

PANHANDLE WATER NEWS

APRIL 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION SET FOR MAY 6, 2023



Left to Right: David Hodges, Dennis Babcock, Wes Stockett and Jimmy Osborn

A candidate forum for the upcoming Board of Directors election was held at the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District (PGCD) office on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Moderated by Agricultural Law Specialist with Texas A&M AgriLife, Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, J.D., the forum was held to provide the candidates running for Precinct 2 and Precinct 6 a chance to share their opinions on topics including groundwater decline in the Ogallala Aquifer and why they would best represent their Precinct on the PGCD Board.

Candidates took turns sharing their visions and what they believe should be top priorities for the District. They unanimously agreed that the decisions we make today will directly affect our future generations.

Candidates running for Precinct 2, which covers portions of Carson and Armstrong Counties, are Dennis Babcock and David Hodges. Candidates running for Precinct 6, which covers most of Armstrong County, are Wes Stockett and Jimmy Osborn. Early voting will be held at the PGCD office, 201 W. 3rd Street, White Deer, TX 79097 from April 24, 2023 thru May 2, 2023, during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). Election Day voting for Precinct 2 will be at the PGCD office, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Election Day voting for Precinct 6 will be at Claude High School, 500 S. 5th Street, Claude, TX 79019, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

On Election Day, voters must vote in the precinct where they are registered to vote. Visit www.pgcd.us/election-information to view an interactive map if you're unsure which Precinct you reside. Please call the District Election Clerk, Katie Hodges, with any questions or concerns at 806-883-2501.

POINTS OF INTEREST

Upcoming Election

88th Legislative Update

Important Meter Reminders

TWDB Grants Available

"Conserving Water for Future Generations"

88TH LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 88th Session of the Texas Legislature convened on January 10, 2023. Priorities for this session include: protecting elections, border security, parental rights and educational freedom, and water.

Another notable topic is the state's budget has a record-breaking surplus of \$32.7 billion. Comptroller Glen Hegar has commented that this budgeting session is "truly a once-in-lifetime session".

Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code governs most groundwater conservation districts.

Panhandle GCD closely monitors bills that affect Chapter 36 as well as other local government bills. The district is currently tracking approximately 100 bills. For additional information or if you have any questions, please contact Britney Britten at britney@pgcd.us.



PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



See example above of what your start of season text message should look like

IMPORTANT METER REMINDER

Start of season text messages must include a clear view of the meter face while pumping and also must include the identifying sticker or serial number plate which identifies your meter to the District.

The purpose of this picture is not to obtain reading, but rather to see that your meter is working properly. This alerts our Field Technicians if maintenance is necessary. If your identifying sticker needs to be replaced, please contact the District office. Text messages can be sent to:
806-883-2124

DISTRICT OPERATORS WORKING HARD TO CONSERVE

93% of Operators Make Goal

PGCD is proud to announce that 93% of the operators within the District met the production goal.

The current District rule for annual production is 1-acre foot per contiguous acre owned or leased.

Our Board and staff are committed to educating, assisting, and working with all water user groups in our District. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out at anytime at 806-883-2501.

REMINDER

Don't forget to check our PGCD Facebook page for important information regarding closings, board meeting reminders and general information.

[www.facebook.com/
PanhandleGroundwaterConservationDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/PanhandleGroundwaterConservationDistrict)

TWDB AWARDS GRANT FOR TELEMETRY SYSTEMS



The graphic features a background of a green field under a cloudy sky. At the top center is the PGCD logo, a green circle with a white water drop icon and the text 'PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'. Below the logo, the text reads: 'AGRICULTURE GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE', 'AWARDED BY: TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD', 'Funds available to help local producers purchase telemetry systems for their center pivots', 'TWDB will provide a 50/50 cost share with producers interested in participating in the program', and 'For more information, please reach out to Meter Specialist, Jake Robinson at 806-883-2501, or email at jrobinson@pgcd.us'.

Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District (PGCD) has received grant funds from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to help local producers purchase telemetry systems for their center pivots.

TWDB will provide a 50/50 cost share with producers interested in participating in the program.

Due to limited funds, the program will be run on a first come first serve basis. For more information, please reach out to Meter Specialist, Jake Robinson at 806-883-2501, or email at, jrobinson@pgcd.us

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Next Board Meeting is set for Thursday, May 11th
- Early Voting for PGCD Board of Directors Election held from April 24th through May 2nd.
- Election Day voting is on Saturday, May 6th.

PANHANDLE GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 637
WHITE DEER, TEXAS 79097

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DISTRICT OFFICE

201. W. Third St, PO Box 637
White Deer, TX 79097
Phone: 806-883-2501
Fax: 806-883-2162
Website: www.pgcd.us

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Thompson, President
Chancy Cruse, Vice President
David Hodges, Secretary
Charles Bowers, Director
Danny Hardcastle, Director
Lee Peterson, Director
Devin Sinclair, Director
John R. Spearman, Jr., Director
Bill Breeding, Director

Britney Britten, General Manager

Panhandle Water News is published quarterly.
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TEXAS 4-H WATER AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

The Texas 4-H Water Ambassadors Program was established in 2017 to educate youth about water resources in Texas. Multiple students are selected every spring to participate in a summer 4-H2O Leadership Academy.

The mission of this program is to equip youth with advanced knowledge and leadership skills needed to fully explore and engage with the wide diversity of water industry disciplines, careers, agencies, organizations, practitioners and leaders.

Applications for the 4-H Water Ambassadors program are open from March 15th through May 1st.

For more information about eligibility requirements, go to:

www.texas4hwaterambassadors.com/application