## ORDER CALLING GENERAL ELECTION FOR TWO DISTRICT DIRECTORS

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 ("HPWD" or "District") has the authority pursuant to Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code to call a General Election on November 5, 2024, which is a uniform election date, to elect two (2) Directors to the Board of the HPWD ("Directors") to serve four (4) year terms as follows:

- one (1) Director for Precinct Three (3) from the territory of HPWD in the portion of Castro County within the district and all of Bailey and Parmer Counties,
- one (1) Director for Precinct Four (4) from the territory of HPWD in portions of Armstrong, Deaf Smith, Potter and Randall Counties within the district; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board also has the authority pursuant to Chapter 271, Texas Election Code, to enter into joint election agreements with the other political subdivisions also holding an election on the same date, and in the same territory; and,

**WHEREAS,** the Board also has the authority pursuant to Chapter 31, Texas Election Code, to enter into a contract for election services with Armstrong, Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Parmer, Potter, and Randall Counties, Texas.

## IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HIGH PLAINS UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NO. 1 THAT:

Section 1. Call of Election: Date: Eligible Electors: and Hours. A general election (the "Election") shall be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, which is seventy-eight (78) or more days from the date of the adoption of this order (the "Order"), within the territory of the District at which all resident, qualified electors of HPWD Precincts Three (3) and Four (4) shall be entitled to vote. The general election shall be for two (2) Directors to serve for full terms of four (4) years on the Board of the District. The Election shall be held as follows:

- A general election shall be held in the territory of HPWD in a portion of Castro County and all of Bailey and Parmer Counties; and,
- A general election shall be held in the territory of HPWD in portions of Armstrong, Deaf Smith, Potter and Randall Counties; and.

The Board hereby finds that holding the Election on such date is in the public interest. The hours during which the polling places are to be open on Election Day shall be from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Applications for a Place on the Ballot for the general election must be received by 5:00 pm August 19, 2024. The candidate in each position receiving the highest number of votes cast by

the electorate shall be elected Director for that respective position.

<u>Section 2.</u> <u>Conduct of Election.</u> The Election shall be conducted by election officers, in accordance with the Texas Election Code, Texas Water Code and the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America. Each respective County's voting system shall be used in the election conducted in that County.

Pursuant to Chapter 31 and Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, the Board orders that the Election be conducted under the terms and conditions of election services contracts with Armstrong, Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Parmer, Potter, and Randall Counties, and the joint election agreements with the counties and other political subdivisions which will be approved by the Board when available.

Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code provides that the authorities of two or more political subdivisions that have ordered elections for the same day in all or part of the same territory, may enter into an agreement to hold the elections jointly in election precincts that can be served by common polling places, and the Board is expressly authorizing this action.

The Board of Directors hereby approves the election day presiding judge and alternate presiding judge, as well as all early voting clerks for each polling location as appointed by the Election Administrator or County Clerk of each county involved in the Election.

Section 3. Voting Precincts. Except as otherwise provided in this Order or any included Exhibits, the currently existing boundaries and territory of the respective Armstrong, Bailey, Castro, Deaf Smith, Parmer, Potter, and Randall County election precincts, that are wholly or partially within the territorial boundaries of HPWD are hereby designated as the voting precincts of HPWD for the Election. The precinct numbers for HPWD's election precincts shall be the corresponding County election precinct number for each precinct. The Board finds the use of vote centers, if applicable, under the Countywide Polling Place Program as described in Section 43.007 Texas Election Code, will result in a more convenient voting opportunity for the voters and a more efficient and cost-effective administration of the election, and use of vote centers by each respective County, where applicable, are hereby approved.

