for slate of all three officers with Director Textor for president, Thomas Arsuffi for vice-president and Herbert Cook for Secretary-Treasurer. Director Cook called for a vote by roll call, and the vote was unanimous in favor of the slate.

2. *Approval of January board meeting agenda.* Director Cole moved to approve the January board meeting agenda. Secretary-Treasurer Cook seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. *Public Comments.* There were no public comments.

4. *Consent Agenda:*

a. *Minutes of the December 17, 2025 regular Board meeting.*

b. *Financial report through December 31, 2025.*

c. Invoices received and payments greater than \$15,000.00.

Director Phillips moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Cole seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

5. Regular Agenda:

a. Announcements. Claire Marks, Education/Outreach Coordinator, gave an Education/Outreach update. Please see attached report.

b. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on 2026 Board meeting calendar schedule. Director Cole moved to approve the 2026 Board meeting calendar schedule. Director Jacobs seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. It was noted that the February board meeting will be the 4th Wednesday of the month.

c. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on signature authority regarding banking. This item is removing retired Board members Kathryn Rogers and Michael Simmang as bank signatories and replacing them with Vice-President Arsuffi and Secretary-Treasurer Cook. Director Cole moved to remove Kathryn Rogers and Michael Simmang as bank signatories and add Vice-President Arsuffi and Secretary-Treasurer Cook. Director Jacobs seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on resolution regarding signature authority for TexPool account. This item is removing retired Board members Kathryn Rogers and Michael Simmang as TexPool signatories and replacing them with Vice-President Arsuffi and Secretary-Treasurer Cook. Director Cole moved to remove Kathryn Rogers and Michael Simmang as signatories and replace them with Vice-President Arsuffi and Secretary-Treasurer Cook. Director Jacobs seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. General Manager's Report. President Textor recognized General Manager Hernandez to present the General Manager's report.

f. Consideration of future agenda items. There were none at this time.

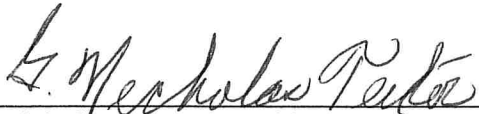
g. Set date and location of next meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on February 25, 2026, Lost Pines GCD District Office, 317 E Hempstead St., Giddings, TX 78942 at 3:30 p.m.

6. Executive Session:

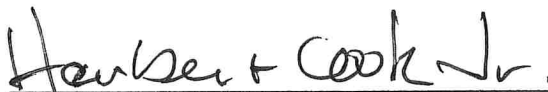
a. Executive session of the Board pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, regarding the District's pending or contemplated litigation. The Board went into executive session at 4:04 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorneys regarding pending or contemplated litigation. The Board went back into open meeting at 4:25 p.m. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

President Textor adjourned the meeting at 4:27 p.m.

Approved:



G. Nicholas Textor, President



Herbert Cook, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

Education & Outreach Report, January 21, 2026 - LPGCD Board Meeting

Outreach & Engagement

Upcoming

- Water Conservation Workshop – Smithville Elementary (3rd Grade)
 - *January 26*
 - Interactive presentation focused on water use, conservation practices, and the importance of groundwater.
- Groundwater Update – Lexington Rotary Club
 - *January 27*
 - Community presentation covering local groundwater conditions and district programs.
- Texas Well Owners Network (TWON)
 - *February 2–3*
 - In collaboration with Lee County AgriLife Extension and the Middle Yegua Creek Watershed Protection Working Group.
 - These workshops provide private well owners with practical information on well maintenance, water quality, and groundwater protection.
- Water Conservation Workshop – Immanuel Lutheran School
 - *February 4*
 - Interactive presentation focused on water use, conservation practices, and the importance of groundwater.
- Tabling – Lee County Wildlife Association Annual Meeting
 - *February 6*
 - Outreach and engagement with landowners and wildlife managers, including program information and educational materials.
- Bastrop Agriculture & Horticulture Committee Meeting
 - *February 17*
 - Participation to provide groundwater updates and discuss conservation programs relevant to agricultural producers.
- Groundwater 101 – Bastrop County Master Gardeners
 - *February 19*
 - Educational presentation covering groundwater law, management and basic science.
- Rainwater Harvesting 101 Workshop @ Aqua WSC
 - *February 28 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon*
 - In collaboration with Aqua Water Supply Corporation and Bastrop County Master Gardeners.
 - Required workshop for participation in the Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program.

Program Updates

- Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program
 - Applications submitted: 21
 - Approved: 16
 - Pending: 3
 - Declined: 2
 - Inspected: 8
 - Rebate Released
 - \$3,275 (2026: 1)
 - \$24,522 (Program Total: 8)
 - \$30,325 is reserved for the approved applicants, leaving \$69,675 in funding available for future rainwater harvesting systems.
- Agricultural Production Meter Program
 - Currently seeking additional participants.
 - Outreach to agricultural producers is ongoing to promote voluntary flow meter installation and improved groundwater data collection.
- Student Art Contest
 - Submission Deadline: March 31
 - Theme: *Lost Pines Runs on Water*
 - Open to K–12 students in Bastrop and Lee Counties.
 - The contest supports water conservation education through creative expression.
 - Students can win \$25-\$500; the teacher of each winning student wins \$50 for classroom use
- Photo Contest
 - Submission Deadline: March 31
 - Theme: *Thank You, Well*
 - Open to the public.
 - Highlights local water resources, conservation efforts, and community connections to water.
 - Prize amounts: \$50 - \$500