By: Hegar S.B. No. 1870

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1	AN ACT
2	relating to the creation of the West Fort Bend Water Authority;
3	providing authority to issue bonds; granting the power of eminent
4	domain; providing an administrative penalty.
5	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
6	SECTION 1. Subtitle H, Title 6, Special District Local Laws
7	Code, is amended by adding Chapter 8878 to read as follows:
8	CHAPTER 8878. WEST FORT BEND WATER AUTHORITY
9	SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
10	Sec. 8878.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
11	(1) "Authority" means the West Fort Bend Water
12	Authority.
13	(2) "Board" means the board of directors of the
14	authority.
15	(3) "Commission" means the Texas Commission or
16	Environmental Quality or its successor.
17	(4) "Director" means a member of the board.
18	(5) "District" means any district created under
19	Sections 52(b)(1) and (2), Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI,
20	Texas Constitution, regardless of the manner of creation, other
21	than:
22	(A) a navigation district or port authority;
23	(B) a district governed by Chapter 36, Water
24	Code; or
ک ع	code, or

1	(C) a district that does not have the legal
2	authority to supply water.
3	(6) "Groundwater reduction plan" means a plan adopted
4	or implemented to supply water, reduce reliance on groundwater,
5	regulate groundwater pumping and usage, or require and allocate
6	water usage among persons in order to comply with or exceed
7	requirements imposed by the Fort Bend Subsidence District or
8	applicable subsidence district, including any applicable
9	groundwater reduction requirements.
10	(7) "Large tract" means a tract of land of at least
11	1,000 acres owned by a single landowner.
12	(8) "Local government" means a municipality, county,
13	district, or other political subdivision of this state or a
14	combination of two or more of those entities.
15	(9) "Subsidence" means the lowering in elevation of
16	the surface of land by the withdrawal of groundwater.
17	(10) "System" means a network of pipelines, conduits,
18	valves, canals, pumping stations, force mains, treatment plants,
19	and any other construction, device, or related appurtenance used to
20	treat or transport water.
21	(11) "Water" includes:
22	(A) groundwater, percolating or otherwise;
23	(B) any surface water, natural or artificial,
24	navigable or nonnavigable; and
25	(C) industrial and municipal wastewater.
26	(12) "Well" includes a facility, device, or method
27	used to withdraw groundwater from a groundwater source within the

- 1 boundaries of the authority.
- 2 Sec. 8878.002. NATURE OF AUTHORITY. The authority is a
- 3 regional water authority in Fort Bend County created under and
- 4 essential to accomplish the purposes of Section 59, Article XVI,
- 5 Texas Constitution, including the acquisition and provision of
- 6 surface water and groundwater for residential, commercial,
- 7 industrial, agricultural, and other uses, the reduction of
- 8 groundwater withdrawals, the conservation, preservation,
- 9 protection, and recharge of groundwater and of groundwater
- 10 reservoirs or their subdivisions, the prevention of waste of
- 11 groundwater, the control of subsidence caused by the withdrawal of
- 12 water from groundwater reservoirs or their subdivisions, and other
- 13 public purposes stated in this chapter. The authority is a
- 14 political subdivision of this state.
- 15 Sec. 8878.003. CONFIRMATION ELECTION NOT REQUIRED. An
- 16 <u>election to confirm the creation of the authority is not required.</u>
- 17 Sec. 8878.004. INITIAL AUTHORITY TERRITORY. (a) The
- 18 authority is initially composed of the territory described by
- 19 Section 2 of the Act creating this chapter.
- 20 (b) The boundaries and field notes contained in Section 2 of
- 21 the Act creating this chapter form a closure. A mistake made in the
- 22 <u>field notes or in copying the field notes in the legislative process</u>
- 23 <u>does not affect:</u>
- 24 (1) the organization, existence, or validity of the
- 25 authority;
- 26 (2) the right of the authority to issue any type of
- 27 bond or note for the purposes for which the authority is created or

- 1 to pay the principal of and interest on a bond or note; 2 (3) the right of the authority to impose or collect a 3 fee, user fee, rate, charge, or special assessment; or 4 (4) the legality or operation of the authority. 5 (c) All of the territory of a local government created after the effective date of the Act creating this chapter that 6 7 encompasses any territory within the boundaries of the authority, 8 immediately on the creation and without any action required of the authority, is subject to all of the rights, powers, privileges, and 9 rules of the authority to the same extent as the territory was 10 before the local government was created. 11 12 Sec. 8878.005. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY. (a) The governing body of a district or municipality or the owner of a large 13 14 tract may petition for exclusion of all of the territory of the 15 municipality, district, or large tract from the authority's boundaries if, on the effective date of the Act creating this 16 17 chapter, all or any part of the municipality, district, or large tract is located in the territory described by Section 2(a) or (b) 18 of the Act creating this chapter. The petition must be signed, as 19 applicable, by a majority of the members of the governing body of 20 the district or municipality or by the landowner of the large tract. 21 22 (b) The board shall: (1) not later than the 180th day after the effective 23 24 date of the Act creating this chapter, grant the petition and order the territory excluded if the petition: 25
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boundaries of the territory to be excluded; and

(A) includes an accurate legal description of the

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- 1 (B) is filed with the authority not later than
- 2 the 120th day after the effective date of the Act creating this
- 3 chapter; and
- 4 (2) if the board grants the petition, file for
- 5 recording in the office of the county clerk for the applicable
- 6 county or counties a copy of the order and a description of the
- 7 <u>authority's boundaries as they exist after the exclusion of the</u>
- 8 territory.
- 9 (c) If a district, municipality, or large tract is excluded
- 10 from the authority's boundaries under this section, the authority
- 11 <u>is not required to:</u>
- 12 (1) provide water or any other service to the
- 13 district, municipality, or large tract; or
- 14 (2) include the district, municipality, or large tract
- 15 <u>in any groundwater reduction plan adopted or implemented by the</u>
- 16 authority.
- 17 (d) If, not later than the 120th day after the effective
- 18 date of this chapter, the governing body of a district or
- 19 municipality or the owner of a large tract files a petition for
- 20 exclusion under this section, the authority may not impose fees,
- 21 user fees, rates, charges, or special assessments on the district,
- 22 municipality, or large tract after the petition is filed with the
- 23 <u>authority unless the district, municipality</u>, or large tract is
- 24 annexed by the authority under Section 8878.006.
- 25 (e) If a district or municipality excluded or the owner of a
- 26 large tract excluded from the authority's boundaries under this
- 27 section petitions the authority to be annexed under Section

