

GREEN DEWITT DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Doug Sethness, President
Larry Coppedge, Vice President
John Varela, Secretary
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107 N. Gonzales Street
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Board Meeting Minutes – July 22, 2025

Location: 107 N. Gonzales Street, Cuero, Texas

Time: 10:00 AM

Presiding Officer: Doug Sethness, President

Board Members Present

Doug Sethness, President
Larry Coppedge, Vice-President
John Varela, Secretary

Staff Present

David Guajardo, General Manager
Pat Trevino, Office Manager
Ignacio Granado, Foreman

Public

Robert Baker – Cuero Resident

1. Call to Order & Invocation

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM with all directors present, confirming a quorum. Board Secretary John Varela opened with a prayer asking for guidance, protection, and blessings for the District and its constituents.

2. Public Comment

Robert Baker, a local property owner, introduced himself and expressed interest in District operations.

- Owns ~3.5 acres near Alonzo Street and Caroline, adjacent to the Oil Mills Channel
 - Board welcomed his engagement and discussed the property's proximity to District-maintained channels.
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3. Approval of Minutes

Draft minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed.

- Correction discussed regarding payroll signature authority: must be either the **General Manager or a Board Member**, not just a “single signature.”
- Director John Varela made a motion to approve the minutes with the revisions. Director Larry Coppedge seconded the motion.
- **Motion passed unanimously.**

4. Facilities & Maintenance Report

- Full mowing cycle completed; vegetation growth remains high due to rain.
 - All three mowers deployed; Jesse and Daniel are managing weed control.
 - River flow monitored post-Fourth of July; peaked at ~18 feet near Hwy 72, but no flooding occurred.
 - Rear window of work truck shattered during mowing; repaired by B&D Glass.
 - Building needs power washing and paint; fencing requires repairs.
 - Mowing cycle takes approximately 6–8 weeks to complete.
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5. General Manager's Report

- GM monitored the river and coordinated with EMC Billy during flood concerns.
- Attended **North Cuero Watershed Quarterly Meeting** (July 8):
 - Discussed inter-local agreement updates and budget contributions.
 - District's contribution increased to **\$10,000** for FY 2026.
- Attended **DeWitt County Hazard Mitigation Planning** session.
- Filed **Texas Association of Counties Unemployment Fund Report** (~\$30).
- Met with **AJ Louderback** regarding GLO grant and drainage improvements.
 - Project cost estimates increased from \$900K to \$3M post-COVID.
- Discussed jurisdictional challenges with city and county; emphasized need for collaboration.
- Submitted **tax rate request** to County Tax Assessor; District designated as “developing.”
 - Additional ARC survey may be required; clarification pending.

6. Engineering Report

- GM met with **Southwest Engineering** to define the scope of work for full watershed system.
 - Scope includes:
 - Drone-based GPS mapping of maintained vs. neglected areas
 - Elevation surveys of restrictors and channels
 - Creation of an interactive GIS map for planning and Corps of Engineers integration
 - Project will identify critical gauge locations and provide data for future flood modeling.
 - No formal bid is required if the project remains under \$50,000.
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7. GLO Grant Update

- Extension for gauge installation project approved; completion deadline set for **August 24, 2027**, with final expiration on **April 15, 2029**.
 - GM submitted a budget amendment letter to GLO for \$11,900 environmental study.
 - Clarification pending on Corps of Engineers requirements for work within drainage areas.
 - Reallocated GLO grant funds from acquisition to cover environmental study.
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8. Financial Report

- 64% of the budget was spent with two months remaining in the fiscal year.
- **June expenses:** \$378,092.63 (under projected \$400,000)
- Projected year-end surplus: ~\$420,000
- Board discussed and reviewed the following reports:

Balance Sheet Report
Profit & Loss Report
Profit & Loss vs Actual
Transaction Detail by Date Report

MOTION

- Director John Varela made a motion to accept the financial reports. Director Larry Coppedge seconded the motion.
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**
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9. Scheduling

- **Next Regular Meeting:**
 - **Date:** August 18, 2025
 - **Time:** 11:00 AM
- **Special Budget Work Session:**
 - **Date:** August 9, 2025
 - **Time:** 9:00 AM
 - **Purpose:** Proposed 2025-2026 FY budget

10. Adjournment

- **Director John Varela made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Director Larry Coppedge. Motion carried**
- **Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 11:25a.m.**

Meeting adjourned following scheduling confirmations.

Signatures

Approved by:

Board Member

David Guajardo, General Manager

Date Approved: _____