

ORDER CALLING ELECTION OF DIRECTORS ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026

PANOLA COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Panola County Groundwater Conservation District met in open meeting, open to the public after due notice, at 419 W. Sabine Street, Carthage, TX 75633 on Tuesday, July 28, 2026.

WHEREUPON, among other business conducted by the Board, the Order set out below was introduced and a member of the Board of Directors moved for its adoption, which motion was seconded, and, after full discussion and the question being put to the Board of Directors, said motion was carried by the following vote:

"Aye" 4; "No" 0

The Order thus adopted is as follows:

WHEREAS, the 80th Texas Legislature enacted House Bill 1498, the enabling act for the Panola County Groundwater Conservation District ("District"), during the Regular Session in 2007, now codified as Chapter 8819 of the Texas Special Districts Local Laws Code ("Enabling Act");

WHEREAS, Section 8819.053 of the District's Enabling Act requires the District to hold an election to elect directors in each even-numbered year;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 8819.051 of the District's Enabling Act, the Board of Directors for the District shall be elected according to the commissioners' precinct method;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Senate Bill 100 enacted by the 82nd Texas Legislature and Section 41.0052(a) of the Texas Election Code, the District changed its election date to the uniform election date in November by Order of the District's Board of Directors dated October 25, 2011;

WHEREAS, Section 41.001(a) of the Texas Election Code establishes the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as one of the uniform election dates for the State of Texas;

WHEREAS, in the interest of increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of local governments, local governments may contract or agree with each other to perform governmental functions and services in accordance with Chapter 791 of the Texas Government Code;

WHEREAS, Section 31.092 of the Texas Election Code authorizes the county elections officer to contract with the governing body of a political subdivision situated wholly or partly in the county served by the officer to perform election services in any one or more elections ordered by the political subdivision;

WHEREAS, the District Board of Directors ("Board") intends to enter into an Election Services Agreement with Panola County for the provision of election services;

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to proceed with the ordering of a directors election to be held on November 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, in the event the directors' election is uncontested, the Board of Directors will follow the procedures for election of unopposed candidate established by Section 2.051-2.053 of the Texas Election Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF PANOLA COUNTY GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1: The matters and facts set out in the preamble of this order are hereby found and declared to be true and complete.

Section 2: The District has a total of nine (9) directors with two (2) from Panola County Precinct 1, two (2) from Panola County Precinct 2, two (2) from Panola County Precinct 3, two (2) from Panola County Precinct 4, and one (1) from Panola County at-large. A regularly scheduled directors election is hereby ordered to be held on November 3, 2026 for the purpose of electing directors for the District, each of whom shall serve a four (4) year term, for the following five (5) positions:

- (A) Director Serving Panola County Precinct 1;
- (B) Director Serving Panola County Precinct 2;
- (C) Director Serving Panola County Precinct 3;
- (D) Director Serving Panola County Precinct 4; and
- (E) Director Serving Panola County At-Large

Section 3: It is hereby found and determined that notice of the meeting at which this order is adopted was given as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act, and that such meeting has been open to the public at all times when this order was discussed and acted on.

Section 4: Voting in said election during early voting by personal appearance and on Election Day shall be by the use of ES&S M-100, which shall have available both English and Spanish and which shall conform to the requirements of the Texas Election Code. Oral bilingual assistance shall be available during the election and may be obtained by contacting the Presiding Judges. Any person interested in applying to be a candidate for the office of director may obtain an application to have his or her name printed on the ballot at the offices of the District, 419 W. Sabine Street, Carthage, TX 75633, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or by sending an email to tgriffin@pcgcd.org. The deadline for candidates to file applications to have their name on the ballot for those positions subject to the regular election that shall serve a four (4) year term is 5:00 p.m. on August 17, 2026, and the deadline for write-in candidates to file a declaration of write-in candidacy for those positions subject to the regular election that shall serve a four (4) year term is 5:00 p.m. on August 21, 2026.

Section 5: Early Voting and Election Day Voting

Early voting in the election by personal appearance in Panola County shall begin on October 19, 2026, and shall continue through the fourth day preceding the election, October 30, 2026, at the times and dates as follows:

Monday, October 19, 2026 through Friday, October 23, 2026, and Monday, October 26, 2026 through Friday, October 30, 2026 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Kelsey Gates shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk to conduct early voting in Panola County. Applications for ballots by mail may be sent to the Panola County Early Voting Clerk via email to kgates@co.panola.tx.us or via mail to:

Panola County Voter Registration
110 S. Sycamore, Room 100
Carthage, TX 75633
Phone Number: (903) 693-0370
Email: kgates@co.panola.tx.us
Website: <https://www.co.panola.tx.us/page/panola.Elections>

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 23, 2026.

