

2025 Rockdale County Water, Sewerage and Stormwater Advisory Council
Welcome and Overview
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 5th, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.
J.P. Carr Community Center, Conyers, GA 30012

Present: George Kelecheck, Nicole Lichner, John Nix, Tom Harrison, Mark Walton, Telfany Morgan, Kaaba Johnson (Rockdale Stormwater Management); Terrence Simpkins (Rockdale Stormwater Management), Kimbry Peek (Rockdale Water Resources Management); Richard Davis (Rockdale Water Resources); Andrea Lee (Rockdale County Water Resources) – designated secretary.

Absent: Mark Hardgrove

1. **Call to Order:** Chairwoman Nicole Lichner called the meeting to order at approximately 5:02 p.m. The Advisory Council extended well wishes for Mark Hardgrove. The minutes from the April 7th, 2025 meeting were approved by the Council as presented.
2. **Old/Unfinished Business:** John Nix presented proposed language to modify further clarify the proposed Bylaws to reflect clarity regarding the "Meetings of the Advisory Council". Specifically, the proposed language reflects...*"Meetings of the advisory council. Unless there is no business to be conducted, the Advisory Council shall hold regularly scheduled meetings each quarter on the first Monday of the second month of each quarter and shall establish and make available to the public the time, place, and dates of its regular meetings. Called meetings of the Advisory Council, for any purpose or purposes, may be called by the Chair, or at the request in writing of not less than two members of the Advisory Council. Such request shall state the purpose or purposes of the proposed called meeting. All meetings shall be open to the public. Public notice of all meetings shall be in compliance with the Georgia Open Meetings Act. Each member shall be notified of each regular meeting or called meeting at least five days preceding the meeting through a written agenda prepared and distributed by the secretary..."*

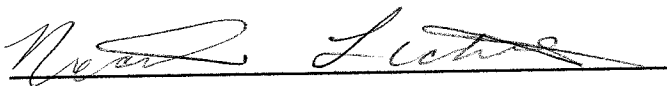
Following general group discussions, consensus was acquired and the proposed amendments to the Rockdale County Water, Sewerage, and Stormwater Advisory Council By-Laws were unanimously voted affirmative by the Advisory Council.

3. **New Business:**
 - a. **Reports:** With no specific questions or comments presented during this meeting regarding the 6 reports captured on the agenda (reports that were previously distributed to the Advisory Council) each report will be tabled for future discussion as deemed appropriate.
 - b. **Council Discussions:** The Advisory Council discussed enhanced community educational and communication strategies to better support the citizen's understanding of "the why, and the how" Water and Stormwater fees are established. Communication tools may include social media avenues that incorporate citizen's platforms (e.g., podcasts, live

streaming applications, HOA newsletters, presentations at HOA meetings, town halls, etc.) and Rockdale County platforms (Channel 23, etc.).

- i. The Advisory Council sought clarification of RWR's compliance process. Director Peek reviewed RWR's adherence to all regulations and guidelines and advised the Advisory Council of the leadership Rockdale County's RWR Compliance Manager, Tracey Miller, provides within the department.
 - ii. The Advisory Council also expressed greater interest in a focused approach to the potential application of a rate model that supports a balanced, equitable distribution of rates/fees versus a "flat across the board" rate/fee for our citizens.
 - iii. Director Peek presented a brief video prepared by the USGS Department of the Interior that provides a geological and topographical Bathymetric presentation on the overall capacity status of the Randy Poynter Lake Reservoir.
 - iv. The Advisory Council discussed the impact of ongoing development within the County, the environmental impact of large-scale development on our natural resources (water, land, trees, vegetation, the County's overall landscape and sustainability of wildlife, etc., as well as the impact on our individual well-being/health), and George Kelecheck presented a stirring presentation on Tree Preservation, Air Quality and Environmental Impacts. Following the presentation, discussions were held regarding the potential need to expand the Council's focus to incorporate all environmental avenues or concerns.
 - v. George Kelecheck asked that Rockdale County critically review and approve participation and support of the Soil & Water Conservation efforts that the City of Conyers has already recognized.
4. **Public Comments** – None were presented during this meeting.
 5. **Adjournment:** - A motion was made, 2nd and carried to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.
 6. **Next Meeting** – Monday, June 2nd, 2025 – 5:00 p.m.

Approved:



Chair Nicole Lichner

5-29-2025

Date