- 1 8878.006, the authority may annex the district, municipality, or
- 2 large tract. The authority may, as a condition of annexation,
- 3 require terms and conditions the board considers appropriate. The
- 4 authority may require the district, municipality, or owner of the
- 5 large tract to pay the authority the fees, user fees, charges, and
- 6 special assessments, with interest, that, as determined by the
- 7 authority, the district, municipality, or owner of the large tract
- 8 would have been charged by the authority if the district,
- 9 municipality, or large tract had not been excluded from the
- 10 authority under this section.
- Sec. 8878.006. ANNEXATION. (a) Except to the extent the
- 12 authority agrees in writing, a municipality's annexation of
- 13 territory within the authority does not affect:
- 14 (1) the authority's powers inside or outside the
- 15 <u>annexed territory;</u>
- 16 (2) the authority's boundaries or contracts; or
- 17 (3) the authority's ability to assess fees, user fees,
- 18 rates, charges, or special assessments inside or outside the
- 19 territory annexed by the municipality.
- 20 (b) Territory may be annexed to the authority, regardless of
- 21 whether the territory is contiguous to the authority, as provided
- 22 by Chapter 49, Water Code.
- (c) In addition to the authority granted by Subsection (b),
- 24 regardless of whether the territory is contiguous to the authority,
- 25 the authority may annex some or all of the territory located within
- 26 a district or municipality if the district or municipality files
- 27 with the authority a petition requesting the annexation signed by a

- 1 majority of the members of the governing body of the district or
- 2 municipality. The petition must include an accurate legal
- 3 description of the boundaries of the territory to be included. If
- 4 the authority has bonds, notes, or other obligations outstanding,
- 5 the authority shall require the petitioning district or
- 6 municipality to be obligated to pay its share of the principal of
- 7 and interest on the outstanding bonds, notes, or other obligations,
- 8 and related costs. The board may grant the petition and order the
- 9 territory described by the petition annexed to the authority if it
- 10 is feasible, practicable, and to the advantage of the authority.
- 11 (d) Any territory that a district located within the
- 12 authority annexes becomes territory of the authority on the
- 13 effective date of the annexation without any action required of the
- 14 authority. The authority by rule may require all districts located
- 15 within the authority to send to the authority written notice of the
- 16 effective date of an annexation and require the districts to send to
- 17 the authority copies of any necessary documents describing the
- 18 annexed land and describing the districts' boundaries as they exist
- 19 after inclusion of the annexed land.
- 20 (e) The annexation to the authority of territory under this
- 21 <u>section does not affect the validity of the authority's bonds</u>
- 22 issued before or after the annexation.
- 23 (f) A municipality that annexes territory of the authority
- 24 for limited purposes under Subchapter F, Chapter 43, Local
- 25 Government Code, does not have the right to:
- 26 (1) receive notices from the authority under Section
- 27 8878.103(c);

- 1 (2) participate in the appointment of directors under 2 Subchapter B; or 3 (3) receive information about or have the opportunity to fund its share of capital costs in the manner provided by the 4 5 authority under Section 8878.104. 6 Sec. 8878.007. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW. (a) Except as 7 otherwise provided by this chapter, Chapter 49, Water Code, applies 8 to the authority. 9 This chapter does not prevail over or preempt a provision of Chapter 36, Water Code, or of Chapter 8801 or 8834 of 10 this code that is being implemented by the Fort Bend Subsidence 11 12 District or applicable subsidence district. (c) Chapter 36, Water Code, does not apply to the authority. 13 Sec. 8878.008. FINDING OF BENEFIT. All the land, property, 14 15 and persons included within the boundaries of the authority will be directly benefited by the works, projects, improvements, and 16 17 services to be provided by the authority under powers conferred by Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and this chapter. The 18 authority is created to serve a public use and benefit. 19 creation of the authority will serve to promote the health, safety, 20 and general welfare of persons within the authority and the general 21 public. Any fees, user fees, rates, charges, or special 22 assessments imposed by the authority under this chapter are 23 24 necessary to pay for the costs of accomplishing the purposes of the
 - (1) the reduction of groundwater withdrawals;

Constitution, and this chapter, including:

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authority as set forth in Section 59, Article XVI, Texas

- 1 (2) the facilitation of compliance with the
- 2 requirements of the Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable
- 3 subsidence district; and
- 4 (3) the provision of services, facilities, and
- 5 systems.
- 6 SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- 7 Sec. 8878.051. DIRECTORS; TERMS. (a) The authority is
- 8 governed by a board of five directors.
- 9 (b) The directors serve staggered four-year terms, with two
- 10 or three directors' terms expiring May 15 of each even-numbered
- 11 year.
- 12 Sec. 8878.052. ELIGIBILITY TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR. To be
- 13 eligible to serve as a director of the authority or to be listed as
- 14 provided by Section 8878.056 on a ballot as a candidate for director
- 15 of the authority representing a director precinct, an individual
- 16 <u>must:</u>
- 17 (1) be at least 18 years of age;
- 18 (2) be a resident of the authority; and
- 19 (3) have served as a director of one or more districts
- 20 or as a member of the governing body of a municipality within the
- 21 authority for a total of at least four years.
- 22 <u>Sec. 8878.053. DISQUALIFICATION OF DIRECTORS. Subject to</u>
- 23 Section 8878.061, the common law doctrine of incompatibility does
- 24 not disqualify an employee of a public entity from serving as a
- 25 director of the authority. A director who is also an employee of a
- 26 public entity may not participate in the discussion of or vote on a
- 27 matter regarding a contract with that public entity.

- 1 Sec. 8878.054. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. Chapter 171, Local
- 2 Government Code, governs conflicts of interest of board members.
- 3 Sec. 8878.055. SINGLE-MEMBER DIRECTOR PRECINCTS. (a) The
- 4 authority is divided into five single-member director precincts,
- 5 the initial territories of which are described by Section 3 of the
- 6 Act creating this chapter.
- 7 (b) The board may redraw the single-member director
- 8 precincts in a manner that is reasonable and equitable:
- 9 <u>(1) after any change in the boundaries of the</u>
- 10 <u>authority; or</u>
- 11 (2) by a resolution redrawing the director precincts
- 12 adopted by a two-thirds majority of the board, based on changed
- 13 circumstances.
- 14 (c) The boundaries and field notes for each precinct
- 15 contained in Section 3 of the Act creating this chapter form a
- 16 closure. A mistake made in the field notes or in copying the field
- 17 notes in the legislative process does not affect the selection of a
- 18 director under this chapter.
- 19 Sec. 8878.056. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS. (a)
- 20 Except as provided by Section 8878.057, the governing bodies of the
- 21 districts and municipalities located within each director precinct
- 22 jointly shall appoint one director to represent the precinct by a
- 23 vote conducted as provided by this section.
- 24 (b) If a district or municipality is located within two or
- 25 more director precincts, the district or municipality is
- 26 considered, for purposes of this section, to be located only within
- 27 the director precinct in which the greatest amount of territory of

1 the district or municipality is located.

