



**PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
October 21, 2019**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all interested persons in Ellis, Hill, Johnson, and Somervell Counties, Texas:

That the Board of Directors of the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District (“District”) will hold a public hearing, accept public comment, and may act to adopt amendments to the District Rules regulating water wells within the boundaries of the District, including Ellis, Hill, Johnson, and Somervell Counties, Texas. Prior to its adoption of these amendments, the District’s Board of Directors (“Board”) adopted permanent District Rules on December 17, 2018. The proposed amendments to the District Rules address a number of issues, including without limitation the following: 1) increasing the initial annual groundwater production allowable per contiguous controlled acre to 50,000 gallons per acre; 2) changing the manner in which the number of contiguous controlled acres is calculated for a well or well system under an Operating Permit; 3) revising the fee payment structure for water use fees for non-exempt wells with an option to prepay annually or submit quarterly payment of fees for groundwater production based on the annual groundwater production authorization in the permit; 4) providing an annual refund for payment of water use fees of up to 20 percent of the authorized groundwater production amount based on the actual amount of a well owner’s annual groundwater production being up to 20 percent less than the amount in the permit; 5) providing a discount for annual prepayment of water use fees; 6) monthly submission of water production reports, meter readings, and meter logs for non-exempt wells; 7) delayed implementation of the revised fee payment structure until January 1, 2021; 8) delayed implementation of the revised reporting structure until January 1, 2021; 9) new application fees for transfers of well ownership and compliance orders; 10) eliminating the requirement for submission of well completion report deposits by well drillers; 11) adding a petition process for additional production authorization, 12) evidentiary requirements for hearings on applications for Historic Use Permits; and 13) other non-substantive clarifying and conforming changes.

This hearing will be held on Monday, October 21, 2019, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the District office located at 205 S. Caddo Street, Cleburne, Texas 76033. Any person who desires to appear at the hearing and present comment or other information on the proposed adoption of amendments to the District Rules may do so in person, by legal representative, or both. Comments may be presented verbally or in written form. Limits may be placed on the amount of time that each person is allowed to present verbal comments. Persons interested in submitting written comments on the proposed amendments may do so by sending any such comments to P.O. Box 3128, Cleburne,

Texas 76033. The Board may act to adopt the amendments to the rules as proposed or with additional changes based upon comments and discussion at the hearing. The hearing posted in this notice may be recessed from day to day or continued where appropriate.

The public hearing is available to all persons regardless of disability. If you require special assistance to attend the hearing, please contact the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District at (817) 556-2299 at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing.

A copy of the proposed amendments to the District Rules may be requested by email at kjones@prairielandsgcd.org, is available for reviewing or downloading at www.prairielandsgcd.org, and may be reviewed, inspected, or obtained in person at the District office located at 205 S. Caddo Street, Cleburne, Texas 76033. For more information, contact the District's General Manager, Kathy Turner Jones, at (817) 556-2299.