

IRION COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING
ON PROPOSED DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS OF GROUNDWATER
RESOURCES AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING

June 8, 2026

Members Present: Chairman of the Board Bill Whitley, Robert Richey, Sid Sullenger, James Furr, Pete Barrera, General Manager Diana Thomas, and Technician Ashley Masters

Public Present: Accountant Macy Hartley, CEO Recast Systems Olivia Li, Ivie Avery, Bill Avery, Ryan Ackers, Scott Holland, Doug Gryder, Alison Gryder, Cory Hofacket, Linda Hofacket, John Cargile, Nancy Cargile, and Clay Thorp

The public hearing on the proposed desired future condition was called to order at 6:09 PM by Chairman of the Board Bill Whitley. Diana Thomas explained the purpose of the hearing, summarized GMA 7 efforts in proposing the desired future condition, and changes from the previous desired future condition. Public in attendance made no comment.

The public hearing was closed at 6:14 PM by Bill Whitley, Chairman of the Board.

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM. by Bill Whitley, Chairman of the Board.

Olivia Li, CEO of Recast Systems, provided public comment on her relationship with the West Texas Weather Modification Association and her service as a resource. She highlighted current research efforts to replace silver iodide and emphasized a willingness to conduct silver ion testing in Irion County.

Robert Richey moved and James Furr seconded to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion carried.

Accountant Macy Hartley presented the financial report and bills to the Board. The bills included standard monthly bills, QuickBooks renewal, rain gauges, two months of SKG water analysis, and San Angelo Standard Times publication fees. After reviewing the bills as presented, James Furr moved to pay all bills and transfer \$10,000 from the MM account. Pete Barrera seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

At the request of the Board agenda item number 5, participation in weather modification, was taken up before agenda item number 4, manager's report. Board members discussed the possibility of a county wide vote on the issue of participation in weather modification. Concerns about voter participation, costs, and who really benefits from cloud seeding versus registered voters were discussed. Questions about statistical evaluation of weather modification research, potential bias in results, and alternatives to silver iodide were asked of Olivia Li. James Furr made a motion to cut funding of the West Texas Weather Modification Association from the next fiscal year budget and to terminate participation in the program. Pete Barrera seconded the motion. Several members stated their religious convictions as reason for supporting the motion. Diana Thomas explained that termination required written notice to all participating WTWMA members. Three voted in favor of the motion and Robert Richey opposed the motion with Bill Whitley, Chairman of the Board, abstaining. The motion passed.

The Manager's report included: WTWMA in San Angelo, TAGD Executive Committee and Education Committee virtual meetings, TAGD virtual book group, TAGD PFIA training and business meeting in San Marcos, and virtual Q&A with silver iodide researchers. WTWMA reported that much of April was in active due to licensing issues. It has been resolved and operations have resumed. A flare rack test system is being developed to ensure proper operation. The TAGD Executive Committee met virtually in preparation of the upcoming June meeting and previewing the next fiscal year's budget. Ashley Masters participated in the virtual TAGD Education Committee meeting which included making plans for an in-person meeting in October potentially in West Texas, and the upcoming book study to aid districts in public engagement. Ashley Masters joined the TAGD virtual book group in reading "The Art of Gathering" to help districts in public engagement. Chapters 1 & 2 were covered in this first meeting which included fundamentals of why we gather and targeting specific audience outreach. Diana Thomas attended the TAGD PFIA training to complete her legislatively required financial education hours. There were not many changes to financial legislation, but a policy review is still a good idea. New disclosures will need to be filed. Diana Thomas attended the regular TAGD business meeting in San Marcos to hear about internship potential, google data centers, and updates to TWDB databases. Diana Thomas coordinated a virtual meeting with three silver iodide researchers and Sid Sullenger, James Furr, and Ashley Masters all attended. Many questions on silver iodide use, environmental concern, testing procedures, and current research were answered without any pro/anti-weather mod bias.

Well surveillance for the monitor network was completed with nine wells remaining at static levels from the previous measurement, two wells measured increased water levels, five wells measured decreased water levels, and three wells were unable to be measured. A partial rain gauge network download was completed. The new gauges are recording well and communicating with the new laptop much more efficiently. Rainfall records from deployment in October to the end of May were reviewed.

A Notice of Intent to Drill was received for R. Noelke for a replacement livestock well.

There being no further business, Sid Sullenger moved and Pete Barrera seconded to adjourn at 7:57 PM.

James C. Furr

Attesting Signature

R. S. Sullenger

Presiding Officer

Date: 7-13-2026