Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District
Meeting Notice and Agenda

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code and Section 36.064 of the Texas Water Code that the Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District Board of Directors will hold a meeting on August 7, 2026, at 9:00 AM at the Crossroads Plaza, Ste 104, 1501 E. Mockingbird Lane, Victoria, Texas.

AGENDA

1. Convene the meeting and receive a report from the general manager.
2. Receive public comments.
3. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater management, including the efforts and activities of the District regarding permitting, complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases associated with permitting.
4. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater protection, including complaints, investigations, violations, and enforcement cases related to groundwater contamination and waste.
5. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater monitoring.
6. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater conservation.
7. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater resource planning, including Joint Planning of Groundwater Management Area 15, regional water planning, and proposed Desired Future Conditions (DFCs).
8. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to groundwater policy, including the Management Plan of the District, the Rules of the District, and the 2026 Proposed Rules of the District.
9. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to administration and management including the minutes of previous meetings, amendments to the annual budget of the district, budget recommendation for Fiscal Year 2027, tax rate for Tax Year 2026, certified tax roll for Tax Year 2026, bank accounts, investments, financial reports of the district, bills and invoices of the district, management goals and objectives of the district, administrative policies, staffing, consultant agreements, interlocal cooperation agreements, TWDB grant funding agreement, the financial audit for Fiscal Year 2025, the Annual report of the District, budget preparation and tax rates, and support services provided to and from other groundwater conservation districts.
10. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to legal counsel report.
11. Adjourn.

The Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District may close the meeting, if necessary, to conduct private consultation with legal counsel regarding matters protected by the attorney-client privilege pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Government Code or to discuss matters regarding personnel pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Government Code. The Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District will return to open meeting, if necessary, to take any action deemed necessary based on discussion in closed meeting pursuant to Section 551.102 of the Government Code.

In Accordance with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, we invite all attendees to advise us of any special accommodations due to disability. Please submit your request as far as possible in advance of the event you wish to attend.

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Topic 1.1 - Roll Call

Management Discussion:

Staff completed the necessary public notification requirements for the meeting.

VCGCD - Meeting Notice - 20260807 - Final.pdf

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Management Recommendation:

Call the meeting to order and call the roll of representatives:

______________________: Precinct 1 Director: Mr. Jerry Hroch, Vice President.

______________________: Precinct 2 Director: Mr. Thurman Clements, Jr.

______________________: Precinct 3 Director: Mrs. Barbara Dietzel, Secretary.

______________________: Precinct 4 Director: Mr. Mark Meek, President.

______________________: At Large Director: Mr. Kenneth Eller.

______________________: General Manager: Tim Andruss.

______________________: General Counsel: Jim Allison.

Item 2 - Receive Public Comment

Item 9 - Administration and Management Considerations

Topic 9.1 - Financial Audit Services

Management Discussion:

On October 10, 2025, the board authorized Goldman, Hunt and Notz, LLP (GHN) to complete a financial audit of the district for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025.

On July 24, 2025, Mr. Cox with GHN informed staff of their intention to present the financial audit report for the fiscal fear ending September 30, 2025 to the Board

Management Recommendation:

Move to 1) accept and approve the financial audit for FYE20250930, as presented, and 2) authorize the general manager to pay the invoice from GHN for the auditing services.

Topic 9.2 - Annual Report

Management Discussion:

On August 4, 2025, management drafted the annual report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025.

Regarding Management Plan Goal 7 - Addressing the Desired Future Conditions, management reviewed the consideration of water level changes of the Gulf Coast Aquifer in April 2026, the report developed by Intera titled *Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2024 and 2025 Water Levels*, water level measurements collected during the fiscal year, calendar year 2025, and 5-year rolling averages of changes in water levels. Based on this review, management recorded the following discussion within the draft annual report, which expands the discussion presented to the Board during the April 10, 2026 meeting:

"The average water level of wells measured in year 2000 was *57.5* feet below the surface.

The average water level of wells measured in calendar year 2025 was *52.1* feet below the surface.

The district, based on the report developed by Intera titled *Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2024 and 2025 Water Levels* indicate the following:

- water levels in the Chicot Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Victoria County have decreased by 6.9 feet (i.e., drawdown condition) in calendar year 2025 relative to year 2000.
- water levels in the Evangeline Aquifer of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Victoria County have increased by 9.2 feet (i.e., recovery condition) in calendar year 2025 relative to year 2000.
- water levels of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System in Victoria County, combined, have decreased by 0.4 feet (i.e., drawdown condition) in calendar year 2025 relative to year 2000.

The 5-year rolling average of change in water level depths for the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers, combined, based on the report developed by Intera titled *Application of Geostatistical Techniques to Interpret Measured 2024 and 2025 Water Levels* is +3.82 feet (i.e., recovery condition).

The desired future condition for Groundwater Management Area 15 is expressed as a maximum drawdown between January 2000 and December 2080. The countyspecific desired future condition for Victoria County is "5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System."

Based on water level trends within Victoria County, the district concludes that the condition of the Gulf Coast Aquifer within Victoria County is in compliance with the district's desired future condition."

