

D R A F T

Bell County WCID 1 Proposal for Boundary Expansion and Board Representation

Introduction – Bell County Water Control & Improvement District #1 was created by Roy J. Smith and other Killeen businessmen as a vehicle to provide utility services to Fort Hood and the surrounding civilian communities. Before WCID 1, Fort Hood received water through a 24 inch pipeline from the Lampasas River near the current Lake Stillhouse Hollow. The initial District Boundary was the Killeen City Limits of 1952.

Background – Legislation was later passed to increase the district boundary to the 1985 City Limits of Killeen. This bill included language to make subsequent boundary increases automatic upon petition of Killeen residents so that the boundary could be coterminous with the Killeen boundary automatically following annexations.

During the recent 2018 contested election, a lot of questions were raised regarding the existing boundary and unfortunately there were no current board members or staff, whom was present during the prior boundary expansion to immediately respond with meaningful answers.

The district now serves Ft. Hood, Copperas Cove, Killeen, Harker Heights, Nolanville (WCID3), Belton, and 439 Water Supply Corporation. Roughly 275,000 residents are served through these entities. Our water contracts include the same terms and provisions to all customers whereby capacity is acquired through capital outlay on a pro rata basis. In other words, when an expansion is made, an entity agrees to take on the debt associated with their increase in capacity. Operations and Maintenance costs, the annual volumetric rate, is a simple cost projected divided by gallons sold projection. This rate is the same for all customers.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Boundary

The district boundary should include all of our wholesale customers and their respective service areas. In the event an additional entity should contract for services, the boundary would remain the same unless voted to expand by the WCID 1 Board. If the Board were to vote to expand, the expansion would include that entity and their service area.

Representation

Likewise each contract customer should be entitled to representation on the board. The governing body of each entity will appoint their representative(s). Killeen shall have 3 representatives to the board. All other members shall have one board representative for a total of 9 Directors. Each Director would reside or own taxable property within the boundary or service area of the appointing entity. Should an appointee seat be vacated, the entity would have 30 days to name a successor.

Transition

7 new members would become Board Directors in May of 2020. At that time the elected terms of Mitchell Jacobs, John Blankenship, and Don Farek end. Those three could become the appointed representatives of any of our contracting entities or be replaced and off the board. In May of 2022, Killeen would gain 2 more representatives to the board. At that time Allen Cloud and Dick Young's elected term ends. Those two could become appointed representatives of Killeen or be replaced

Terms

Directors would serve for 3 year terms beginning the fourth Wednesday in May of their appointed year.

Initial appointment

Due to the number of board members coming on board at the same time in May of 2020, the terms of the newly appointed or elected members shall be staggered. The newest customers will have the shortest initial terms and longest standing members the longest initial terms. Ft. Hood, Killeen and Copperas Cove appointees shall have 3 year terms for their 2020 representatives. Harker Heights' representative in 2020 will have a 2-year initial term. WCID 3, Belton and 439 WSC's 2020 representatives will have a 1-year initial term. Killeen's 2 additional representatives to come on in May of 2022 will have full 3 year terms. In this manner, every year 3 Board Directors will be up for re-appointment.