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- 2 (c) For the appointment of a director for a director precinct, the board shall determine the number of votes each 3 district or municipality may cast. The number of votes for a 4 5 governing body of a district or municipality within the precinct is equal to the number computed by dividing the total number of units 6 7 of water, as determined by the board, used within the precinct by 8 the district or municipality during the calendar year preceding the year in which the director is selected by the total number of units 9 of water used within the precinct by all districts and 10 municipalities in the precinct, multiplying that quotient by 100, 11 12 and rounding that result to the nearest one-tenth. The board shall provide the presiding officer of each governing body of a district 13
- 16 <u>(d) For purposes of Subsection (c), the board shall</u>
 17 <u>determine the amount of water usage of all districts and</u>
 18 municipalities within each director precinct.

number of votes computed for that governing body to cast.

or municipality within each director precinct written notice of the

19 (e) In the appropriate even-numbered year, the governing body of each district or municipality in a director precinct by 20 resolution may nominate one candidate for the position of director 21 for that director precinct. Each district or municipality shall 22 submit the name of its candidate, if any, to the presiding officer 23 24 of the authority by February 15 of that year. If by February 15 of that year only one candidate's name is submitted for the position of 25 26 director for a director precinct, the board may declare the unopposed candidate elected and may cancel the director appointment 27

- 1 procedures generally required by this section for that position.
- 2 If more than one candidate's name is submitted for the position of
- 3 director for a director precinct, before March 15 of that year the
- 4 board shall prepare, for the director precinct or precincts from
- 5 which a director is being appointed, a ballot listing all of the
- 6 candidates for that director precinct and shall provide a copy of
- 7 the appropriate ballot to the presiding officer of the governing
- 8 body of each district or municipality located within the director
- 9 precinct from which a director is being appointed.
- 10 <u>(f) An individual may not be listed as a candidate on the</u>
- 11 ballot for more than one director position. If a candidate is
- 12 nominated for more than one director position, the candidate must
- 13 choose to be on the ballot for only one director position.
- 14 (g) The governing body of each district or municipality
- 15 shall determine its votes for director by resolution and submit
- 16 them to the presiding officer of the authority before May 1 of the
- 17 appropriate even-numbered year. In casting its votes for director,
- 18 the governing body of each district or municipality may vote for
- 19 only one candidate on the ballot for the director precinct in which
- 20 the district or municipality is located. For each director
- 21 precinct from which a director is being appointed, the board shall
- 22 count the votes, declare elected the candidate who received the
- 23 greatest number of votes from districts and municipalities located
- 24 within that director precinct, and submit the results before May 15
- 25 of that year to the governing body of each district or municipality
- 26 within that director precinct.
- 27 (h) The board may adopt rules regarding:

- 1 (1) the manner and timing of determinations and
- 2 calculations required by this section;
- 3 (2) the reporting of water usage to the authority by
- 4 districts and municipalities; and
- 5 (3) the conduct and process of the appointment of
- 6 directors.
- 7 Sec. 8878.057. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS IN SPARSELY
- 8 POPULATED PRECINCTS. (a) For each precinct with a population of
- 9 less than 25,000, the Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County shall
- 10 appoint the director for that precinct. When the population within
- 11 <u>a precinct reaches 25,000, as determined by federal census</u>
- 12 information or as otherwise determined by the county, that precinct
- 13 is eligible to nominate and appoint a director in accordance with
- 14 Section 8878.056, who shall serve upon the expiration of the
- 15 <u>appointed director's term.</u>
- 16 (b) To be eligible for appointment under this section, a
- 17 person must be a resident of the county. Sections 8878.052(a)(2)
- 18 and (3) do not apply to the eligibility of a person for appointment
- 19 under this section.
- Sec. 8878.058. VACANCY IN OFFICE OF DIRECTOR. (a) A
- 21 vacancy in the office of director shall be filled by appointment by
- 22 the governing bodies of the districts and municipalities that are
- 23 located within the director precinct for which the vacancy
- 24 occurred. The appointment process shall follow the procedures of
- 25 <u>Section 8878.056.</u> The board may establish dates different from
- 26 those specified by Sections 8878.056(e) and (g), but the date for
- 27 the board's submission of the voting results to each district and

- 1 municipality may not be later than the 120th day after the date the
- 2 vacancy occurs.
- 3 (b) A vacancy in the office of director appointed by the
- 4 county under Section 8878.057 shall be filled by appointment by the
- 5 Commissioners Court of Fort Bend County.
- 6 Sec. 8878.059. MEETINGS AND ACTIONS OF BOARD. (a) The
- 7 board may meet as many times each year as the board considers
- 8 appropriate.
- 9 (b) Directors of the authority are public officials and are
- 10 entitled to governmental immunity for their actions in their
- 11 capacity as directors and officers of the authority.
- 12 Sec. 8878.060. GENERAL MANAGER. (a) The board may employ a
- 13 general manager of the authority or contract with a person to
- 14 perform the duties of a general manager. The board may delegate to
- 15 the general manager full authority to manage and operate the
- 16 affairs of the authority subject only to orders of the board.
- 17 <u>(b) The board may delegate to the general manager the</u>
- 18 authority to employ all persons necessary for the proper handling
- 19 of the business and operation of the authority and to determine the
- 20 compensation to be paid to all employees, other than the general
- 21 <u>manager.</u>
- Sec. 8878.061. COMPENSATION; EXPENSES. A director who is
- 23 <u>also an official of another public entity serves without</u>
- 24 compensation but may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in
- 25 the performance of official duties. The expenses must be:
- 26 (1) reported in the authority's records; and
- 27 (2) approved by the board.

1	SUBCHAPTER C. POWERS AND DUTIES
2	Sec. 8878.101. GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The
3	authority may:
4	(1) provide for the conservation, preservation,
5	protection, recharge, and prevention of waste of groundwater, and
6	for the reduction of groundwater withdrawals as necessary to
7	develop, implement, or enforce a groundwater reduction plan, in a
8	manner consistent with the purposes of Section 59, Article XVI,
9	Texas Constitution, and facilitate compliance with Fort Bend
10	Subsidence District or applicable subsidence district rules,
11	orders, regulations, or requirements;
12	(2) acquire or develop surface water and groundwater
13	supplies from sources inside or outside the boundaries of the
14	authority, conserve, store, transport, treat, purify, distribute,
15	sell, and deliver water to or among persons inside and outside the
16	boundaries of the authority, and allocate water among persons
17	participating in the authority's groundwater reduction plan
18	whether they are located inside or outside the authority's
19	boundaries;
20	(3) enter into contracts with persons inside or
21	outside the authority on terms and conditions the board considers
22	desirable, fair, and advantageous for the performance of its
23	rights, powers, and authority under this chapter;
24	(4) coordinate water services provided inside,
25	outside, or into the authority;
26	(5) provide wholesale and retail water services to any
27	users or customers within the authority's boundaries without being

- 1 required to execute contracts with those users or customers;
- 2 (6) adopt policies establishing whether, when, and the
- 3 manner in which the authority uses requests for proposals in
- 4 obtaining services, including professional services;
- 5 (7) determine whether to adopt administrative
- 6 policies in addition to those required by Section 49.199, Water
- 7 Code; and
- 8 (8) administer and enforce this chapter.
- 9 (b) Sections 49.451-49.455, Water Code, do not apply to the
- 10 <u>authority</u>.
- 11 (c) Notwithstanding Subsection (a)(5), the authority may
- 12 not provide retail water service to a retail user within the
- 13 authority's boundaries that is located within the boundaries of a
- 14 district or municipality on the date the authority awards a
- 15 contract for the construction or executes a contract for the
- 16 acquisition of water facilities to serve that retail user, unless:
- 17 (1) the district or municipality consents in writing
- 18 to the authority's provision of retail water service; or
- 19 (2) the retail user owns or operates a well.
- 20 (d) If a retail user that does not own or operate a well is
- 21 added to the boundaries of a district or municipality after the date
- 22 the authority awards a contract for the construction or executes a
- 23 contract for the acquisition of water facilities to serve that
- 24 retail user, the authority may provide retail service to that
- 25 retail user without the written consent of the district or
- 26 municipality.
- Sec. 8878.102. AUTHORITY RULES. The authority may adopt