Based on the review of each management plan goal and associated performance standards, the district fully achieved the objectives established within the management plan of the district during the fiscal year.

VCGCD - Annual Report for FY2025 - Draft 20260805.pdf

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Management Recommendation:

Move to accept and approve the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2025, as drafted.

Topic 9.3 - TWDB Groundwater Science, Research, and Data Collection Grant Program

Management Discussion:

The District submitted a grant application to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) under the Groundwater Science, Research, and Data Collection Grant Program for funding of a proposed project to complete a comprehensive subsidence analysis and installation of a long-term subsidence monitoring station, with a total estimated cost of $281,000. The grant application submitted on behalf of the cooperating districts sought a grant of $231,000.

On June 30, 2026, the District received formal notification from TWDB that the application was selected for award. TWDB authorized the partial funding of the project in an amount of $158,500 for two of the four proposed tasks: Task 1 - InSAR Study: collect and analyze InSAR data and Task 4 - Install Subsidence Monitoring Station.

The effects of offering partial funding of tasks proposed in the project were reviewed by INTERA, the technical consultant of the proposed project, to evaluate the feasibility of the project as terms of proposed grant agreement are developed. INTERA informed the District that the completion of Task 1 and Task 4, without the completion of Task 2 and 3, would be beneficial and "help inform our understanding of subsidence and support long-term subsidence modeling and evaluation of model outputs."

On July 17, 2026, the District received the draft award agreements and requirements for review. The agreement materials were forwarded to legal counsel the INTERA for review.

VCGCD - TWDB Grant Agreement - 2600013282.pdf

File

Management Recommendation:

Move to 1) authorize the presiding officer and general manager to execute all necessary grant agreements and documentation associated with the grant award for the proposed project offered by TWDB under the Groundwater Science, Research, and Data Collection Grant Program upon determination of legal sufficiency by legal counsel, 2) authorize the general manager to execute the Task 1 and Task 2 of the proposed project, pay associated bills and invoices, and 3) accept reimbursement of incurred expenses for the execution Task 1 and Task 2 of the proposed project from TWDB in accordance with the executed grant agreement.

Topic 9.4 - Surplus Equipment Disposal

Management Discussion:

The District has accumulated the following surplus or broken equipment that is no longer of any use: 2 printers, miscellaneous office furnishings (document racks, adjustable desk risers, computer monitors, and field equipment.

Management Recommendation:

Move to authorize the general manager to dispose of the surplus and broken equipment.

Topic 9.5 - Budget for FY2027

Management Discussion:

Management developed a draft budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2027, that attempts to fund the operations of the District in a manner which provides for 1) the accomplishment of the management plan goals and objectives, and 2) the completion of projects and tasks associated with the administration of the district, groundwater conservation, groundwater management and permitting, groundwater monitoring, groundwater policy development, groundwater protection, groundwater research, and groundwater resource planning.

To facilitate future comparisons of adopted budgets to financial audits and to simplify bookkeeping tasks, the draft budget has developed using a single fund referred to as the General Fund instead of developing a budget using two funds, Operating Fund and Reserve Fund.

The budget anticipates purchases and projects that are not routine in nature including the purchase of a vehicle, the purchase of spare computers, increases to pay steps, funding for conducting an election, purchase of audio-visual equipment, GIS system improvements, increased legal expenses, increased district fees, subsidence evaluation (TWDB Grant Funding), expanded water level assessment,increased legislative support expenditures, site-specific monitoring and assessments, CGCBGF Model improvements,expanded DFC modeling.

On July 28, 2026, the District received the 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet from the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector.

On August 5, 2026, the District received corrected 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet from the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector.

VCGCD - Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet - 2026 Corrected - Signed.pdf

File

On August 5, 2026, Management developed two draft budgets: 1) a budget anticipating the approval of a tax rate equal to the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate calculated by the Tax Assessor - Collector for Tax Year 2026, and 2) a budget anticipating the approval of a tax rate equal to the Voter-Approval Tax Rate calculated by the Tax Assessor - Collector for Tax Year 2026.

VCGCD - FY2027 Budget - GF GMA15F - NNR Tax Rate - Draft 20260805.pdf

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VCGCD - FY2027 Budget - GF GMA15F - VATR Tax Rate - Draft 20260805.pdf

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The budgeted expenditures in both versions of the draft budget total $2,121,600.

In both versions of the draft budget, budgeted expenditures exceed budgeted revenue for the fiscal year. If all expenditures are authorized and all budgeted expenses are realized, reserve funds would be diminished.

The total tax levy anticipated from adopting the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate is $766,000. The total tax levy anticipated from adopting the Voter-Approval Tax Rate is $840,300.

The budget for Fiscal Year 2027 should be adopted by order.

Order Adopting Budget.pdf

File

Management Recommendation:

None.

Topic 9.6 - Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026

Management Discussion:

The Tax Rate for Tax Year 2025 is $0.00670/$100 value. The total tax levy for Tax Year 2025 is $752,651.

The No-New-Revenue Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 is $0.00660/$100 value. The total tax levy for Tax Year 2026 anticipated from adopting the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate is $766,000.

The Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 is $0.00724/$100 value. The total tax levy for Tax Year 2026 anticipated from adopting the Voter-Approval Tax Rate is $840,300.

Management Recommendation:

Move to propose a tax rate less than or equal to the Voter-Approval Tax Rate for Tax Year 2026 of $0.00724/$100 value and instruct staff to publish all necessary notices to consider and adopt a tax rate at the meeting of the Board of Directors scheduled for September 11, 2026.

Topic 9.7 - Appraisal Roll for Tax Year 2026

Management Discussion:

On July 22,2026, the Chief Appraiser of the Victoria Central Appraisal District certified the 2026 Appraisal Role.

VCGCD - VCAD - Certified Totals - TY2026.pdf

File

On August 5, 2026, the District received corrected documentation related to the corrected 2026 Tax Rate Calculation Worksheet from the Victoria County Tax Assessor-Collector.

VCGCD - VCAD - Certified Totals - TY2026 - Correction Documentation - 20260805.pdf

File

The 2026 Certified Appraisal Role should be adopted by order.

Order Approving Appraisal Roll.pdf

File

Management Recommendation:

Move to accept and approve the appraisal roll for Tax Year 2026 and adopt the Order Approving the 2026 Appraisal Roll.

Topic 9.8 - Employee Compensation and Benefits

Management Discussion:

The District established pay scales for each type of employee with the previous adoptions of the budgets of the district. The scales are comprised of 5 steps with each incremental step representing a 5% increase in wage. The scales are used to 1) establish budget recommendations, 2) establish pay rates for new employees, and 3) develop recommendations regarding merit-based pay increases for individual employees. Each pay step for each position has been adjusted by 3.5% based on the U.S Bureau of Labor and Statistics June 2026 Consumer Price Index for the South Region for Size Class B/C.

BLS - Table 4. Consumer Price Index - 20260730.pdf

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General Manager		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Salary / Exempt	Yearly	$114,000	$120,000	$126,300	$132,900	$139,800
	Hourly	$54.81	$57.69	$60.72	$63.89	$67.21
Compliance Specialist		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Hourly / Non-Exempt	Yearly	$59,200	$62,300	$65,500	$68,900	$72,500

	Hourly	$28.46	$29.95	$31.49	$33.13	$34.86
Administrative Coordinator		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Salary / Exempt	Yearly	$55,000	$57,800	$60,800	$64,000	$67,300
	Hourly	$26.44	$27.79	$29.23	$30.77	$32.36
Monitoring Technician		Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5
Hourly / Non-Exempt	Yearly	$50,700	$53,300	$56,100	$59,000	$62,100
	Hourly	$24.38	$25.63	$26.97	$28.37	$29.86

The recommended budget expenditures for employment totals -$766,100 and is based on funding all 7 full-time employee positions at pay step 5. Management has evaluated the performance of the District's current employees (2 compliance specialist, 2 administrative coordinators, and 2 aquifer monitoring technician and considers their performance worthy of a merit-based step increase.

Budget Detail	**General Fund Expense**
Accounting Services - Payroll Processing	$(2,500)
Employee Benefits - Health	$(50,400)
Employee Benefits - Retirement	$(83,100)
Employee Wages - Administrative	$(134,600)
Employee Wages - Managerial	$(139,800)
Employee Wages - Technical - Monitoring	$(124,200)
Employee Wages - Technical - Permitting and Compliance	$(145,000)
Employment Fees - Accrued Leave Conversion	$(41,600)
Employment Fees - Social Security and Medicare	$(44,800)
Employment Fees - State Unemployment	$(100)
Total	**$(766,1000)**

Management Recommendation:

Move increment the following employees to the following FY2027 wage step:

- General Manager to Step 4,
- Compliance Specialist 1 to Step 5,
- Compliance Specialist 2 to Step 2,

- Administrative Coordinator 2 to Step 5, and
- Aquifer Monitoring Technician to Step 3.

Topic 9.9 - Review of Consultants

Management Discussion:

The district has obtain services from Allison, Bass and Magee, Intera, Inc., WSP USA, Inc., Daniel B. Stephens and Associates, Inc., and Collier Consulting, Inc., in the past under approved agreements. The deliverables submitted through the services provided by each consultant have been accepted by the district.

Management Recommendation:

Move to authorize 1) the general manager to seek term extensions until September 30, 2027, to the existing agreements with Intera, Inc., WSP USA, Inc., Daniel B. Stephens and Associates, and Collier Consulting, and 2) the president to approve the extensions to the respective service agreements.

Topic 9.10 - Unpaid Invoices and Bills

Management Discussion:

The District has outstanding bills and invoices that are NOT considered regular and routine nor has the Board previously authorized the requested payment.

Management Recommendation:

Move to authorize the general manager to pay the following items:

1. ACCTP-20260807-01 - $250.00 - Barbara Dietzel - August Meeting
2. ACCTP-20260807-02 - $250.00 - Jerry Hroch - August Meeting
3. ACCTP-20260807-03 - $250.00 - Kenneth Eller - August Meeting

Item 11 - Adjourn Meeting

Management Recommendation:

Move to adjourn the meeting after concluding all business of the District.

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