## IRION COUNTY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

July 14, 2025

Members Present: Vice-Chairman of the Board Robert Richey, Sid Sullenger, Pete Barrera, General Manager Diana Thomas, and Technician Ashley Masters

Visitors Present: accountant Macy Hartley

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M. by Robert Richey, Vice-Chairman of the Board.

Pete Barrera moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Sid Sullenger seconded and the motion carried.

After reviewing the bills as presented by Macy Hartley, Sid Sullenger moved to transfer \$9,000 from the MM account and pay all bills. The bills included standard monthly bills, the FY 23-24 financial audit, and legal fees. Pete Barrera seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Manager's report included: WTWMA and TML Re-rate Discussion in San Angelo, and TAGD Summit Planning Committee virtual meeting. WTWMA had 9 operational days in May which resulted in having to call in an extra pilot from the North Texas program. Starlink boxes are being installed on the airplanes to increase connectivity and data collection. The 2024 program valuation was presented by Dr. Ruiz and had good results with an average of 8.5% increase in rainfall across the entire target area. The July 4<sup>th</sup> flooding, subsequent media blitz against weather modification, and TDLR's official statement were discussed, with an emphasis that communications from Rainmakers has been non-existent. The TAGD Summit Planning Committee has confirmed all speakers and panelists and have finalized the agenda along with a field Trip to Cibolo Nature Center. Due to the special legislative session some adjustments may be made to the legislative panel. Diana met with a TML representative in San Angelo to discuss insurance re-rates including the entirely new cybersecurity program to be rolled out soon. The WTWMA insurance policies were reviewed in detail, with suggested amendments to be submitted. Legislative session bill filling and passage statistics were shared, governor vetoes were reviewed, and water items in the upcoming special session were highlighted.

Well surveillance for 20 monitor wells was completed, of those 8 were static, 5 had increased water levels, 1 experienced decreased levels, and 6 were unable to be measured for various reasons. The well camera was utilized for equipment retrieval out of a well for B. Stubblefield. Water quality testing was performed for 2 wells on C. Tankersley.

The District received no Intent to Drills, permit applications, nor well registrations in June.

The presentation on District Monitoring of DFC Achievement by RMBJGeo was tabled until the regularly scheduled September meeting.

Diana Thomas reviewed the FY 2023-2024 Financial Audit. The District remains in good financial condition with an increase in overall net position at the end of the year. Recommended adjusting journal entries have been completed by the accountant. Sid Sullenger moved to accept the FY 2023-2024 Financial Audit. Pete Barrera seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Thomas presented the 2025 Q2 Investment Report highlighting the interest received on the two CDs. One of the CDs renews before the end of the month and the much lower, new interest rate was also reported. Pete Barrera moved to accept quarterly investment report as presented. Sid Sullenger seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Sid Sullenger moved to accept the most recent drought Index. Pete Barrera seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Recycling Program Exemption was presented with no updates due to no change in the status of local recycling capabilities. Sid Sullenger moved to accept the Recycling Program Exemption Declaration. Pete Barrera seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Diana Thomas presented a satisfactory performance evaluation for technician Ashley Masters, highlighting a few areas where she has excelled. A table of accomplishments for both the technician and general manager were also presented to the Board. Following Board discussion and personal observations, Sid Sullenger moved to award a 3% cost of living increase for the salary for the General Manager in the next fiscal year, a 5% salary increase for the Technician in the next fiscal year, and increase the monthly accountant contract in the next fiscal year by \$50 to equal \$800 per month, and award a \$4,000 merit pay each in this fiscal year for the Technician and General Manager. Pete Barrera seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The budget workshop included an estimation of total operating expenses by the end of the current fiscal year and implications for the next fiscal year. Most insurance premiums for the next fiscal year have been received and have only increased slightly; these were factored into budget projections as well. The reduction in office expenses due to new internet and phone contracts was highlighted.

There being no further business Pete Barrera moved and Sid Sullenger seconded to adjourn at 7:33 P.M.

Attesting Signature

**Presiding Officer** 

Date: 8-11-2025