- 1 and enforce rules reasonably required to implement this chapter,
- 2 including rules governing procedures before the board and rules
- 3 regarding implementation, enforcement, and any other matters
- 4 related to the authority's water supply or groundwater reduction
- 5 plan.
- 6 Sec. 8878.103. FEES, USER FEES, RATES, AND CHARGES. (a)
- 7 The authority may establish fees, user fees, rates, and charges and
- 8 classifications of payers of fees and rates as necessary to enable
- 9 the authority to fulfill the authority's purposes and regulatory
- 10 functions provided by this chapter. The authority may impose fees,
- 11 user fees, rates, and charges on any person within the authority.
- 12 (b) The authority may charge the owner of a well located
- 13 within the authority's boundaries a fee or user fee according to the
- 14 amount of water pumped from the well. If ownership of a well
- 15 changes, both the prior and subsequent well owners are liable to the
- 16 authority, jointly and severally, for all fees and user fees
- 17 imposed by the authority under this subsection, and any related
- 18 penalties and interest, for water pumped from that well before the
- 19 change in well ownership. Notwithstanding Subsection (d), the
- 20 authority may impose the charge under this subsection on a well or
- 21 class of wells that cease to be subject to a groundwater reduction
- 22 requirement on or after June 30, 2013.
- 23 <u>(c) The board shall make reasonable efforts to send</u>
- 24 districts and municipalities written notice of the date, time, and
- 25 <u>location of the meeting at which the board intends to adopt a</u>
- 26 proposed charge under Subsection (b) and the amount of the proposed
- 27 charge. The board's failure to comply with this subsection does not

- 1 invalidate a charge adopted by the board under Subsection (b).
- 2 (d) For wells located in Fort Bend County, the board shall
- 3 exempt from the charge under Subsection (b) classes of wells that
- 4 are not subject to any groundwater reduction requirement imposed by
- 5 the Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable subsidence
- 6 district. If any of those classes of wells become subject to a
- 7 groundwater reduction requirement imposed by the applicable
- 8 subsidence district, the authority may impose the charge under
- 9 Subsection (b) on those classes. The board by rule may exempt any
- 10 other classes of wells from the charge under Subsection (b). The
- 11 board may not apply the charge under Subsection (b) to a well:
- 12 (1) with a casing diameter of less than five inches
- 13 that serves only a single-family dwelling; or
- 14 (2) regulated under Chapter 27, Water Code.
- (e) For purposes of Subsection (d), a well is subject to a
- 16 groundwater reduction requirement if the applicable subsidence
- 17 district has adopted or adopts a requirement or rule that
- 18 groundwater withdrawals from the well, or from the well and other
- 19 wells collectively, be reduced, including a groundwater reduction
- 20 that is not required until a future date.
- 21 (f) The authority may establish fees, user fees, rates, and
- 22 <u>charges that are sufficient to:</u>
- 23 <u>(1) achieve water conservation;</u>
- 24 (2) prevent waste of water;
- 25 (3) serve as a disincentive to pumping groundwater;
- 26 (4) develop, implement, or enforce a groundwater
- 27 reduction plan;

- 1 (5) accomplish the purposes of this chapter, including
- 2 making available alternative water supplies;
- 3 (6) enable the authority to meet operation and
- 4 maintenance expenses;
- 5 (7) pay the principal of and interest on notes, bonds,
- 6 and other obligations issued in connection with the exercise of the
- 7 <u>authority's general powers and duties; and</u>
- 8 (8) satisfy all rate covenants relating to the
- 9 issuance of notes, bonds, and other obligations.
- 10 (g) The authority may charge rates established by the
- 11 authority for water purchased from the authority.
- 12 (h) The authority may impose fees, user fees, or charges for
- 13 the importation of water into the authority's boundaries from a
- 14 source located outside the authority's boundaries.
- 15 (i) The authority may impose a reasonable export fee or
- 16 <u>surcharge for groundwater transferred out of the authority, in an</u>
- 17 amount not to exceed 150 percent of the surface water fee charged by
- 18 the North Fort Bend Water Authority.
- 19 Sec. 8878.104. PURCHASE OF WATER FROM ANOTHER ENTITY. (a)
- 20 If the authority purchases water from another entity for resale to
- 21 local governments, the authority shall use its best efforts in
- 22 negotiating with the entity to determine the amount of capital
- 23 costs included in any rates or charges paid by the authority. The
- 24 authority shall determine the amount of expected capital costs of
- 25 its own system.
- 26 (b) The authority shall provide each district or
- 27 municipality within its boundaries information regarding the share

- 1 of the capital costs to be paid by the district or municipality, as
- 2 determined by the authority, and shall provide each district or
- 3 municipality the opportunity, in a manner and by a procedure
- 4 determined by the authority, to fund its share of the capital costs
- 5 with proceeds from the sale of bonds or fees and charges collected
- 6 by the districts or municipalities. A district or municipality may
- 7 use any lawful source of revenue, including bond funds, to pay any
- 8 sums due to the authority.
- 9 (c) The authority may adopt a procedure by which a district
- 10 or municipality may receive a credit from the authority. The board
- 11 may adopt any other procedure necessary to accomplish the goals of
- 12 this section.
- 13 (d) In complying with this section, the authority may use
- 14 any reasonable basis to calculate from time to time the share of the
- 15 capital costs of a district or municipality. The authority may
- 16 calculate the shares of the capital costs based on the amount of
- 17 water used within the authority by the district or municipality
- 18 during the calendar year preceding the year in which the
- 19 calculation is made.
- 20 (e) This section or any failure to comply with this section
- 21 does not limit or impede the authority's ability to issue bonds or
- 22 notes or invalidate any fees, user fees, charges, rates, or special
- 23 <u>assessments imposed by the authority.</u>
- Sec. 8878.105. ASSESSMENTS. (a) The board may undertake
- 25 improvement projects and services that confer a special benefit on
- 26 all or a definable part of the authority. The board may impose
- 27 special assessments on property in that area, including property of

- 1 a local government, based on the benefit conferred by the
- 2 improvement project or services, to pay all or part of the cost of
- 3 the project and services. The board may provide improvements and
- 4 services to an area outside the boundaries of the authority if the
- 5 board determines that there is a benefit to the authority. The
- 6 authority may finance with special assessments any improvement
- 7 project or service authorized by this chapter or any other
- 8 applicable law.
- 9 (b) Services or improvement projects may be financed with
- 10 special assessments under this chapter only after the board holds a
- 11 public hearing on the advisability of the improvements and services
- 12 and the proposed assessments.
- 13 (c) The board shall publish notice of the hearing in a
- 14 newspaper or newspapers with general circulation in Fort Bend
- 15 County. The publication must be made not later than the 30th day
- 16 before the date of the hearing.
- 17 (d) Notice provided under this section must include:
- 18 (1) the time and place of the hearing;
- 19 (2) the general nature of the proposed improvement
- 20 project or services;
- 21 (3) the estimated cost of the improvement, including
- 22 interest during construction and associated financing costs; and
- 23 (4) the proposed method of assessment.
- (e) Written notice containing the information required by
- 25 Subsection (d) shall be mailed by certified mail, return receipt
- 26 requested, not later than the 30th day before the date of the
- 27 hearing. The notice shall be mailed to each person within the

