

MIDDLE PECOS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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Email: mpgcd@mpgcd.org Website: www.middlepecosgcd.org

Directors

Janet Groth, President Vanessa Cardwell, Vice President M. R. Gonzalez, Secretary/Treasurer
Alvaro Mandujano, Jr. Wayne Tinkler Ronald Cooper
Weldon Blackwelder Billy Jackson Jeff Sims Puja Boinpally Larry Drgac

Employees

Ty Edwards, General Manager
Office: Gail Reeves Field Technician: Anthony Bodnar

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND
PUBLIC HEARING**

**September 16, 2025
405 North Spring Drive, Fort Stockton, Texas**

A quorum of the District’s Board of Directors held its regular Board meeting in person with videoconference optional for the public and less than a quorum of the Board. Members of the public wishing to make public comment during the meeting were able to register by emailing mpgcd@mpgcd.org prior to 9:30 a.m. on September 16, 2025.

On this the 16th of September 2025, a Regular Board Meeting and Permit Hearing were held by the Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District at the District’s office at 405 North Spring Drive, Fort Stockton, Texas, with the following members present in person:

Janet Groth	President, Precinct 1
Vanessa Cardwell	City of Fort Stockton
Wayne Tinkler	Precinct 1
M.R. Gonzalez	Precinct 2
Puja Boinpally	Precinct 2
Larry Drgac	Precinct 3
Alvaro Mandujano, Jr	Precinct 4
Billy Jackson	At Large
Jeff Sims	City of Iraan

Quorum Present

Members Absent: Ronald Cooper and Weldon Blackwelder

District employees and consultants participating: Ty Edwards, Gail Reeves, Anthony Bodnar, Bill Hutchison, Vince Clause and Mike Gershon.

Others attending: Ryan Reed, Geoff Pike, Ed McCarthy, Mel Riggs, James Cravens, Sydney Christman, Glenn Honaker, Joh Covington, Joe Shuster, Billy Gonzalez, Rennie Ramos, Jerome Chavez, Jeff Williams, and Mark Tisdale.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

I Board Meeting called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Janet Groth and roll call was taken.

II Comments from **public and media**: No Comments.

III Consider and/or act to approve **Minutes of Regular Meeting on August 18, 2025.**

The draft Minutes were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Wayne Tinkler made a motion to approve the Minutes for the meeting of August 18, 2025, as presented. Motion seconded by Vanessa Cardwell.

Alvaro Mandujano, Jr. recused himself from voting because he didn't attend the meeting.

Motion passed. Vote: 8 FOR -0- Oppose 2 Absent 1 Abstain

IV Consider and/or act to approve **Minutes of Special Meeting on Tax Rate and Special Meeting to Adopt Tax Rate August 25, 2025.**

The draft Minutes of the special meeting were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Wayne Tinkler made a motion to approve the Minutes for the special meeting of August 25, 2025, as presented. Motion seconded by Puja Boinpally.

Alvaro Mandujano, Jr. recused himself from voting because he didn't attend the meeting.

Motion passed. Vote: 8 FOR -0- Oppose 2 Absent 1 Abstain

V Consider and/or act upon **Treasurer's Report for the Month Ending August 31, 2025.**

General Manager Ty Edwards presented the Treasurer's report to the Board. Vanessa Cardwell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report ending August 31, 2025, as presented. Motion seconded by Wayne Tinkler.

Motion passed. Vote: 9 FOR -0- Oppose 2 Absent 0 Abstain

PUBLIC HEARING ON APPLICATION FOR PRODUCTION PERMIT FOR PECOS COUNTY FOR ROONEY PARK³

I Call to order at 10:08 a.m. the public hearing on application for a production permit for Pecos County Rooney Park.

Party representing application: Pecos County Judge Shuster

Protestant to application: None

Public Comment: None

President Janet Groth declared the application uncontested. General Manager Ty Edwards and Judge Shuster were sworn in.

General Manager Ty Edwards presented the application to the Board, with additional remarks from Judge Shuster. Pecos County has made an application for a Production Permit with the Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District for 1 well located at 202 US Highway 285 South. The application requests authorization to produce 250 acre-feet/year for Irrigation Use from the Edwards Trinity Aquifer for Rooney Park.

The County drilled the irrigation well on July 1-2, 2025. An 8-hour pump test was conducted on July 14-17, 2025, at 350 gallons per minute. The District will continue to monitor the water levels each month and keep the Board up to date on any changes. The application is administratively complete.

- II Adjourn hearing and consider and/or act on application for production permit for Pecos County.

President Janet Groth recessed the hearing at 10:20 a.m. Wayne Tinkler made a motion to approve the production permit application as presented from the Edwards Trinity Aquifer. Motion seconded by Vanessa Cardwell.

Motion passed. Vote: 9 FOR. -0- Oppose 2 Absent 0 Abstain

REGULAR BOARD MEETING – CONTINUED

- VI **Update on Texas Legislature’s 89th regular and special sessions.**

General Manager Edwards gave an update on the second special session. None of the groundwater related bills passed.

- VII Update and possible action on **San Andres efforts at RRC and TCEQ**, and **MPGCD v. RRC and Commissioners**, Cause No. D-1-GN-24-005222 (200th District Court, Travis County) and second cause filed on October 11, 2024.

