

City of Crockett
200 North 5th Street
Crockett, TX 75835
936-544-5156

Date: 12/4/2025

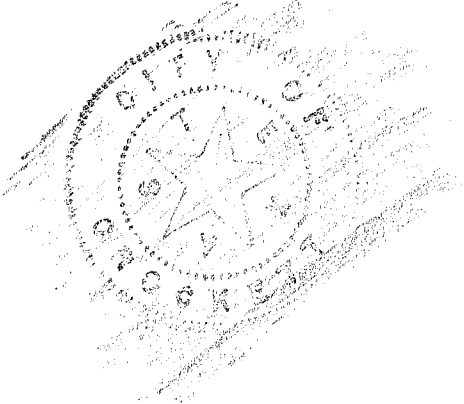
Dear Sir or Madam,

I hereby certify that a copy of a petition for a Groundwater Conservation District has been received by the City of Crockett, a city in whose corporate limits a portion of the proposed district is located.

Very truly yours,

Mitzi Stefka

Mitzi Stefka
City Secretary





MCELROY,
SULLIVAN,
MILLER &
WEBER, LLP

500 W. 5th, Suite 1375, Austin, TX 78701 | www.msmtx.com

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 12127, Austin, TX 78711 | T. 512.327.8111 F. 512.350.2681

December 4, 2025

Via Hand Delivery

Mitzi Stefka
Secretary
City of Crockett
200 North 5th Street
Crockett, TX 75835

Re: Petition to Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for creation of groundwater conservation district

Dear Ms. Stefka,

As you may know, Houston County has been assisting landowners in Houston County prepare a petition for filing with the TCEQ to request creation of a groundwater conservation district for Houston County. One of the requirements of the process is that the petition must include a signed statement by the city secretary that a copy of the petition for creation of the proposed district was received by each city in Houston County. Since the proposed groundwater district will encompass Houston County, we are enclosing a copy of the petition that will be filed with the TCEQ.

Would you please provide a signed letter indicating that a copy of the petition was received by the City of Crockett, so that the petition can be completed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Your help is very much appreciated.

Please contact me at (512) 327-8111 or afriedman@msmtx.com if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

MCELROY, SULLIVAN, MILLER & WEBER, L.L.P.

/s/ Adam M. Friedman

Adam M. Friedman
ATTORNEY FOR HOUSTON COUNTY

**PETITION FOR CREATION OF
HOUSTON COUNTY GROUNDWATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

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§

**BEFORE THE TEXAS COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**PETITION FOR CREATION OF HOUSTON COUNTY
GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

Pursuant to Chapter 36 of the Tex. Water Code and Title 30, Chapter 293 of Texas Administrative Code, the undersigned individuals (“Petitioners”) file this Petition for Creation of Houston County Groundwater Conservation District (“Petition”) with the Executive Director for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (“TCEQ”). Petitioners respectfully request TCEQ consider and certify this Petition to create the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District, and in support thereof would respectfully show the following:

PETITIONERS

1. Petitioners file this Petition to create a groundwater conservation district with a boundary coterminous with Houston County, Texas.
2. A petition requesting creation of a groundwater conservation district must be filed with TCEQ for review and certification. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(a).
3. The petition must be signed by the majority of the landowners in the proposed district or, if there are more than 50 landowners, at least 50 of those landowners. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(b); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b).
4. Houston County has more than 50 landowners.
5. The petition is signed by petitioners comprised of more than 50 landowners in Houston County which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.
6. The Petitioners have signed this Petition and provided a certification by the Houston County Central Appraisal District indicating that the petitioners are landowners within

the proposed district on the date the petition was submitted. This certification is attached hereto as

Exhibit B. 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §293.18(c)(5).

7. A map generally outlining the boundaries of the proposed district is attached as

Exhibit C. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(2); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(2).

GOVERNING LAW

8. TCEQ has exclusive regulatory jurisdiction over creation of districts with authority to regulate spacing of water wells, the production of wells, or both. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.011.

9. A district may include all or part of one or more counties and the boundary must be coterminous with or inside the boundaries of a groundwater management area (“GMA”) or a priority groundwater management area (“priority GMA”). TEX. WATER CODE §§ 36.012(a), (c).

10. Subchapter C of Title 30, Chapter 293 sets forth the procedures for TCEQ certification of landowner petitions for creation of groundwater districts filed under TEXAS WATER CODE §36.013.

11. The petition shall be filed with the TCEQ Executive Director. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(a).