- 1 authority who holds a permit for a well issued by the Fort Bend
- 2 Subsidence District or applicable subsidence district and whose
- 3 well is subject to a groundwater reduction requirement imposed by
- 4 that district. The Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable
- 5 subsidence district shall provide to the authority a list of
- 6 persons who hold such a permit.
- 7 (f) The board may establish rules regarding procedures for a
- 8 hearing. A hearing on the services or improvement project, whether
- 9 conducted by the board or a hearings examiner, may be adjourned from
- 10 time to time. At the conclusion of a hearing conducted by the
- 11 board, the board shall make written findings and conclusions
- 12 relating to the advisability of the improvement project or
- 13 services, the nature of the improvement project or services, the
- 14 estimated cost, and the area benefited. If the board appoints a
- 15 <u>hearings examiner to conduct the hearing</u>, after conclusion of the
- 16 hearing, the hearings examiner shall file with the board a written
- 17 report of the examiner's findings and conclusions.
- 18 (g) At a hearing on proposed assessments, on adjournment of
- 19 the hearing, or after consideration of the hearings examiner's
- 20 report, the board shall hear and rule on all objections to each
- 21 proposed assessment. The board may amend proposed assessments for
- 22 any property. After the board hears and takes action on those
- 23 objections, the board, by order:
- 24 (1) shall impose the assessments as special
- 25 assessments on the property;
- 26 (2) shall specify the method of payment of the
- 27 assessments; and

- 1 (3) may provide that those assessments, including 2 interest, be paid in periodic installments.
- (h) Periodic installments must be in amounts sufficient to
 meet annual costs for services and improvements as provided by
 Subsection (j) and continue for the number of years required to
 retire the indebtedness or pay for the services to be rendered. The
 board may provide interest charges or penalties for failure to make
 timely payment and may impose an amount to cover delinquencies and
 expenses of collection.
- (i) If assessments are imposed for more than one service or improvement project, the board may provide that assessments collected for one service or improvement project may be borrowed to be used for another service or improvement project. The board shall establish a procedure for the distribution or use of any assessments in excess of those necessary to finance the services or improvement project for which those assessments were collected.
- 17 (j) The board shall apportion the cost of an improvement project or services to be assessed against the property in the 18 19 authority according to the special benefits that accrue to the property because of the improvement project or services. The board 20 may assess the cost only according to the number of gallons of 21 groundwater pumped from wells within the authority that are subject 22 to a groundwater reduction requirement imposed by the Fort Bend 23 24 Subsidence District or applicable subsidence district. The board may not assess the cost according to groundwater pumped from: 25
- 26 (1) a well with a casing diameter of less than five 27 inches that serves only a single-family dwelling; or

- 1 (2) a well that is regulated by Chapter 27, Water Code.
- 2 (k) The area of the authority to be assessed according to
- 3 the findings of the board may be the entire authority or any part of
- 4 the authority and may be less than the area proposed in the notice
- 5 of the hearing.
- 6 (1) The area to be assessed may not include property that is
- 7 not within the authority boundaries at the time of the hearing
- 8 unless there is an additional hearing, following the required
- 9 notice.
- 10 (m) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), the owner of land
- 11 annexed to the authority after the authority has imposed
- 12 assessments may waive the right to notice and an assessment hearing
- 13 and may agree to the imposition and payment of assessments at an
- 14 agreed rate for land annexed to the authority. A district or
- 15 <u>municipality may waive the right to notice and an assessment</u>
- 16 hearing for land within its boundaries annexed to the authority and
- 17 may agree to the imposition and payment of assessments at an agreed
- 18 rate for the annexed land.
- 19 (n) The board shall have prepared an assessment roll showing
- 20 the assessments against each property and the board's basis for the
- 21 assessment. The assessment roll shall be:
- (1) filed with the secretary of the board or other
- 23 officer who performs the function of secretary; and
- 24 (2) open for public inspection.
- 25 (o) After notice and hearing in the manner required for an
- 26 original assessment, the board may make supplemental assessments to
- 27 correct omissions or mistakes in the assessment:

- 1 (1) relating to the total cost of the improvement
- 2 project or services; or
- 3 (2) covering delinquencies or costs of collection.
- 4 Sec. 8878.106. INTEREST AND PENALTIES. The board may
- 5 require the payment of interest on any late or unpaid fees, user
- 6 fees, rates, charges, and special assessments due the authority,
- 7 but the interest rate may not exceed the interest rate permitted by
- 8 Section 2251.025, Government Code. The board may also impose
- 9 penalties for the failure to make a complete or timely payment to
- 10 the authority. In addition, the board may exclude a person, or any
- 11 territory or well owned or controlled by a person, from the
- 12 authority's groundwater reduction plan for failure to make a
- 13 complete or timely payment to the authority.
- 14 Sec. 8878.107. ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COLLECTION EXPENSES.
- 15 (a) The authority is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees
- 16 <u>incurred by the authority in enforcing its rules.</u>
- 17 (b) The authority is entitled to collection expenses and
- 18 reasonable attorney's fees incurred by the authority in collecting
- 19 any delinquent fees, user fees, rates, and charges and any related
- 20 penalties and interest.
- Sec. 8878.108. LIEN. (a) Fees and user fees imposed by the
- 22 authority under Section 8878.103(b), any related penalties and
- 23 interest, and collection expenses and reasonable attorney's fees
- 24 incurred by the authority:
- 25 (1) are a first and prior lien against the well to
- 26 which the fees or user fees apply;
- 27 (2) are superior to any other lien or claim other than

- 1 a lien or claim for county, school district, or municipal ad valorem
- 2 taxes; and
- 3 (3) are the personal liability of and a charge against
- 4 the owner of the well.
- 5 (b) A lien under this section is effective from the date of
- 6 the resolution or order of the board imposing the fee or user fee
- 7 until the fee or user fee is paid.
- 8 <u>(c) The board may enforce the lien in the same manner that a</u>
- 9 municipal utility district operating under Chapter 54, Water Code,
- 10 may enforce an ad valorem tax lien against real property.
- 11 Sec. 8878.109. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY; INJUNCTION. (a) A
- 12 person who violates a rule or order of the authority is subject to
- 13 an administrative penalty of not more than \$5,000, as determined by
- 14 the board, for each violation or each day of a continuing violation.
- 15 The person shall pay the penalty to the authority.
- 16 (b) The authority may bring an action to recover the penalty
- 17 in a district court in the county where the violation occurred.
- 18 (c) The authority may bring an action for injunctive relief
- 19 in a district court in the county where a violation of an authority
- 20 rule or order occurs or is threatened to occur. The court may grant
- 21 to the authority, without bond or other undertaking, a prohibitory
- 22 or mandatory injunction that the facts warrant, including a
- 23 temporary restraining order, temporary injunction, or permanent
- 24 injunction.
- 25 (d) The authority may bring an action for an administrative
- 26 penalty and injunctive relief in the same proceeding.
- Sec. 8878.110. WATER SUPPLY OR DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLANS.