- On August 19, 2025 Judge Laurie Eiserloh issued her decision finding plaintiff has failed to establish jurisdiction and granting defendants’ request to dismiss for lack of jurisdiction.
- The District has met with TCEQ’s senior management and program staff and discussed the new grant program to plug wells in Pecos County. TCEQ held a Rulemaking hearing on January 29, 2025. The District attended the hearing and made comments. TCEQ held a workshop on 02-20-2025 to discuss and solicit feedback about eligible and ineligible expenses and the

definition of administrative costs, how the LWWGP will fund eligible projects and how TCEQ expects to apply the prioritization criteria that will be specified in the rule and what further refinements to the prioritization criteria might be included in the RFGA. The District is awaiting a direct award grant contract. TCEQ staff anticipates releasing the draft contract at the end of October 2025.

VIII **Update on Fort Stockton Holdings, L.P. (FSH)-MPGCD Joint Study, Threshold Water Level Update and Drilling of New Rustler Monitor on Williams Farms.**

The Board and General Manager discussed the ongoing groundwater monitoring of the FSH threshold water levels. All wells are working and operating properly, and no wells are near any threshold water levels that would trigger cutbacks according to the FSH special permit conditions. A link to the FSH threshold water levels is available at <https://mpgcd.halff.com/Dashboard>. General Manager Ty Edwards screen-shared and provided an overview of current data.

Williams Farms and Fort Stockton Holdings have approved the drilling of the Rustler Monitor Well. The seismic study was conducted the week of April 29- May 2, 2025.

Raymond Straub briefed the board on the current drilling activities. The well is currently at 250 ft with the 17 ½ in bit and working towards finishing the surface casing by the end of the week.

IX Briefing and take action as necessary on following lawsuits:

A. **Cockrell Investment Partners, L.P. v. MPGCD and its Board President in his official capacity, FSH and Republic Water Company of Texas, L.P., Case No. 23-0742 (Texas Supreme Court)(Cockrell I);**

In Cockrell I, Cockrell timely filed its petition by review. The Court granted the petition to consider the appeal and take oral arguments, which have been scheduled for November 4, 2025.

B. **Cockrell Investment Partners, L.P. v. MPGCD and its General Manager in his official capacity, and FSH, Case No. 23-0593 (Texas Supreme Court)(Cockrell II);**

In Cockrell II, the Court took the same action as in Cockrell I.

C. **Cockrell Investment Partners, L.P. v. Ty Edwards, in his capacity as General Manager, and FSH, Case No. 08-23-00178-CV (El Paso Court of Appeals)(Cockrell III);**

In Cockrell III, the District Court ruled in favor of FSH and MPGCD by granting their Pleas to the Jurisdiction. Cockrell appealed and timely filed its appellate briefs, then the District and FSH's appellate briefs were timely filed. On October 13th

Cockrell filed a reply brief. On May 14th the Court set for submission without oral argument for June 4, 2024. Waiting for a decision from the Court, which abated the case awaiting the ruling from the Texas Supreme Court in Cockrell I and Cockrell II.

D. Cockrell Investment Partners, L.P. v. Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District, Cause No. P-8626-83-CV (83rd District Court)(Cockrell IV); and

In Cockrell IV, the lawsuit was filed on August 17th and served on September 13th by agreement. The District's answer and counterclaim were timely filed October 9th. FSH has advised that it will intervene and file plea to the jurisdiction. Cockrell filed Plaintiff's First Amended Petition on August 5, 2024. Remains pending without further action. Parties are waiting for ruling from the Texas Supreme Court in Cockrell I and Cockrell II.

E. Cockrell Investment Partners, L.P. v. Middle Pecos Groundwater Conservation District, Cause No. P-13031-112-CV (112th District Court)(Cockrell V).

In Cockrell V, the lawsuit was filed on August 23rd and served on September 13th by agreement. The District's answer and counterclaim were timely filed October 9th. FSH has advised that it will intervene and file plea to the jurisdiction. Cockrell filed Plaintiff's First Amended Petition on August 5, 2024. Remains pending without further action. Parties are waiting for ruling from the Texas Supreme Court in Cockrell I and Cockrell II.

X Progress Reports: Well Registrations, Production Permits, Drilling Permits, Data Loggers, Drought Monitor Map, Water Quality Analysis, and General Manager's Correspondence.

- Raymundo Franco has submitted a drilling permit for irrigation use 10-15 miles south on Hwy 285
- Brewster County GCD 09-18-2025
- Region F meeting 09-18-2025
- Rig Data Report 09-13-2025
- TPWMA Forecast 09-16-2025
- Tx Drought Map 09-09-2025 most of Pecos County is Dry and some drought in the south
- Reeves County WWTX5 Meeting 10-09-2025

XI Directors' Comments and consider and/or act upon agenda for next meeting.


Next Board meeting will be October 21, 2025.

XII **Adjourn** Board meeting.

Puja Boinpally made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Wayne Tinkler. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.



M. R. Gonzalez, Secretary/Treasurer



Janet Groth, President

Date Approved 10/21/2025