12. The Petition must include the following:

- the name of the proposed groundwater conservation district; TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(1); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(1).
- the area and boundaries of the proposed district, including a map generally outlining the boundaries of the proposed district; TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(2); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(2).
- the purpose or purposes of the district; TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(3); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(3).
- if any proposed projects are to be funded by the issuance of bonds or notes, a statement of the general nature of the projects to be undertaken by the proposed district, the necessity and feasibility of the work, and the estimated cost of those

projects according to the petitioners; TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(4); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(4).

- the names of at least five individuals qualified to serve as temporary directors; TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(5); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(5).
- financial information, including the projected maintenance tax or production fee rate and a budget of revenues and expenses for the district. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(6); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(6).

13. TCEQ requires that the petition include the following information about the area and boundaries of the proposed district:

- Metes and bounds description of the proposed boundaries of the proposed district if those boundaries differ from a political subdivision boundary which existed on the date the petition was submitted; TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(1)(A).
- a map in a digital data electronic format showing as appropriate the location of municipalities, highways, roads, surface water features, and other water districts, together with the areal extent of groundwater aquifers, and showing the location of recharge (i.e., outcrops of aquifer units, karst features, etc.) and Texas Water Development Board located discharge (i.e., seeps, springs, etc.) features identified with state well number, the downdip limits of usable quality groundwater, and any other information the petitioners believe is pertinent to the creation of the proposed district. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(1)(B).
- an evaluation and description of how the boundaries of the proposed district will provide for effective management of the groundwater resources within the proposed district and in the GMA; TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(1)(C).

14. TCEQ requires that the petition include the following supporting information:

- Affidavits from the individuals named in the petition qualified to serve as temporary directors, establishing that these individuals are qualified to serve as temporary directors according to Texas Water Code sections 36.051(b), 36.058, and 36.059(b). TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(3).
- Financial information that includes the projected maintenance tax rate or production fee rate, a proposed budget of revenues and expenses for the proposed district, and a listing of current tax assessments within the boundaries of the proposed district. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(4)(C).
- If the petitioners propose to finance the district through maintenance taxes, a

certification by the central appraisal district within the proposed district that indicates the total tax valuation of all land within the proposed district, as reflected on the current county tax rolls. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(4)(A).

- If the petitioners propose to finance the district through well production fees, the estimated non-exempt groundwater usage, by type, for the proposed district. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(4)(B).
- One contact person for all correspondence from the executive director regarding the petition. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(6).
- A signed statement by the appropriate county clerk or city secretary that a copy of the petition for creation of the proposed district was received by each county in whole or in part within the proposed district and by each city in whose corporate city limits any part of the proposed district is located. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(7).
- Concurrent with filing the petition and supporting information with the executive director, the petitioners shall make a copy or copies of the petition and supporting information available for public inspection during regular business hours at a centralized location or locations in each county included in whole or in part within the proposed district. The petitioners must provide the address and contact information for each location where the petition and supporting information have been made available for public inspection. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(8).

PETITION

15. The name of the proposed groundwater conservation district is the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(1); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(1).

16. The boundaries of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District are coterminous with those of Houston County, Texas. A map generally outlining the boundaries of the proposed district is attached as **Exhibit C**. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(2); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(2).

17. The purposes of the district are to manage critical groundwater resources in Houston County and protect associated private property rights that are currently at risk of unlimited

and unregulated groundwater production. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(3); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(3).

18. The proposed district currently has no proposed projects that are to be funded by the issuance of bonds or notes. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(4); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(4).

19. The following are the names of five individuals qualified to serve as temporary directors for the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District:

a. Precinct 1: Dewayne High

b. Precinct 2: Randy Parten

c. Precinct 3: Craig Broxson

d. Precinct 4: Darrel Bobbitt

e. Precinct 5: Charles "Chuck" Cunningham

TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(5); TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(b)(5).

20. Houston County has a population of less than 50,000. TEX. WATER CODE §36.051(b).

21. The proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District includes all of Houston County, and the temporary directors are not subject to criteria in TEX. WATER CODE § 49.051(a).

22. Affidavits from the individuals listed as qualified to serve as temporary directors are attached as **Exhibit D**. These affidavits establish that these individuals will be qualified to serve as temporary directors according to Texas Water Code sections 36.051(b), 36.058, and 36.059(b). TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(3).