- 1 The authority by rule may develop, prepare, revise, adopt,
- 2 implement, enforce, and manage comprehensive water supply or
- 3 drought contingency plans for the authority, or any portion of the
- 4 authority.
- 5 Sec. 8878.111. GROUNDWATER REDUCTION PLAN. (a) The
- 6 authority may wholly or partly develop, prepare, revise, adopt,
- 7 <u>implement</u>, enforce, manage, or participate in a groundwater
- 8 reduction plan that is applicable only to the authority and one or
- 9 more persons outside the authority. The authority may require that
- 10 any groundwater reduction plan that the authority wholly or partly
- 11 develops, prepares, revises, adopts, implements, enforces, or
- 12 manages or in which the authority participates be the exclusive
- 13 groundwater reduction plan that is binding and mandatory on some or
- 14 all of the territory, persons, or wells located within the
- 15 <u>authority</u>. A groundwater reduction plan may:
- 16 (1) specify the measures to be taken to reduce
- 17 groundwater withdrawals;
- 18 (2) identify alternative sources of water, including
- 19 water from the authority, to be provided to those affected;
- 20 (3) identify the rates, terms, and conditions under
- 21 which alternative sources of water will be provided, which may be
- 22 changed from time to time as considered necessary by the authority;
- 23 (4) specify the dates and extent to which persons or
- 24 districts within the authority's boundaries shall reduce or cease
- 25 reliance on groundwater and accept water from alternative sources,
- 26 including water from the authority;
- 27 (5) include other terms and measures that are

- 1 consistent with the powers and duties of the authority;
- 2 (6) exceed the minimum requirements imposed by the
- 3 Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable subsidence district,
- 4 including any applicable groundwater reduction requirements; and
- 5 (7) be amended from time to time at the discretion of
- 6 the authority.
- 7 (b) Fees, user fees, rates, charges, and special
- 8 assessments of the authority may be imposed under this chapter for a
- 9 person's participation in and benefit derived from the authority's
- 10 groundwater reduction plan, a groundwater reduction plan in which
- 11 the authority participates, or the authority's works, projects,
- 12 improvements, and services to be provided by the authority under
- 13 powers conferred by Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution,
- 14 and this chapter.
- 15 Sec. 8878.112. ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF
- 16 SYSTEMS. (a) The authority may:
- 17 (1) acquire by purchase, gift, lease, contract, or any
- 18 other legal means a water treatment or supply system, or any other
- 19 works, plants, improvements, or facilities necessary or convenient
- 20 to accomplish the purposes of the authority, or any interest of the
- 21 authority, inside or outside the authority's boundaries;
- 22 (2) design, finance, operate, maintain, or construct a
- 23 water treatment or supply system or any other works, plants,
- 24 improvements, or facilities necessary or convenient to accomplish
- 25 the purposes of the authority and provide water services inside or
- 26 outside the authority's boundaries;
- 27 (3) lease or sell a water treatment or supply system or

- 1 any other works, plants, improvements, or facilities necessary or
- 2 convenient to accomplish the purposes of the authority that the
- 3 authority constructs or acquires inside or outside the authority's
- 4 boundaries;
- 5 (4) contract with any person to operate or maintain a
- 6 water treatment or supply system the person owns; or
- 7 (5) acquire water rights under any law or permit.
- 8 (b) The authority may contract, according to terms and
- 9 conditions the board considers desirable, fair, and advantageous,
- 10 with a person outside the authority's boundaries:
- 11 (1) to allow the person, or the person's well, to be
- 12 included in a groundwater reduction plan adopted or implemented
- 13 wholly or partly by the authority or in a groundwater reduction plan
- 14 in which the authority participates;
- 15 (2) to sell water to the person; or
- 16 (3) to sell the person available excess capacity or
- 17 additional capacity of the authority's water treatment or supply
- 18 system.
- 19 (c) The authority by rule may require that the plans and
- 20 specifications of water lines to be constructed within the
- 21 authority that are designed or intended to serve more than one
- 22 district or more than one person owning or holding a well permit
- 23 issued by the Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable
- 24 subsidence district be approved by the authority before the
- 25 commencement of construction of the water lines.
- Sec. 8878.113. SALE OR REUSE OF WATER OR BY-PRODUCT. The
- 27 authority may store, sell, or reuse:

- 1 <u>(1) water; or</u>
- 2 (2) any by-product from the authority's operations.
- 3 Sec. 8878.114. CONTRACTS. (a) The authority may enter into
- 4 a contract with a person for the performance of a purpose or
- 5 function of the authority, including a contract to design,
- 6 construct, finance, lease, own, manage, operate, or maintain works,
- 7 improvements, facilities, plants, equipment, or appliances
- 8 necessary to accomplish a purpose or function of the authority. A
- 9 contract may be of unlimited duration.
- 10 (b) The authority may purchase, acquire, finance, or lease
- 11 an interest in a project used for a purpose or function of the
- 12 authority.
- 13 (c) The authority may contract for:
- 14 (1) the purchase, sale, or lease of water or water
- 15 rights;
- 16 (2) the performance of activities within the powers of
- 17 the authority through the purchase, construction, or installation
- 18 of works, improvements, facilities, plants, equipment, or
- 19 appliances; or
- 20 (3) the design, construction, ownership, management,
- 21 maintenance, or operation of any works, improvements, facilities,
- 22 plants, equipment, or appliances of the authority or another
- 23 person.
- 24 (d) The authority may purchase surplus property from this
- 25 state, the United States, or another public entity through a
- 26 negotiated contract without bids.
- 27 <u>Sec. 8878.115. COOPERATION WITH</u> AND ASSISTANCE OF OTHER

- 1 GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES. (a) In implementing this chapter, the
- 2 board may cooperate with and request the assistance of the Texas
- 3 Water Development Board, the commission, the United States
- 4 Geological Survey, the Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable
- 5 subsidence district, other local governments, and other agencies of
- 6 the United States and this state.
- 7 (b) The Fort Bend Subsidence District or applicable
- 8 <u>subsidence district may enter into an interlocal contract with the</u>
- 9 authority to carry out the authority's purposes and may carry out
- 10 the governmental functions and services specified in the interlocal
- 11 contract.
- 12 (c) For the purpose of reducing costs associated with
- 13 preparing a groundwater reduction plan, the board may consider the
- 14 usefulness of a water supply study or plan prepared by or on behalf
- of the North Fort Bend Water Authority, the Central Harris County
- 16 Regional Water Authority, the North Harris County Regional Water
- 17 Authority, the West Harris County Regional Water Authority, the
- 18 City of Houston, the City of Sugar Land, the City of Missouri City,
- 19 Fort Bend County Water Control and Improvement District No. 2, the
- 20 City of Richmond, the City of Rosenberg, Pecan Grove Municipal
- 21 Utility District, or another governmental entity to the extent the
- 22 study or plan is available and applicable to the authority.
- Sec. 8878.116. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The authority may accept a
- 24 gift or grant from money collected by the Fort Bend Subsidence
- 25 District or applicable subsidence district to fund the
- 26 construction, maintenance, or operation of a water treatment or
- 27 supply system.

