PRAIRIELANDS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 17, 2026

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT RULES

The Board of Directors of the Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District ("District") met in special session, open to the public, at 208 Kimberly Dr, Cleburne, TX 76031, within the boundaries of the District on August 17, 2026.

At President Beseda's request, Vice President Tischler assumed the role of Presiding Officer and called the Public Hearing on Amendments to the District Rules to order at 9:04 AM.

The roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Charles Beseda	John Curtis
Brad Daniels	Maurice Osborn
Barney McClure	Marty McPherson
Paul Tischler	Gary Farmer

All members of the Board were in attendance, with the exception of Director Curtis and Director McPherson, thus constituting a quorum. Also, in attendance were Kathy Turner Jones, General Manager; Brian Sledge, General Counsel; District staff; and members of the public. *Copies of the public sign-in sheets and video conference attendee list are attached hereto as Exhibit "A" to the August 17, 2026, Regular Board Meeting minutes.*

Vice President Tischler called on the District's legal counsel, Brian Sledge, to explain the proposed amendments to the District Rules.

PRESENTATION BY DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL, SLEDGELAW GROUP, PLLC ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT'S RULES

Mr. Sledge stated the notice of this public hearing on amendments to the District Rules and the proposed amendments themselves had been published, posted, and made available to the public as required by Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code and as required in the District Rules no less than 20 days before the public hearing. *Copies of the published and posted public notices are attached hereto as Exhibit "B".* He announced that written comments had been received and confirmed there would be an opportunity for verbal comments from the public following the presentation of proposed amendments. *Copies of the written public comments received are attached hereto as Exhibit "C".*

Mr. Sledge explained the proposed amendments include several new updates, as well as clarifications to existing provisions that were revised for improved clarity.

Mr. Sledge summarized the proposed amendments to the District Rules as: 1) amending definitions of key terms; 2) changing requirements related to certain wells exempt from permitting and regulatory requirements; 3) adding new aquifer testing and hydrogeologic investigation and report requirements for certain high-volume permit and permit amendment applications, describing the procedures and use of the information to be provided from the aquifer test and report in the permitting process, describing measures an applicant can take to address potential unreasonable impacts, and requiring special public notice related to such applications; 4) authorizing the District to refuse to process applications where the well driller or the driller's company has unresolved rules violations, and to extend that provision to an unresolved violation of the District Rules by the well driller or the well driller's company associated with the application; 5) adding provisions designed to prevent an attempt to circumvent rules requirements by breaking a project into multiple applications; 6) amending the time period in which meters must be read each month; 7) amending information to be used in well spacing calculations and minimum well spacing distances; 8) amending and clarifying existing rules regarding Historic Use Permit contiguous controlled acreage requirements, interactions with new or non-historic production permits and their associated acreage, and production authorization reductions related thereto; 9) amending the rules related to wasteful system water loss and water loss audits for retail public utilities, the imposition of disincentive fees for wasteful system water loss, and the ability of the Board to allow use of disincentive fees to reduce wasteful system water loss; 10) amending and clarifying the rules related to water use fee refunds, eligibility for refunds, and the maximum cap on refunds; 11) repealing the petition for additional production authorization rule; 12) amending and clarifying administrative and civil penalties, their amounts, and other enforcement remedies for violations of the rules in the Enforcement Policy and Penalty Schedule; 13) amending the fee and penalty schedule for excessive groundwater pumping, the fee schedule for pumping under a compliance order, and penalties for pumping in excess of the amount authorized in a compliance order; and 14) other minor conforming, clarifying, or nonsubstantive changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO DISTRICT RULES

1) David Rogers, a resident of Maypearl, expressed support for the proposed amendments, citing the need to protect their 400-acre, family-owned farm and local groundwater resources from unchecked, high-volume production.

2) Kelly O'Donnell, a resident of Grandview, noted that she and adjoining neighbors operate working ranches, producing hay for cattle and bees. She expressed support for the proposed amendments.

3) Ben Shanklin. Mr. Shanklin, a licensed engineer with Childress Engineering Services and consultant for several retail public utilities, expressed concerns regarding certain proposed amendments related to the hydrogeologic report and public notification requirements in circumstances where no unreasonable impacts are identified.

4) Joanne Curcamo, a resident in Somervell County and representative of "Protect the Paluxy", thanked the General Manager and District staff for their efforts to educate the community and expressed support for the proposed amendments. Ms. Curcamo asked the Board to consider reducing the proposed high-volume production threshold from 50,000,000 gallons to 25,000,000 gallons to better align with the threshold recently implemented by the Upper Trinity GCD.

5) Laura Crawford, a resident in Somervell County and representative of "Protect the Paluxy", thanked the District for the proposed amendments, expressed opposition to Mr. Shanklin's proposal, and voiced support for the reduced high-volume production threshold.

6) Kenneth Meador, a Bluff Dale resident from Hood County, expressed support for the proposed amendments and asked the Board to consider reducing the high-volume production threshold to minimize confusion and provide greater consistency for developers and drillers.

At 9:53 a.m. Vice President Tischler announced the Board of Directors would recess into a closed executive session under Section 551.071, Government Code, to consult with the District's legal counsel on items on today's agenda. No final action will be taken during the closed session. At the conclusion of the closed session, the Board will reconvene in an open public session and announce that the public hearing is again open to the public.

At 10.23 a.m. Vice President Tischler announced the meeting is reconvened into an open public session and was open to the public.

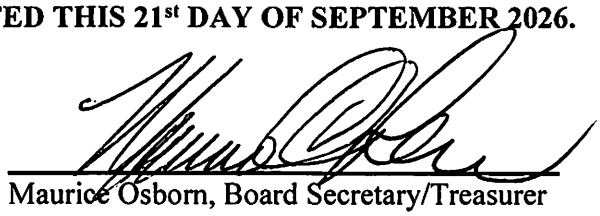
Mr. Sledge identified two minor revisions: updating the date reference in Rule 3.18 to August 17, 2026, and changing "Settlement Agreement" to "Agreed Order" under Rule 5.8.

DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ADOPTING RESOLUTION #26-007 APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE DISTRICT'S RULES FOR GROUNDWATER WELLS IN ELLIS, HILL, JOHNSON, AND SOMERVELL COUNTIES, TEXAS, IN THE FORM ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED OR WITH CHANGES BASED UPON COMMENTS RECEIVED. *A copy of Resolution #26-007 attached hereto as Exhibit "D".*

Director Osborn made a motion to approve Resolution #26-007, approving amendments to the District Rules, including the two changes as presented. Director McClure seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further discussion, the public hearing on amendments to the District Rules was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2026.



Maurice Osborn, Board Secretary/Treasurer