Section 271.003 of the Texas Election Code provides that voters of a particular election precinct or a political subdivision may be served in a joint election by a common polling place located outside the boundary of the election precinct or political subdivision if the location can adequately and conveniently serve the affected voters and will facilitate the orderly conduct of the election. To the extent any polling place utilized by HPWD in the conduct of the Election is located outside the boundaries of the election precinct or HPWD for any election precinct, the Board specifically finds that the polling place selected is convenient and will adequately serve the voters of the district. The list of election day voting locations for each County will be approved by the Board when available.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Early Voting.</u> The Board appoints Mr. Gray Sanders as HPWD's Regular Early Voting Clerk. Joint Early Voting Clerks shall be those appointed under the joint election agreements.

## **Early Voting by Personal Appearance**

Early voting by personal appearance in each County shall be conducted Monday, October 21, 2024, through Friday, November 1, 2024. The times and locations for early voting will be approved by the Board when available. The main early voting location for each County is as follows:

Armstrong: Armstrong County Courthouse, 101 Trice Street, Claude, TX 79019
Bailey: Bailey County Courthouse, 300 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 200, Muleshoe, TX 79347
Castro: Castro County Courthouse, 100 East Bedford, Room 113, Dimmitt, TX 79027
Deaf Smith: Deaf Smith County Courthouse, 235 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hereford, TX 79045
Parmer: Parmer County Courthouse, 401 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Farwell, TX 79325
Potter: Santa Fe Building Ticket Office, First Floor, 900 S. Polk St., Amarillo, TX 79101

Potter: Santa Fe Building Ticket Office, First Floor, 900 S. Polk St., Amarillo, TX 79101 Randall: Randall County Election Administration Office, 1604 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Canyon, TX 79015

## Early Voting by Mail

Ballot applications may be mailed or emailed to HPWD's Joint Early Voting Clerks as follows:

County	Address
Armstrong	Elections Administrator
	Armstrong County
	PO Box 189
	Claude, TX 79019
	Phone: 806-410-1297
	Email: armstrongelection@co.armstrong.tx.us
	Website:
	https://www.co.armstrong.tx.us/page/armstrong.Elections
Bailey	Bailey County Clerk
	300 S. 1 <sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 200
	Muleshoe, TX 79347
	Phone: 806-272-3044
	Fax: 806-272-3538
	Email: <u>iespinosa@co.bailey.tx.us</u>
	Website: https://www.co.bailey.tx.us/page/bailey.Elections
Castro	Castro County Clerk
	100 East Bedford Street, Room 101
	Dimmitt, TX 79027
	Phone: 806-647-3338
	Fax: 806-647-5438
	Email: jbclerk@castrocounty.org
	Website:
	https://www.co.castro.tx.us/page/castro.County.Clerk

Deaf Smith	Deaf Smith County Clerk
	235 E 3 <sup>rd</sup> St, Room 203
	Hereford, TX 79045
	Phone: 806-363-7077
	Fax: 806-363-7023
	Email: rgarman@deafsmithcounty.texas.gov
	Website: https://www.co.deaf-
	smith.tx.us/page/deafsmith.County.Clerk
Parmer	County Clerk
	PO Box 356
	Farwell, TX 79325
	Phone: 806-481-3691
	Email: pcclerk@parmercounty.net
	Website: https://parmercounty.texas.gov/?page_id=334
Potter	Elections Administrator
	900 South Polk, Suite 320
	P.O. Box 9618
	Amarillo, TX 79105-9618
	Phone: 806-379-2299
	Fax:806-379-2249
	Email: vote@mypottercounty.com
	Website: https://www.pottercountytexasvotes.gov/
Randall	Elections Administrator
	1604 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue
	Canyon, TX 79015
	Phone: 806-468-5510
	Fax:806-656-2151
	Email: <u>electionadmin@randallcounty.gov</u>
	Website: https://www.randallcounty.gov/166/Election-
	Administration

Ballot applications may alternately be addressed to HPWD's Regular Early Voting Clerk at the address indicated immediately below.

Early Voting Clerk -- Director Election High Plains Underground Water Conservation District 2930 Avenue Q

Lubbock, Texas 79411-2499

Phone: 806-762-0181 Email: elections@hpwd.org

Website: https://www.hpwd.org/elections

The Regular Early Voting Clerk for HPWD shall collect all applications for ballots received by HPWD at the above address up to the deadline to receive an application which is October 25, 2024, and shall deliver all such applications to the Joint Early Voting Clerks.