- S.B. No. 1870
- 1 Sec. 8878.117. EXPENDITURES. (a) The authority's money
- 2 may be disbursed only by check, draft, order, federal reserve wire
- 3 system, or other instrument or authorization.
- 4 (b) Disbursements of the authority must be signed by at
- 5 least a majority of the directors. The board by resolution may
- 6 allow the general manager, treasurer, bookkeeper, or other employee
- 7 of the authority to sign disbursements, except as limited by
- 8 Subsection (c).
- 9 (c) The board by resolution may allow disbursements to be
- 10 transferred by federal reserve wire system to accounts in the name
- 11 of the authority without the necessity of any directors signing the
- 12 disbursement. Disbursements of the authority's money by federal
- 13 reserve wire system to any accounts not in the name of the authority
- 14 must be signed by at least a majority of the directors.
- Sec. 8878.118. AD VALOREM TAXATION. The authority may not
- 16 impose an ad valorem tax.
- Sec. 8878.119. EMINENT DOMAIN. (a) The authority may
- 18 acquire by condemnation any land, easements, or other property
- 19 inside the authority's boundaries to further authorized purposes,
- 20 powers, or duties of the authority. The authority may acquire by
- 21 condemnation any land, easements, or other property outside the
- 22 authority's boundaries for the purposes of pumping, storing,
- 23 treating, or transporting water. When exercising the power of
- 24 eminent domain granted by this section, the authority may elect to
- 25 condemn either the fee simple title or a lesser property interest.
- 26 (b) The authority may exercise the power of eminent domain
- 27 in the manner provided by Chapter 21, Property Code. The authority

- S.B. No. 1870
- 1 is not required to give bond for appeal or bond for costs in a
- 2 condemnation suit or other suit to which it is a party. The
- 3 authority is not required to deposit more than the amount of an
- 4 award in a suit.
- 5 (c) The authority may not use the power of eminent domain
- 6 for the condemnation of land for the purpose of acquiring rights to
- 7 groundwater or for the purpose of acquiring water or water rights.
- 8 Sec. 8878.120. ACTION AGAINST PERSON, DISTRICT, OR
- 9 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION. (a) The authority may bring an action in a
- 10 district court against a person, including a district or other
- 11 political subdivision located in the authority's territory or
- 12 included in the authority's groundwater reduction plan, to:
- 13 (1) recover any fees, rates, charges, assessments,
- 14 collection expenses, attorney's fees, interest, penalties, or
- 15 administrative penalties due the authority; or
- 16 (2) enforce the authority's rules or orders.
- 17 (b) Governmental immunity from suit or liability of a
- 18 district or other political subdivision is waived for the purposes
- 19 of an action under this section.
- 20 SUBCHAPTER D. BONDS AND NOTES
- Sec. 8878.151. REVENUE BONDS AND NOTES. (a) The authority
- 22 may issue bonds or notes payable solely from revenue from any
- 23 source, including:
- 24 (1) tolls, charges, rates, fees, user fees, and
- 25 special assessments the authority imposes or collects;
- 26 (2) the sale of water, water services, water rights or
- 27 capacity, water transmission rights or services, water pumping, or

- 1 any other service or product of the authority provided inside or
- 2 outside the boundaries of the authority;
- 3 (3) grants or gifts;
- 4 (4) the ownership or operation of all or a designated
- 5 part of the authority's works, improvements, facilities, plants, or
- 6 equipment; and
- 7 (5) contracts between the authority and any person.
- 8 (b) Notes issued by the authority may be first or
- 9 <u>subordinate lien notes at the board's discretion.</u>
- (c) In connection with any bonds or notes of the authority,
- 11 the authority may exercise any power of an issuer under Chapter
- 12 1371, Government Code.
- 13 <u>(d) The authority may conduct a public, private, or</u>
- 14 negotiated sale of the bonds or notes.
- 15 (e) The authority may enter into one or more indentures of
- 16 trust to further secure its bonds or notes.
- 17 (f) The authority may issue bonds or notes in more than one
- 18 series as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. In
- 19 issuing bonds or notes secured by revenue of the authority, the
- 20 authority may reserve the right to issue additional bonds or notes
- 21 secured by the authority's revenue that are on a parity with or are
- 22 senior or subordinate to the bonds or notes issued earlier.
- 23 (g) A resolution of the board authorizing the bonds or notes
- 24 or a trust indenture securing the bonds or notes may specify
- 25 additional provisions that constitute a contract between the
- 26 authority and its bondholders or noteholders.
- (h) Bonds and notes may be additionally secured by deed of

- 1 trust or mortgage on any or all of the authority's facilities.
- 2 (i) The authority may issue refunding bonds or notes to
- 3 refund any of its bonds or notes in any manner provided by law.
- 4 (j) Sections 49.153, 49.154, and 49.181, Water Code, do not
- 5 apply to bonds or notes issued by the authority. Commission rules
- 6 regarding bonds or notes do not apply to bonds or notes issued by
- 7 the authority.
- 8 SECTION 2. The West Fort Bend Water Authority initially
- 9 includes the territory that is contained in the following area,
- 10 regardless of whether the territory contains noncontiguous parcels
- 11 of land or whether the territory is located within the boundaries of
- 12 any other governmental entity or political subdivision of the
- 13 state:
- 14 Fort Bend County, save and except the following:
- 1. Territory included within the boundaries of North Fort
- 16 Bend Water Authority and the West Harris County Regional Water
- 17 Authority as of January 1, 2013;
- 18 2. Territory included within the corporate limits of the
- 19 City of Houston as of January 1, 2013; and
- 20 3. Territory included within the corporate or
- 21 extraterritorial jurisdiction limits of the following
- 22 municipalities as of January 1, 2013:
- a. City of Alvin,
- b. City of Arcola,
- c. City of Fulshear,
- d. City of Missouri City,
- e. City of Pearland,

- f. City of Richmond,
- g. City of Rosenberg,
- 3 h. City of Stafford, and
- i. City of Sugar Land; and
- 5 4. Territory included in Oak Bend Forest, a subdivision per
- 6 plat or map recorded under Slide 1214 A&B of the Plat Records of
- 7 Fort Bend County, Texas that lies within Fort Bend County; and
- 8 5. All of the H.T.&B. RR. Co. Survey, Abstract No. 622, Fort
- 9 Bend County, Texas; and
- 10 6. Territory included within that portion of the
- 11 extraterritorial jurisdiction limits of the City of Houston bounded
- 12 on the East by the corporate and extraterritorial limits of the City
- 13 of Pearland, bounded on the South by the extraterritorial limits of
- 14 the City of Arcola, the South right-of-way of State Highway No. 6,
- 15 and the corporate limits of the City of Missouri City, bounded on
- 16 the West by the corporate and extraterritorial limits of the City of
- 17 Missouri City and the corporate limits of the City of Houston, and
- 18 bounded on North by the corporate limits of the City of Houston.
- 19 SECTION 3. The West Fort Bend Water Authority includes five
- 20 single-member director precincts as follows:
- 21 Precinct 1
- 22 Description
- 23 BEGINNING at a point in the centerline of the Brazos River, same
- 24 being the East line of Austin County for the common West corner of
- 25 Waller and Fort Bend Counties;
- 26 THENCE, in a general Easterly direction, along and with the South
- 27 line of said Waller County, same being the North line of said Fort

