

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

Board of Directors Agenda Minutes

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

The Board of Directors convened an in-person/telephonic/video conference meeting at 3:30 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, Hollye Fain, Patricia Jacobs, Fred Meijering and Nancci Phillips-Burgess.

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

Consultants present: Natasha Martin and Bobby Salehi, Attorneys, and Wallace Darling, 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 one public comment, from Mr. Joe Burgess.

3. *Consent Agenda:*

a. *Minutes of the May 20, 2026 regular Board meeting.*

b. *Financial report through June 30, 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.

4. *Regular Agenda:*

a. *Announcements.* General Manager Hernandez announced that Claire Marks had been with the district for two years and that the general manager is nearing having been with the district for one year.

b. *Presentation by Texas Water Development Board regarding new proposed brackish groundwater zones.* Kristie Laughlin, P.G., BRACS Manager for Texas Water Development Board presented to the Board regarding an overview of the brackish resources aquifer

characterization system (BRACS), including the designation of brackish groundwater production zones (BGPZ), and current zone criteria, completed studies, and BGPZ status maps. Ms. Laughlin also provided an overview of the Southern Trinity BGPZ, and presented on the basics of freshwater buffers and, production volumes. Ms. Laughlin also answered questions from the Board.

c. Discussion, consideration, and possible action regarding application by Organics by Gosh for two operating permits to withdraw 30 acre-feet of water each per year in Bastrop County for industrial purposes from the Colorado River Alluvium. Zach with Organics by Gosh presented an overview of the application and desire for the operating permits, and answered Board questions regarding the application. General Manager Hernandez presented next, providing the Board with an overview of the application, and presented on Spheros Environmental's analysis of the application. General Manager Hernandez recommended the District waive the pump test requirement for the second new well if the permittee conducts a simultaneous monitoring pump test and that the District request a dedicated alluvial monitoring well be provided to the District. Director Jacobs moved to grant two (2) operating permits to withdraw 30 acre feet of water each per year by Organics by Gosh subject to the conditions recommended by the General Manager. Director Phillips-Burgess seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d. Presentation by Spheros Environmental regarding district groundwater levels. Wallace Darling of Spheros Environmental presented to the Board on the spring monitoring of each of the aquifers as well as DFC well locations and the water levels in each of the aquifers. Mr. Darling concluded that the water level monitoring program provides valuable data for the District, additional sites in southern Bastrop County would help fill the gaps where there are none and currently the Simsboro and Carrizo aquifers are feeling the pressures of increased pumping in Lee County. Mr. Darling also answered questions from the Board.

e. Education and Outreach Coordinator's report. Claire Marks presented the Education and Outreach report. Please see attached.

f. 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.

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

h. Set date and location of next meeting. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be on August 19, 2026, Lost Pines GCD District Office, 317 E Hempstead St., Giddings, TX 78942 at 3:30 p.m.

5. 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.

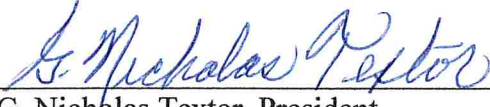
b. Executive Session of the Board pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorneys and seek advice regarding the application by Organics by Gosh, as described in Item 4c.

c. Executive Session of the Board pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code section 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorneys and seek advice regarding GMA 12 proposed DFCs.

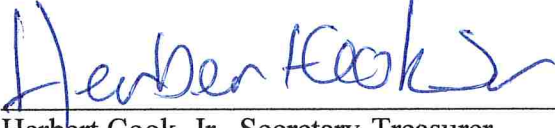
The Board went into executive session at 5:20 p.m. pursuant to Texas Government Code Sec. 551.071, or any closed session permitted by law, to consult with its attorneys and seek advice regarding GMA 12 proposed DFCs. The Board went back into open meeting at 6:02 p.m. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

President Textor adjourned the meeting at 6:02 p.m.

Approved:



G. Nicholas Textor, President



Herbert Cook, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

Education & Outreach Report, July 15, 2026 - LPGCD Board Meeting

Outreach & Engagement

Upcoming

- **July 31 – Lee County Wildlife Association Wildlife Expo** (Giddings High School, all day)
 - LPGCD will host an outreach booth and present a **Groundwater 101** workshop.
 - Board members interested in attending are encouraged to let me know.
- **August 22 – Rainwater Harvesting 101 Workshop** (Bastrop Community Gardens, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
- **September 21 – Healthy Lawn Workshop** (Lee County AgriLife Extension Office, 6:00–8:00 p.m.)
- **September 28 – Planting for Resilience** (Lee County AgriLife Extension Office, 6:00–8:00 p.m.)
- **October 17 – Smithville Sustainable Home & Garden Show**
 - One of LPGCD's largest annual outreach events. Will demonstrate the watershed model during a special presentation.
 - Board volunteers are welcome.
 - The Governance Committee approved a **\$500 sponsorship** for the event.
- **October 17 – Middle Yegua Creek Watershed Protection Working Group**
 - The Governance Committee approved a **\$500 sponsorship** to support planning and execution of the Middle Yegua Creek Cleanup.
 - Volunteers are appreciated, as I will be participating in the Smithville Sustainable Home & Garden Show.
- **October 27 – Native Tree Workshop** (Lee County AgriLife Extension Office, 6:00–8:00 p.m.)
- **November 7 – Lost Pines Habitat & Wildlife Day** (Bastrop State Park, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.)
- Planning has begun for our 25th anniversary! Do you know a documentarian?!

Program Updates

- Rainwater Harvesting Rebate Program
 - **8 inspections since the May Board Meeting.**

Year	Submission	Inspected	Rebate Released
2025	21	7	\$21,247
2025	13	14	\$45,410
TOTAL	34	21	\$66,657

- Agricultural Production Meter Program
 - **Purchased our FIRST meter.**
 - Extending our TWDB grant contract one year in an attempt to get more producers (the goal is 65).