The main early voting polling place as designated by Panola County and at which early voting shall be conducted is as follows:

Panola County Extension Office
110 S. Sycamore, Room 100
Carthage, TX 75633

Election Day voting in Panola County will be conducted at the locations listed below on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

- 1 – Carthage Missionary Baptist Church, 916 West Sabine Street, Carthage, Texas 75633
- 2 – Carthage Community Center, 200 Park Dr, Carthage, TX 75633
- 3 – Beckville Community Center, 225 S. Washington, Beckville, TX 75631
- 5 – Mt Zion Baptist Church, 5209 FM 959, Beckville, TX 75631
- 7 – Community 4 VFD Sub Station, 254 CR 3151, De Berry, TX 75639
- 8 – Inter Community VFD, 134 FM 1186, DeBerry, TX 75639
- 9 – Community 4 Fire Station, 112 FM 9, Waskom, TX 75639
- 10 – Midyett Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 601 CR 326, De Berry, TX 75639
- 12 – Deadwood Community House, 752 CR 445, Carthage, TX 75633
- 13 – Woods New Hope Baptist Church, 120 CR 425, Tenaha, TX 75974
- 14 – Gary City Hall, 2607 FM 999, Gary, TX 75643
- 18 – Clayton Community Center, 4580 SH 315, Carthage, TX 75633
- 19 – Old Center Community Center, 7093 FM 699, Tenaha, TX 75974
- 20 – Murvaul Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 3390 FM 10, Carthage, TX 75633
- 22 – Walnut Springs Baptist Church, Fellowship Hall, 1806 FM 1186, De Berry, TX 75639
- 26 – Panola Christian Church, 7881 FM 2517, Carthage, TX 75633
- 27 – Turner Alumni Center, 1023 MLK BLVD, Carthage, TX 75633
- 28 – Carthage Civic Center, 1702 S. Adams Street, Carthage, TX 75633
- 29 – Galloway Methodist Church Annex, 217 CR 4562, Carthage, TX 75633

Section 6: The election shall be held and conducted and returns made to this Board of Directors in accordance with the Texas Election Code and Chapter 36, Texas Water Code.

Section 7: Pursuant to Section 31.123, Texas Election Code, the Secretary of the Board hereby appoints Teresa Griffin as the District's agent for this election.

Section 8: The Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to determine if the candidates are unopposed for election based on the following conditions:

(1) Only one candidate's name is to be placed on the ballot for each director position available, and

(2) No candidate's name is to be placed on a list of write-in candidates for the office of director.

If such circumstances exist, the Secretary of the Board shall certify in writing which, if any, candidates are unopposed for election to the office of director. The certification shall be delivered to the Board of Directors as soon as possible after the filing deadlines for placement on the ballot and list of write-in candidates. On receipt of the certification, the Board of Directors shall declare each unopposed candidate elected to office, the election for that position will not be held, and a copy of the order declaring the candidate elected shall be posted at each polling place on Election Day.

Section 9: To the extent the results of the election are not declared in accordance with Section 8 of this Order, the Secretary of the Board is hereby directed to provide notice of this election, in English and Spanish, by any one or more of the following methods in accordance with Section 4.003, Texas Election Code:

(1) By publishing the notice at least once, not earlier than the 30th day or later than the 10th day before election day in a newspaper of general circulation in the territory if none is published in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice; or

(2) By posting, not later than the 21st day before election day, a copy of the notice at a public place in each election precinct that is in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice; or

(3) By mailing, not later than the 10th day before Election Day, a copy of the notice to each registered voter of the territory that is covered by the election and is in the jurisdiction of the authority responsible for giving the notice.

In addition to the above methods of providing notice, the Secretary of the Board shall have notice of this election, in English and Spanish, posted not later than the 21st day before the election on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the Board of Directors. Such notice shall remain posted continuously through Election Day.

Section 10: The Board President and Secretary are authorized and directed to take any action necessary to carry out the provisions of this order.

PASSED AND APPROVED THE 28th day of July 2026.



Mike Pennington, Board President

ATTEST:



Board Secretary