23. Financial information, including the projected maintenance tax rate and production

fee rate and a proposed budget of revenues and expenses for the proposed district, and a listing of current tax assessments within the boundaries of the proposed district is attached as **Exhibit E**. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.013(c)(6); TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 293.18(b)(6), (c)(4).

24. Attached as **Exhibit F** are three maps in a digital data electronic format showing as appropriate the location of municipalities, highways, roads, surface water features, and other water districts, together with the areal extent of groundwater aquifers, and showing the location of recharge (i.e., outcrops of aquifer units, karst features, etc.) and Texas Water Development Board located discharge (i.e., seeps, springs, etc.) features identified with state well number, the downdip limits of usable quality groundwater, and other information the petitioners believe is pertinent to the creation of the proposed district. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(1)(B).

25. The proposed district will provide for the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater and of groundwater reservoirs and their subdivisions. The proposed district will provide effective management of the groundwater resources within Houston County, which covers a large area within GMA 11 that is currently unregulated and at risk of unlimited production. TEX. WATER CODE § 36.015(b). The major and minor aquifers underlying Houston County are depicted on maps attached as **Exhibit F**. These aquifers provide the water supply resources to meet the needs of most water-use categories in Houston County. Creating the proposed district covering Houston County will allow for effective management of the critical groundwater resources and protect associated private property rights. Major objectives of the proposed district are to: (1) collect geologic and hydrogeologic data to better understand quantity and quality of groundwater resources; (2) monitor the elevation of the groundwater in each aquifer at various locations across the County to gauge impacts to the aquifers over time; (3) coordinate with other groundwater districts within GMA 11; and (4) provide

technical assistance to the County in their effort to manage future use of groundwater resources. The proposed district will provide additional data and assistance to GMA 11 to better manage groundwater over the entire region to promote a sustainable water supply and avoid depletion of the aquifers in this area. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(1)(C).

26. The proposed district proposes to finance the district through maintenance taxes. Attached as **Exhibit G** is a certification by the Houston County Appraisal District indicating that the total tax valuation of all land within the proposed district, as reflected on the current county tax rolls, is **\$2,578,027,876**. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(4)(A).

27. The effect of the additional annual district tax of \$0.019 per \$100 valuation for land valued at \$100,000 is \$19.00 per year.

28. The proposed district will finance the district through \$1 per acre-foot per year for agricultural use and \$10 per acre-foot per year for all other uses. Production subject to the production fee is actual water produced and not permitted amount. Production fee applies only to production by a well that produced 200 ore more acre-feet of water per year. Estimated non-exempt pumping and estimated production fee revenue is included in **Exhibit E**. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(4)(B).

29. The revenue generated from maintenance taxes, application fees, and export fees will adequately fund the proposed district to finance required or authorized groundwater management planning, regulatory, and district-operation functions under Texas Water Code, Chapter 36 based on financial information provided in **Exhibit E**.

30. The contact person required under TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(6) for all correspondence from the executive director regarding the petition is:

Amber Stelly
401 NE Loop 304
Crockett, TX 75835
(936) 544-2986
Generalmanager@consolidatedwsc.com.

31. Attached as **Exhibit H** are signed statements by the Houston County Clerk and city secretaries for each city whose corporate city limits are within the proposed district stating that they received a copy of the petition for creation of the proposed district. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(7).

32. Attached as **Exhibit I** are resolutions adopted by Houston County, Texas and Consolidated Water Supply Corporations to support creation of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.

33. Petitioners made a copy of the petition and supporting information available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Houston County Courthouse Annex in Houston County, Texas, located at 401 East Goliad, Crockett, TX 75835. TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(c)(8).

CONCLUSION AND REQUEST

34. Petitioners respectfully request that:
- a. the executive director process this Petition pursuant to 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 293.18(d), (e), and (f) and
 - b. the TCEQ certify the Petition and issue an order stating that the petition is administratively complete, creating the district, and appointing the temporary directors named in the Petition pursuant to 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 293.18(g).

Respectfully Submitted,

**Petitioners for creation of the
Houston County Groundwater
Conservation District**

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HOUSTON

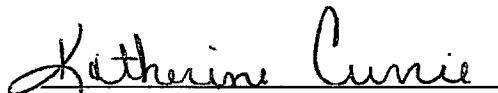
Before me, the undersigned notary, on this day appeared Kenneth Dewyane High, who is known to me and who being by me duly sworn upon his oath deposed and stated as follows:

1. My name is Kenneth Dewayne High. I am over twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, and fully competent to make this Affidavit. Within this affidavit the term "District" means the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.
2. I am a registered voter in proposed Precinct 1 of the District.
3. I affirm that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of director of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District of the State of Texas and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state.



