



**PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
September 18, 2023**

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, and has subsequently amended them. The proposed amendments are to ensure the District is in compliance with several new laws passed during the 88th Regular Session of the Texas Legislature that affect groundwater conservation districts, and to make a number of clarifying and other changes to the District Rules. The proposed amendments to the District Rules: 1) provide that the drilling of a water well for temporary use to supply water solely for a drilling rig that is actively engaged in drilling a water well subject to the permitting requirements of the District is itself exempt from the permitting requirements of the District, and sets forth limitations to the exemption; 2) provide a process for a person to petition the District to request one or more amendments to the District Rules and set forth procedures for the petition process and the processing of the petition by the District; 3) update the procedures for the District to act on a permit or permit amendment application to be consistent with House Bill 1971 of the 88th Texas Legislature, Regular Session; 4) amend requirements for retail public utilities to submit annual water audits to the District and clarifying penalties for failure to submit the audits; 5) amending test well requirements; 6) amend requirements related to the deadline for drilling and completing a well after approval by the District; 7) amend water meter accuracy requirements; 8) amend requirements related to shared wells; 9) amend well spacing requirements and related to requesting an exception for spacing requirements; and 10) other minor clarifying or nonsubstantive changes.

This hearing will be held on Monday, September 18, 2023, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the District office located at 208 Kimberly Drive, Cleburne, TX 76031. 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 the District office at 208 Kimberly Drive, Cleburne, TX 76031. 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 208 Kimberly Drive, Cleburne, TX 76031. For more information, contact the District's General Manager, Kathy Turner Jones, at (817) 556-2299.