

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

Board of Directors Agenda Minutes

Wednesday, February 25, 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: President Nick Textor, Vice-President Thomas Arsuffi, Secretary-Treasurer Herbert Cook, Directors Melissa Cole, Patricia Jacobs, Fred Meijering, Joshua Meuth, Debra Phillips and Nancci Phillips-Burgess.

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

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

1. *Call to Order.* President Textor called the meeting to order.

a. President Textor established a quorum.

b. President Textor welcomed the public.

c. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

d. The Texas Pledge was recited.

2. *Public Comments.* The Board received public comment from Andy Weir.

4. *Consent Agenda:*

a. *Minutes of the January 21, 2026 regular Board meeting.*

b. *Financial report through January 31, 2026.*

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

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

5. *Regular Agenda:*

a. *Announcements.* President Textor recited the District mission statement. President Textor also reminded the Directors to use their Lost Pines email addresses for District business and to fill out their audit forms and expense sheets for the 1st quarter prior to April 3rd.

b. Discussion consideration, and possible action on resignation of Director Sheril Smith and board vacancy. Director Phillips moved to accept the resignation of Director Sheril Smith. Director Cole seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. President Textor read a letter of appreciation for Sheril Smith and her service to the District.

c. Committee assignments. President Textor named the committees for 2026. Committees and their members are as follows: Governance Committee, President Textor, Chair, Vice-President Arsuffi, Secretary-Treasurer Cook and General Manager Hernandez; Finance Committee, Secretary-Treasurer Cook, Chair, and Director Phillips; Management Committee, Director Cole, Chair, and Director Meijering; Socio-Economic Committee Ad Hoc, Vice-President Arsuffi, Chair, and Director Jacobs; Lee County Director Vacancy Committee Ad Hoc, Secretary-Treasurer Cook, Chair, Directors Phillips, Director Phillips-Burgess, and Director Meuth.

d. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on digitizing District records and vendor selection. General Manager Hernandez reported that he had received four (4) proposals from companies to digitize the District's records. General Manager Hernandez answered questions from the Board and the Board discussed the proposals. After researching each of the proposals, General Manager Hernandez asked that the Board approve his recommendation of Ubeo. Director Cole moved to approve General Manager Hernandez's recommendation of Ubeo to digitize the District records. Vice-President Arsuffi seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

e. Discussion, consideration, and possible action regarding the request to transfer wells, operating permits, transfer permits, and associated permit agreements from Lower Colorado River Authority to Quanterra Holdings, LLC pursuant to District Rules 7.4, 7.5 and 7.6. Director Cole moved to conditionally approve the transfer application with the following conditions: receipt by the General Manager of copies of the fully executed instruments transferring ownership of the operating and transport permits and monitoring well agreement and confirmation by the General Manager that such instruments are consistent in all respects with those submitted in the application and this order. Director Jacobs seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

f. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on resolution regarding applying for a Texas Water Development Board data collection grant. General Manager presented the item, which is a new grant established by the Texas Legislature during their last session for groundwater conservation districts, the purpose being only for data collection and science. General Manager Hernandez recommended submitting a proposal for a \$50,000.00 grant with \$50,000.00 matching, if needed. Vice-President Arsuffi moved to approve the resolution to allow the General Manager to submit the grant application to the Texas Water Development Board, including matching \$50,000.00. Director Phillips-Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

g. Presentation by Spheros Environmental regarding District socio-economic study. Dr. Gretchen Miller with Spheros Environmental presented and answered questions from the Board on an analysis of well mitigation costs. Among Dr. Miller's recommendations are that the District monitor and regulate the outcrop and shallow sub-crop aquifer areas and towards the western side of the District, notify well owners to facilitate proactive planning, request well information, and use the local District model and provide guidance to drillers.

h. Discussion, consideration, and possible action on District mitigation program. General Manager Hernandez presented the item and answered questions from the Board. General Manager Hernandez recommended that the District mitigation program be changed to a grant program from a reimbursement program due to ease the burden of costs on applicants seeking mitigation. Vice-President Arsuffi moved to approve changing the District mitigation program from a reimbursement program to a grant program. Director Phillips-Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

i. Education and Outreach Coordinator's report. In the absence of Claire Marks, General Manager Hernandez presented the Education and Outreach report. Please see attached.

j. General Manager's Report. President Textor recognized General Manager Hernandez to present the General Manager's report. General Manager Hernandez presented the report to the Board.

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

l. Set date and location of next meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on March 18, 2026, Lost Pines GCD District Office, 317 E Hempstead St., Giddings, TX 78942 at 3:30 p.m.

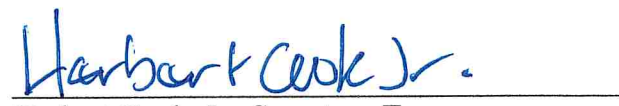
6. Executive Session:

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 3:55 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 4:18 p.m. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

President Textor adjourned the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Approved:


G. Nicholas Textor, President


Herbert Cook, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

Governance Committee Mtg. 2/11/26 Report

In attendance:

Nick Textor
Tom Arsuffi (remotely)
Herb Cook
Elvis Hernandez

I ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

II NEW BUSINESS

A. The February meeting agenda was discussed.
ACTION ITEM. The meeting agenda was
set

III OLD BUSINESS

A. None

IV CONCLUSION

Another Governance Cmte. Mtg. was scheduled for March 4,2026 at 10:30am

Submitted by
Nick Textor
Chair

Education & Outreach Report, February 25, 2026 - LPGCD Board Meeting

Outreach & Engagement

Upcoming

- 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.
- 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.

Recent

- 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*
 - **Around 20 wells participated**
 - These workshops provide private well owners with practical information on well maintenance, water quality, and groundwater protection.
- 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.

Program Updates

- Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program
 - **No change from last month**
 - 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
 - **Sending out personalized letters in the mail to ag producing well owners**
 - 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