Section 5. Delivery of Voted Ballots; Counting; Canvassing; Declaring Results. In accordance with the requirements of the Texas Election Code, after the close of voting on election day, the presiding election judges for each respective precinct shall deliver the ballot boxes for their respective precinct to the central counting stations in each county. Each County early voting ballot board, at a time and in the manner permitted under the Texas Election Code, shall deliver the early voting ballots to the County central counting stations. The joint election officers, as HPWD's designated election officers under the joint election agreements, shall make a written return of the Election results to HPWD in accordance with the Election Code. The Board shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the Election.

Section 6. Appointment of Custodian of Records. To the extent not otherwise provided for in election services contracts, or in any joint election agreements, the Board appoints Mr. Gray Sanders, an employee of HPWD, as the Custodian of Records ("Custodian") to perform the duties related to the conduct and maintenance of records of the Election as required under the Texas Election Code during the period beginning the fiftieth (50<sup>th</sup>) day before and ending not earlier than the fortieth (40th) day after the day of the Election. In particular, the Custodian shall provide applications for candidates, accept applications from candidates for a place on the ballot, determine the order in which names will appear on the ballot for the director positions and accept and maintain records regarding campaign expenditures that may be filed with the district.

The Custodian shall maintain an office open for election duties for at least three hours each day, during regular office hours, on regular business days during the periods designated in this section. The Custodian shall post notice of the location and hours of his office as required by the Texas Election Code. The Custodian shall maintain in his office, the documents, records and other items relating to the election and shall be the person designated to receive documents on behalf of HPWD that are required by the Texas Election Code.

<u>Section 7.</u> <u>Appointment of Agent</u>. The Secretary to the Board has appointed Mr. Gray Sanders as the Secretary's agent ("Agent") to perform the duties of secretary related to the conduct and maintenance of records of the Election as required under the Texas Election Code. Mr. Sanders is authorized to designate staff in the District to perform any or all of the various responsibilities of the Board's Agent or Custodian.

The Agent shall maintain an office open for election duties for at least three hours each day, during regular office hours, on regular business days during the period designated in this section. The Agent shall maintain the documents, records and other items relating to the election and shall be the Agent designated to receive documents on behalf of the District that are required by the Texas Election Code.

The Agent shall post notice of the location and hours of the office as required by the Texas Election Code.

<u>Section 8.</u> <u>Notice of Election.</u> Notice of the Election, stating in substance the contents of this Order, shall be published one time in the English and Spanish languages, in a newspaper published within HPWD's territory at least 10 days and no more than 30 days before the Election

and as otherwise may be required by the Texas Election Code. Notice of the Election shall also be posted on the bulletin board used by the Board to post notices of the Board's meetings, and on the District's website no later than the 21st day before the Election.

Section 9. Election Information to be provided in Spanish. The Agent shall be responsible for the preparation of notices, instructions, orders, ballots and other written material pertaining to the Election and shall cause each such document to be translated into and furnished to voters in both the English language and the Spanish language in order to aid and assist voters speaking Spanish as a primary or an alternative language to properly participate in the election process. In addition, the Agent is hereby authorized and directed to make available to the voters having the need of an individual capable of acting as a translator and speaking both English and Spanish languages who will assist Spanish speaking voters in understanding and participating in the election process.

Section 10. Training of Election Officials. Pursuant to the Election Code, a public school of instruction for all election officers shall be held as arranged or contracted by the HPWD Election Officer or the joint election officers.

Section 11. Authorization to Execute. The President of the Board is authorized to execute and the Secretary of the Board is authorized to attest this Order on behalf of the Board; and the President of the Board is authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the holding and consummation of the Election.

Section 12. Effective Date. This Order is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the qth day of July, 2024.

President, Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Secretary, Board of Directors

[SEAL]