

MIDDLE TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

ORDER CALLING GENERAL ELECTION OF DIRECTORS ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024

The Board of Directors ("Board") of the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (the "District") met in regular session, open to the public, after due notice, at 930 Wolfe Nursery Rd, Stephenville, Texas 76401 on Thursday, August 8, 2024; whereupon the roll was called of the members of the Board of Directors, to wit:

Table listing Board members and their roles: Charles E. Ferguson (President), Barbara Domel (Vice President), Fred B. Parker (Secretary), Joe Altebaumer (Director), Kenneth Bullington (Director), Rodney Stephens (Director), Jerry Hinshaw (Director), Butch Ronne (Director), W.B. Maples (Director), Robert Payne (Director), Shane Tucker (Director), Frank Volleman (Director).

The following members of the Board were present:

Handwritten list of present members: Charles E. Ferguson, Fred B. Parker, Robert Payne, Frank Volleman, Rodney Stephens, Jerry Hinshaw, Shane Tucker, Butch Ronne, Barbara Domel.

WHEREUPON, among other business conducted by the Board, Director, [blank], introduced the order set out below moved its adoption, which motion was seconded by Director [blank], and, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board of Directors, said motion was carried by the following vote:

"Aye" 9; "No" 0; and Abstaining 0.

The Order thus adopted is as follows:

WHEREAS, the 77th Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 3665, the enabling act for the Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (the "District"), during the Regular Session in 2001 (Acts 2001, 77th Leg., R.S., Ch. 1362, eff. Sept. 1, 2001), which enabling act was subsequently amended by the 78th Texas Legislature (Acts 2003, 78th Leg., R.S., Ch. 893, eff. June 20, 2003) and the 81st Texas Legislature (Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 521, eff. June 19, 2009); and

WHEREAS, the District's enabling act was codified in Chapter 8863 of the Texas Special District Local Laws Code by the 83rd Texas Legislature (Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 112, eff. Apr. 1, 2015); and

WHEREAS, Texas Special District Local Laws Code § 8862.055 requires the District to hold an election to elect directors from Erath and Comanche Counties in each even-numbered year; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 41.0052(a) of the Texas Election Code, the District changed its election date to the uniform election date in November by Order of the District's Board of Directors dated November 3, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.001(a) of the Texas Election Code establishes the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as one of the uniform election dates for the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments, local governments may contract or agree with each other to perform governmental functions and services in accordance with Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, Section 31.092 of the Texas Election Code authorizes the county elections officer to contract with the governing body of a political subdivision situated wholly or partly in the county served by the officer to perform election services in any one or more elections ordered by the political subdivision; and

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors intends to enter into an Election Services Agreement with Erath County for the provision of election services in Erath County and intends to enter into an Election Services Agreement with Comanche County for the provision of election services in Comanche County; and

WHEREAS, in the event the Directors Election is uncontested, the Board of Directors will follow the procedures for election of unopposed candidate established by Section 2.051-2.054 of the Texas Election Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to provisions of the District's enabling act, Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code, and the Texas Election Code, the Board wishes to proceed with the ordering of a Directors Election to be held on November 8, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MIDDLE TRINITY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1: The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated into this Order for all purposes.

Section 2: An election shall be held by the District on the 5th day of November 2024 ("Election Day"), between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., at which there shall be

submitted the question of the election of one(1) director to represent Erath County and two (2) director to represent Comanche County, each of whom shall serve four (4) year terms. All resident, qualified electors of Erath County shall be entitled to vote in the election for directors representing Erath County and all resident, qualified electors of Comanche County shall be entitled to vote in the election for a director representing Comanche County. The deadline for candidates to file applications to have their name on the ballot is 5:00 p.m. on August 19, 2024, and the deadline for write-in candidates to file a declaration of write-in candidacy is 5:00 p.m. on August 23, 2024.

Section 3: Voting in said election during early voting by personal appearance and on Election Day in shall be by the use of the DS200 voting system in Erath County and Hart voting system in Comanche County, which shall have available both English and Spanish and which shall conform to the requirements of the Texas Election Code. Oral bilingual assistance shall be available during the election and may be obtained by contacting the Election Judges.

Section 4: The Board of Directors of the District intends to enter into an Election Services Agreement with Erath and Comanche Counties for the conduct of the District Directors Election. Pursuant to the respective Election Agreements, the Erath and Comanche County Election Administrators will designate the Presiding Judges. The Presiding Judges may appoint, as they deem necessary, clerks to assist in the conduct of the election, not to exceed the maximum number of five (5).

Section 5: Early Voting and Election Day Voting

ERATH COUNTY:

Early voting by personal appearance in Erath County will be conducted each weekday at a location to be determined.

Early voting by personal appearance in Erath County shall begin on October 21, 2024, and shall continue through November 1, 2024, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and official state holidays.

Early voting shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm, at the Main Location, and 8:00pm – 5:00pm at the Branch Location. Early voting will be held on October 21, 2024 through November 1, 2024

Tara Arredondo shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk to conduct early voting in Erath County. Applications for ballots by mail and ballots to be voted by mail may be sent to the Early Voting Clerk via email to ecvote@co.erath.tx.us via mail to Lana Stephens, Elections Administrator, 222 East College St. Stephenville, TX 76401. Visit the website at www.co.erath.tx.us/186/Current-Elections. Or call 254-459-5002. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024. Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024.

