

Heartbeat of the Hickory

Summer 2016

Directors		Staff	
W. Owen Parks	..... President	David Huie	..... Manager
Bill Sloan	..... Vice-President	Caroline Runge	..... Consulting Manager
Gay Nesloney	..... Secretary	Angelina Deans	..... Assistant Manager
Don "Butch" Williams	..... Director	Ronnie Moore	..... Lab/Field Tech
Amy Greer	..... Director		

Board of Director Changes

This year the District lost two valuable and experienced Board members. In the spring, Wendell Moody of Precinct 4, decided not to run for re-election, leaving Don "Butch" Williams to run unopposed. Shortly thereafter, Bert Striegler of Precinct 5 submitted his resignation. The Board appointed Amy Greer to finish out his term.

Wendell Moody has been on the Board since 2004. His experience as an engineer made him a great asset to the Board. Wendell was well acquainted with the radionuclide issue and even appeared on a television news interview regarding the issue. Wendell served on the Region F Planning Group for many years, initially serving as a non-voting member in 2000 and 2001, but becoming a voting representative in 2002.

Larry Lehmborg, a former director from Mason County, said of Wendell, "I think he probably worked harder than anyone else digging up facts and technical aspects. He leaves big shoes to fill – a true gentleman."

Wendell passed the torch to Don "Butch" Williams. Don is an Eden native and former Eden Bulldog quarterback. After attending Texas A&M, he married a young lady from Topeka, Kansas. In 1970, he earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He designed structural steel and worked in construction while in Kansas. Don finally came home to Texas and worked for the Texas Department of Transportation until retiring in 2007. After retirement, he served on the Eden City Council and is an active member of the First Baptist Church in Eden.

Bert Striegler, director from Precinct 5 since 1995, resigned his position on the Board at the August Board meeting. Bert was born and raised in McCulloch County. In 1952 he left to join the Air Force and spent time stationed in Saudi Arabia. Upon his return to the US in 1956, he started working for Conoco. He worked for that company until he retired in 1990 and returned to Brady. Bert served on the Brady City Council and was a huge supporter of the McCulloch County Historical Museum.

When discussing Bert, Larry Lehmborg stated, "He [Bert] was one of the greatest Board members I had ever worked with. It has been said there is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Bert has both." Larry went on to attribute the success of the Hickory UWCD to Bert's service.

At the August 11 Board Meeting, the Board appointed Amy Greer to fill the position. Amy and her husband, George Greer, moved to Brady in the summer of 2008. They now operate the Winters-Wall Ranch just southwest of town. Amy is a 6th generation rancher in McCulloch County. They are currently running a direct to consumer natural Wagyu beef business on the ranch.

Prior to ranching, Amy earned a Master of Science in Wildlife Ecology from Southwest Texas State University in 2002. She then worked for both governmental and private entities as a Wildlife Biologist until moving to Brady. She continues to work as a Contract Biologist for firms in Austin and independently as a private Wildlife Management Consultant as well as managing the habitat, wildlife and hunting on the family ranch.

It has been a privilege and an honor to have worked with Bert and Wendell. They were not only Board Members, but they also became friends. We could call on them anytime and ask for their help on issues as they arose.

They worked hard to ensure that we recognized that everyone has the right to produce water on their property, while simultaneously understanding the need to protect and conserve groundwater for future generations.

Bert and Wendell were always willing to go the extra mile, attending meetings across the state, giving presentations to civic organizations, and representing the District at both state and federal levels.

They will both be missed.

David Huie

Manager

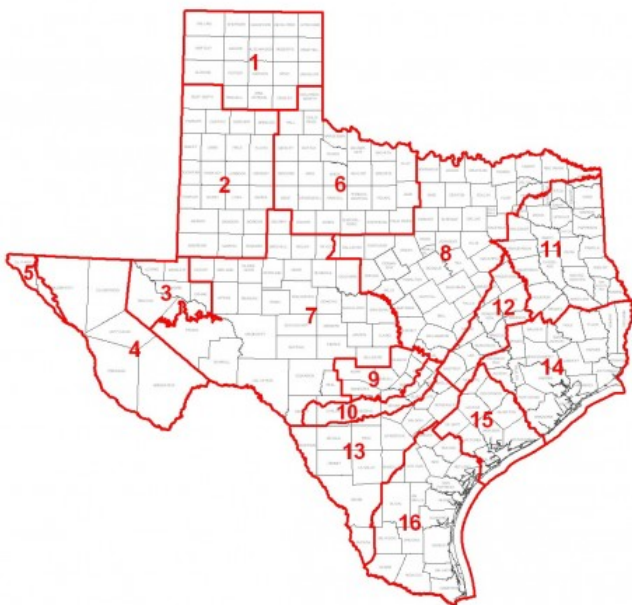


Don "Butch" Williams representing Precinct 4



Amy Greer representing Precinct 5

Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs)



House Bill 1763 passed in 2005 established a system of alliances of local groundwater conservation districts to coordinate the management of shared aquifers. In order to accomplish this, 16 GMAs were created.

Each groundwater conservation district is required to adopt Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the relevant aquifers within its jurisdiction. Desired future conditions are defined in Title 31, Part 10, §356.10 (6) of the Texas Administrative Code as "the desired, quantified condition of groundwater resources (such as water levels, spring flows, or volumes) within a management area at one or more specified future times as defined by participating

groundwater conservation districts within a groundwater management area as part of the joint planning process." Then all the districts within the GMA meet and vote on those DFCs. The majority of the districts in the management area must agree as to how the aquifer is managed, as statute requires the desired future conditions to be approved by a two-thirds vote of all the districts within the management area.

The Hickory UWCD falls into GMA 7. The GMA meeting to vote on the DFCs is scheduled for September 22 in San Angelo. A copy of the agenda can be found on our website (www.hickoryuwcd.org) as well the county clerk's and District's bulletin boards, and the Secretary of State's website.

To learn more about GMAs, DFCs, etc, you can visit the TWDB's website. http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/management_areas/index.asp

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