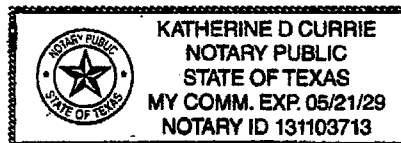
Kenneth Dewayne High

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 1st day of December 2025.



Notary Public – State of Texas

My commission expires: 5-2-2029



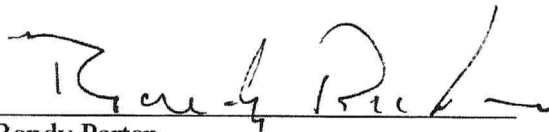
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

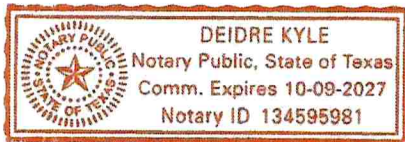
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

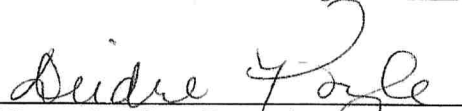
Before me, the undersigned notary, on this day appeared Randy Parten, who is known to me and who being by me duly sworn upon his oath deposed and stated as follows:

1. My name is Randy Parten. I am over twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, and fully competent to make this Affidavit. Within this affidavit the term "District" means the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.
2. I am a registered voter in proposed Precinct 2 of the District.
3. I affirm that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of director of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District of the State of Texas and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state.


Randy Parten

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 26th day of November 2025.




Notary Public – State of Texas

My commission expires: 10-9-2027

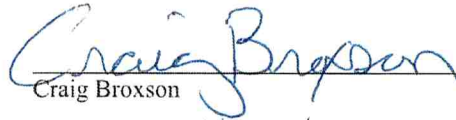
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

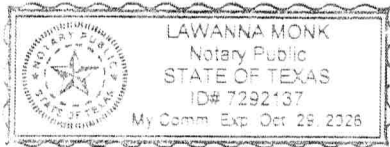
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

Before me, the undersigned notary, on this day appeared Craig Broxson, who is known to me and who being by me duly sworn upon his oath deposed and stated as follows:

1. My name is Craig Broxson. I am over twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, and fully competent to make this Affidavit. Within this affidavit the term "District" means the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.
2. I am a registered voter in proposed Precinct 3 of the District.
3. I affirm that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of director of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District of the State of Texas and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state.


Craig Broxson

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 27 day of November 2025.




Notary Public – State of Texas

My commission expires: 10-29-25

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF HOUSTON

Before me, the undersigned notary, on this day appeared Darrel Bobbitt, who is known to me and who being by me duly sworn upon his oath deposed and stated as follows:

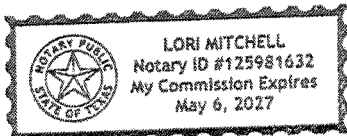
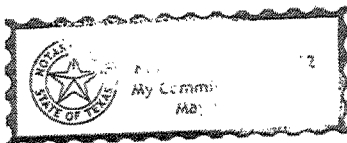
1. My name is Darrel Bobbitt. I am over twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, and fully competent to make this Affidavit. Within this affidavit the term "District" means the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.
2. I am a registered voter in proposed Precinct 4 of the District.
3. I affirm that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of director of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District of the State of Texas and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state.


Darrel Bobbitt

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 14 day of December 2025.


Notary Public - State of Texas

My commission expires: 5-6-2027



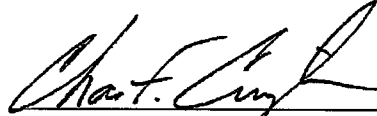
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS

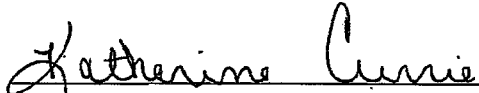
COUNTY OF HOUSTON

Before me, the undersigned notary, on this day appeared Charles Cunningham, who is known to me and who being by me duly sworn upon his oath deposed and stated as follows:

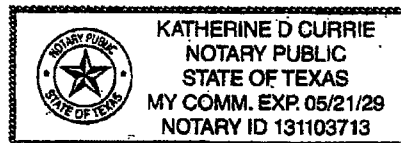
1. My name is Charles Cunningham. I am over twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, and fully competent to make this Affidavit. Within this affidavit the term "District" means the proposed Houston County Groundwater Conservation District.
2. I am a registered voter in proposed Precinct 5 of the District.
3. I affirm that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of director of the Houston County Groundwater Conservation District of the State of Texas and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution and laws of the United States and of this state.