The District will use the Election Day polling locations as established by Erath County. Election Day voting in Erath County will be conducted at the following locations on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

NEW ERATH COUNTY ANNEX

222 E. College St. Stephenville, TX 76401

**TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH &
EXTENSION CENTER**

1229 N. U.S. Hwy 281 Stephenville, TX 76401

TEXAS BANK

988 Wolfe Nursery Rd. Stephenville, TX 76401

UNITED COOPERATIVE SERVICES

1200 Glen Rose Highway
Stephenville, TX 76401

THE STATION

815 N Patrick St. Dublin, TX 76446

CROSS TIMBERS CHURCH OF CHRIST

1515 W Cedar St., Stephenville, TX 76401

**LINGLEVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE
DEPARTMENT**

19010 FM 8 Stephenville, TX 76461

MORGAN MILL COMMUNITY CENTER

406 CR 156 Stephenville, TX 76401

SELDEN COMMUNITY CENTER

4142 FM 913 Stephenville, TX 76401

BLUFF DALE COMMUNITY CENTER

175 Holt Bluff Dale, TX 76433

HUCKABAY COMMUNITY CENTER

42346 North FM 219 Stephenville, TX 76401

COMANCHE COUNTY:

Early voting by personal appearance in Comanche County will be conducted each weekday at a location to be determined.

Early voting by personal appearance in Comanche County shall begin on October 21, 2024 and shall continue through November 1, 2024, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and official state holidays.

Early voting shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00am and 7:00pm, at the Main Location, and 8:00pm – 5:00pm at the Branch Location. Early voting will be held on October 21, 2024 through November 1, 2024.

Summer Olvera shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk to conduct early voting in Comanche County. Applications for ballots by mail and ballots to be voted by mail may be sent to the Early Voting Clerk via email at elections@co.comanche.tx.us or call 254-979-9578. Visit the website at co.comanche.tx.us/elections. Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024. Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) must be received no later than the close of business on October 25, 2024.

The District will use the Election Day polling locations as established by Comanche County. Comanche County uses voting centers as its polling locations and allows voters to vote in any center regardless of the precinct that voter lives in. Election Day voting in Comanche County will be conducted at the following locations on Tuesday, November 5, 2024 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m

**Comanche County Annex
(Old Ranger College Building)**
215 N. Houston St Comanche, TX 76442

Comanche Community Center
100 Indian Creek Dr Comanche, TX 76442

**Soda Springs - Comanche County Annex
(Old Ranger College Building)**
215 N. Houston St Comanche, TX 76442

Eastside Baptist Church
207 FIVI 3381 Comanche, TX 76442

Gustine City Hall
201 E. Main St. Gustine, TX 76455

Gustine Community Center
208 W. Main St. Gustine, TX 76455

Lamkin - Gustine Community Center
208 W. Main St. Gustine, TX 76455

Proctor Community Center
565 Texas Ave. Proctor, TX 76468

Deleon City Hall
125 S. Texas St. Deleon, TX 76444

Promontory RV Resort Pavilion
95 Port Promontory Comanche, TX 7 6442

Sipe Springs Fire Station
124 CR 187 Comanche, TX 76442

Sidney Baptist Church
4124 Hwy 1689 Sidney, TX 7 6474

Beattie Community Center
2151 Hwy 588 Comanche, TX 76442

Section 6: The election shall be held and conducted and returns made to this Board of Directors in accordance with the Texas Election Code and Chapter 36, Texas Water Code.

Section 7: The Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to determine if the candidates are unopposed for election based on the following conditions:

(1) Only one candidate's name is to be placed on the ballot for each director position available; and

(2) No candidate's name is to be placed on a list of write-in candidates for the office of director.

If such circumstances exist, the Secretary of the Board shall certify in writing which, if any, candidates are unopposed for election to the office of director. The certification shall be delivered to the Board of Directors as soon as possible after the filing deadlines for placement on the ballot and list of write-in candidates. On receipt of the certification, the Board of Directors may declare each unopposed candidate elected to office, the election for that position will not be held, and a copy of the order declaring the candidate elected shall be posted at the polling place on Election Day.

Section 8: To the extent the results of the election are not declared in accordance with Section 7 of this Order, the Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to provide notice of this election, in English and Spanish, by any one or more of the following methods in accordance with Section 4.003, Texas Election Code:

- (1) By publishing the notice at least once, not earlier than the 30th day or later than the 10th day before Election Day in a newspaper of general circulation in the territory if none is published in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice;
- (2) By posting, not later than the 21st day before Election Day, a copy of the notice at a public place in each election precinct that is in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice; or
- (3) By mailing, not later than the 10th day before Election Day, a copy of the notice to each registered voter of the territory that is covered by the election and is in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice.

In addition to the above methods of providing notice, the Secretary of the Board shall have notice of this election, in English and Spanish, posted not later than the 21st day before the election on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the Board of Directors. Such notice shall remain posted continuously through Election Day.

Section 9: Pursuant to Section 31.123, Texas Election Code, the Secretary of the Board hereby appoints Patrick Wagner, Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, 930 N. Wolfe Nursery Rd, Stephenville, Texas 76401 as the District's agent for this election.

Section 10: The Board President and Secretary are authorized to take all actions necessary to carry out the purposes of this Order.


PASSED AND APPROVED this 8th day of August 2024

ATTEST:


Charles E. Ferguson, President


Fred B. Parker, Secretary


Board Member


Board Member