

# FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

1180 C.R. 109  
Albany, TX 76430

FORT GRIFFIN SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT Board of Directors met Thursday, March 7, 2019, at the Prairie Star Catering Shack, 100 Ellison St., Albany, TX.

Board President Burrell McKelvain called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. Other Board members present included Jim Blancq, Robert Montgomery, John Adams, Ben Hale, Sam Snyder. General Manager Mark Gardenhire and Office Administrator Betty Barrett were also present.

Visitor Comments, limited to five minutes: Candidate Sid Collinsworth was present but had no comment.

Don Stutsman present to ask questions concerning upcoming Board of Directors Election: Don Stutsman of Moran is a candidate for the FGSUD Board of Directors and had questions concerning the upcoming election. The FGSUD Board of Directors Election will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019, at the District Business Office from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Election Notice is posted at the District Office, Shackelford County Courthouse, and on the FGSUD website. To be eligible to vote in this election one must be a registered voter living on property inside the FGSUD legal boundaries. It is not required to be a water customer of the District. Anyone living inside the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (ETJ) of the cities of Throckmorton and Albany are NOT eligible to vote even if they own property outside the ETJ and are customers of FGSUD. To request an Application for a Ballot by Mail a person must be over 65 years of age, or disabled, or will be out of the County on Election Day, or in jail and otherwise eligible to vote. An ABBM may be obtained from the Secretary of State website ([www.sos.state.tx.us](http://www.sos.state.tx.us)) beginning January 1, 2019, through April 23, 2019. Early voting by personal appearance begins April 22, 2019. For further information or guidelines regarding elections, one can also go to the Secretary of State website.

Auditors Report / Review and Approval by Board of Directors: Michael Hamby, an accountant with the firm of Merritt, McLane, & Hamby of Abilene, was present to give an overview of their annual audit. Following his review and explanations of their findings, Mr. Hamby declared it a “clean audit” in their opinion, which states there were no indications of any wrong-doing, discrepancies, or inaccuracies in the accounting. All FGSUD files are randomly checked, and all are in order. He suggested that having more money in reserve funds will help assets to liabilities ratio, and they have seen improvement in that area. Following Mr. Hamby’s report, John Adams made a motion to approve and accept the 2017-2018 Audit. Robert Montgomery seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Approval of minutes: Following a review of the February 7, 2019, meeting minutes, John Adams made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Ben Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Approval of expenditures and financial reports: Following a review of the February 2019 expenditures and financial reports, Robert Montgomery made a motion to approve the expenditures and financial reports as submitted. Ben Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.

Update on RD Project: Mark reported that we are waiting on finalizing the agreement with property owners concerning payment for their easements. He and Derek are meeting with Texas Water Development Board in Austin on Wednesday, March 13 to discuss the financial division of the project funding with them and Rural Development. Their hope is that TWDB will fund the raw water line, which will also cover the payment for the two easements, leaving the remaining project to be funded by Rural Development.

Update on Board of Directors Election: President McKelvain reported that the drawing for places on the ballot took place at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 28, at the District Business Office. He explained the proceedings and results of the drawing. For Place 1, Ken Hill will be listed first on the ballot and Don Stutsman in second. For Place 2, Ben Hale will be listed first on the ballot and Sid Collinworth in second. Betty gave Board members, as well as Sid and Don, a printout of election information such as dates and deadlines; eligibility requirements for voters; obtaining an Application for a Ballot by Mail, etc. Betty also gave the four candidates for the upcoming election a suggested brief outline for a "Getting to Know the Candidates" article. Burrell assisted Betty with the questionnaire, which is planned for publication in local newspaper(s) prior to the election. John Adams voiced his concern about the District's legal boundaries, particularly the inclusion of the City of Moran in our boundary. Following a discussion, Mark stated that he will contact attorney Leonard Dougal who was our legal counsel during our conversion to a Special Utility District and the setting of our legal boundaries.

Manager's Report: 1.) Mark reported that the City of Moran decided against joining with FGSUD concerning the grant funding for which Shackelford County applied on both entities' behalf. The City and District will receive separate funding for their projects. 2.) A follow-up on the recent TCEQ Investigation resulted in a phone call from Cliff Moore, TCEQ Water Section Leader in the Abilene Region office. Mark stated that we are still in violation (since March 2013) at pump station 3. Per TCEQ requirements, systems serving more than 250 connections must have a total storage capacity of 200 gallons per connection. To date, our pump station 3 does not have that capability. Resolving that issue has been in the USDA Rural Development Project, which will include replacing the pump station with a standpipe. A one-year extension was given by TCEQ to avoid further violation. 3.) The chlorine burnout (temporary disinfectant conversion) was completed and seems to be successful. Quarterly samples are schedule for next week, and the Techs have been flushing lines in preparation. 4.) Mark stated that he will be attending the annual TRWA Convention in Austin March 25-29. If any Board members plan to attend March 27-29, please let Betty know in order to be registered and hotel reservations can be made. 5.) On March 21, Brazos River Authority will hold their State of the Basin meeting to share information concerning projects, initiatives, and issues that BRA is working on. The meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Woodway, Texas. Anyone wishing to go with Mark should let Betty know so that she can get you registered.

There being no further business, Robert Montgomery made a motion that the meeting adjourn. John Adams seconded the motion, and it carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:37 PM.

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Burrell McKelvain, Certifying Official  
Fort Griffin Special Utility District