Charles Cunningham

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me on this the 26th day of November 2025.


Notary Public – State of Texas

My commission expires: 5-21-2029



RESOLUTION NO. 11262025

**A RESOLUTION OF HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS, IN
SUPPORT OF THE PETITION ASKING THE TEXAS
COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
TO CREATE A GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT FOR HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, we recognize that Houston County's groundwater is one of its most valuable resources;

WHEREAS, Groundwater Conservation Districts are the State's preferred method of groundwater management;

WHEREAS, a group of citizens of Houston County plan to petition the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for the creation of a Groundwater Conservation District for Houston County; and

WHEREAS, a Groundwater Conservation District will allow the citizens of Houston County to preserve, conserve, protect and prevent waste of their valuable groundwater resources through local management, maintaining a greater degree of local control than might otherwise be the case;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS, that the Commissioners Court of Houston County supports the petition asking for the creation of a Groundwater Conservation District in Houston County, Texas.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 26 day of November, 2025, on a vote of 5 AYES; 0 NAYS; and 0 ABSTENTIONS.

Attest:

Terri Meadows,
County Clerk





Jim Lovell
Houston County Judge

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CONSOLIDATED WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD VALOREM TAX-SUPPORTED GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT IN HOUSTON COUNTY, TEXAS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, The Consolidated Water Supply Corporation ("Consolidated") is a member-owned, nonprofit utility providing water service to over 16,800 rural residents in Houston, Anderson, and Walker Counties, Texas; and

WHEREAS, Consolidated operates active public water supply wells in Houston County and purchases surface water from Houston County WCID No. 1 to meet growing demand across its multi-county service area, and its members and customers rely heavily upon groundwater resources drawn from the Carrizo-Wilcox and other underlying aquifers to meet increasing demands; and

WHEREAS, Consolidated holds a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN) covering service territories in and adjacent to Houston County, which imposes a statutory obligation to provide continuous retail water service to all current and future customers within its service area; and

WHEREAS, source-water protection, aquifer health and sustainability, groundwater-surface water interactions, and watershed dynamics are of high concern to Consolidated, particularly where large-scale withdrawals may jeopardize long-term supply reliability and water quality; and

WHEREAS, local stewardship of groundwater resources is essential to balancing municipal, agricultural, industrial, and domestic needs within Houston County; and

WHEREAS, establishment of a locally governed, ad valorem tax-supported Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) under Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code provides the most appropriate and representative mechanism for managing groundwater, developing conservation and management plans, and coordinating with neighboring districts within Groundwater Management Area 11, while ensuring local decision-making aligns with regional aquifer sustainability goals; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors recognizes that a locally controlled GCD, governed by Houston County residents, will ensure that groundwater management decisions remain responsive to local needs and that coordination among neighboring districts promotes regional groundwater protection;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CONSOLIDATED WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION THAT:

Section 1. The Board of Directors hereby expresses its support for the establishment of an ad valorem tax-supported Groundwater Conservation District to serve Houston County, Texas, consistent with the provisions of Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code.

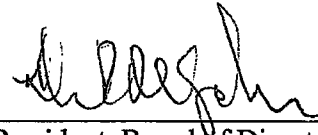
Section 2. The Board of Directors encourages local officials, landowners, water utilities, and neighboring groundwater districts to cooperate and collaborate in preparing and submitting to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality a petition for the creation of such a GCD, and to participate in the development of its management plan and rules.

Section 3. Consolidated supports a GCD that protects the interests of its members and Houston County residents, promotes conservation and efficient use of water, and balances the water supply and demand among municipal, industrial, and agricultural users.

Section 4. The General Manager is authorized to transmit this Resolution to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the Houston County Commissioners Court, Groundwater Management Area 11 representatives, and any other appropriate agencies or organizations.

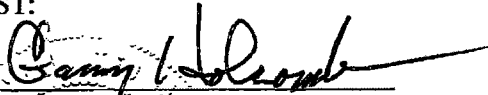
Section 5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Consolidated Water Supply Corporation at a meeting duly called and held in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, this 13th day of November, 2025.



President, Board of Directors
The Consolidated Water Supply Corporation

ATTEST:



Secretary-Treasurer, Board of Directors