- 1 Bend County to the intersection of said County line with the West
- 2 limits of the City of Fulshear Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all
- 3 references to the limits of the City of Fulshear Extraterritorial
- 4 Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013);
- 5 THENCE, Southerly and Easterly, along and with the West limits of
- 6 said City of Fulshear Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to the
- 7 intersection of an interior South line of said City of Fulshear
- 8 Extraterritorial Jurisdiction with the West line of the North Fort
- 9 Bend Water Authority;
- 10 THENCE, Southerly, along and with the West line of said North Fort
- 11 Bend Water Authority to the intersection of said West line with an
- 12 interior North line of said City of Fulshear Extraterritorial
- 13 Jurisdiction in the centerline of North Fulshear Drive;
- 14 THENCE, Westerly, Southerly, and Easterly, along and with the
- 15 Westerly limits of said City of Fulshear Extraterritorial
- 16 Jurisdiction and partly along and with the Easterly limits of the
- 17 City of Weston Lakes Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references
- 18 to the limits of the City of Weston Lakes Extraterritorial
- 19 Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013) to a point in the centerline
- 20 of Farm to Market (FM) Highway No. 1093;
- 21 THENCE, Westerly, along and with the centerline of said FM 1093, to
- 22 the intersection of said centerline with the centerline of said
- 23 Brazos River, same being the East line of said Austin County and the
- 24 West line of said Fort Bend County;
- 25 THENCE, in a general Northerly direction, upstream and along and
- 26 with the centerline of said Brazos River, same being the East line
- 27 of said Austin County and the West line of said Fort Bend County to

- 1 the POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 2 Precinct 2
- 3 Description
- 4 BEGINNING at a point in the centerline of the Brazos River, same
- 5 being the East line of Austin County and the West line of said Fort
- 6 Bend County for the intersection of the centerline of said Brazos
- 7 River with the centerline of Farm to Market (FM) Highway No. 1093;
- 8 THENCE, in an Easterly direction, along and with the centerline of
- 9 said FM 1093 to the intersection of said centerline with an interior
- 10 West line of the City of Fulshear Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 11 (all references to the limits of the City of Fulshear
- 12 Extraterritorial Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013);
- 13 THENCE, in a Southeasterly direction, along and with the West
- 14 limits of said City of Fulshear Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to
- 15 the intersection of said West limits with the West line of the North
- 16 Fort Bend Water Authority;
- 17 THENCE, Southerly and Easterly, along and with the West and South
- 18 lines of said North Fort Bend Water Authority to the intersection of
- 19 the South line of said North Fort Bend Water Authority with the West
- 20 line of the City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all
- 21 references to the limits of the City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial
- 22 Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013);
- 23 THENCE, Southerly, along and with the Westerly limits of said City
- 24 of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to a point in the
- 25 centerline of U.S. Highway 90A;
- 26 THENCE, Westerly, along and with the centerline of U.S. Highway
- 27 90A, to the intersection of said centerline with the centerline of

- 1 the San Bernard River, same being the East line of Wharton County
- 2 and the West line of said Fort Bend County;
- 3 THENCE, in a general Northerly direction and upstream along and
- 4 with the centerline of said San Bernard River, same being the East
- 5 line of said Wharton County and the West line of said Fort Bend
- 6 County to a point for the common West corner of said Austin County
- 7 and said Fort Bend County;
- 8 THENCE, Easterly and Northerly, along and with South and East lines
- 9 of said Austin County, same being an interior North line and the
- 10 West line of said Fort Bend County to a point in the centerline of
- 11 said Brazos River;
- 12 THENCE, in a general Northerly direction, upstream and along and
- 13 with the centerline of said Brazos River, same being the East line
- 14 of said Austin County and the West line of said Fort Bend County to
- 15 the POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 16 Precinct 3
- 17 Description
- 18 PART 1
- 19 BEGINNING at a point in the center of the San Bernard River, same
- 20 being the East line of Wharton County and the West line of Fort bend
- 21 County for the intersection of the centerline of said San Bernard
- 22 River with the centerline of US Highway 90;
- 23 THENCE, in an Easterly Northeast direction, along and with the
- 24 centerline of said US Highway 90 to the intersection of said
- 25 centerline with a Northerly extension of the West right-of-way line
- 26 of Beasley West End Road, same being an interior West line of the
- 27 City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references to

- S.B. No. 1870
- 1 the limits of the City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 2 are as of January 1, 2013), same also being an interior East line of
- 3 the City of Orchard Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references
- 4 to the limits of the City of Orchard Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 5 are as of January 1, 2013);
- 6 THENCE, along and with the common line between the Extraterritorial
- 7 Jurisdiction limits of said City of Rosenberg and said City of
- 8 Orchard and along and with the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 9 Boundary Agreement between said cities as established and described
- 10 in City of Orchard Ordinance No. 68-2003 the following courses;
- 11 Southerly along and with the Westerly right-of-way line of
- 12 said Beasley West End Road to the intersection of said Westerly
- 13 right-of-way line with the Northwesterly right-of-way line of
- 14 Drachenberg Road;
- Southwesterly, along and with the Northwesterly right-of-way
- 16 line of said Drachenberg Road to the intersection of said
- 17 Northwesterly right-of-way line with the Northeasterly
- 18 right-of-way line of Hopkins Road;
- 19 Northwesterly and Westerly, along and with the Northeasterly
- 20 and Northerly line of Hopkins Road to the intersection of said
- 21 Northerly right-of-way line with the East right-of-way of Engle
- 22 Road;
- Southerly, along and with the East right-of-line of said
- 24 Engle Road to the intersection of said East right-of-way line with
- 25 the North right-of-way of Koym Road;
- Westerly, along and with the North right-of-way line of said
- 27 Kyom Road, approximately 4,580 feet to a Northwest corner of the

- 1 limits of said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction;
- 2 THENCE, in a general Southerly, Easterly, and Northerly directions,
- 3 along and with the West and South corporate limits of the City of
- 4 Rosenberg (all references to the corporate limits of the City of
- 5 Rosenberg are as of January 1, 2013) and the limits of said City of
- 6 Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to the intersection of the
- 7 South limits of said City of Rosenberg with the intersection of the
- 8 centerline of State Highway No. 36;
- 9 THENCE, Southerly and Southeasterly, along and with the centerline
- 10 of said State Highway No. 36 to a point in the North line of Brazoria
- 11 County, same being the south line of said Fort Bend County;
- 12 THENCE, in a general Southwesterly direction, along and with the
- 13 North line of said Brazoria County, same being the south line of
- 14 said Fort Bend County to a point in the centerline of said San
- 15 Bernard River, same being the Easterly line of said Wharton County
- 16 for the Southwest corner of said Fort Bend County;
- 17 THENCE, in a general Northwesterly direction, upstream and along
- 18 and with the centerline of said San Bernard River, same being the
- 19 Easterly line of said Wharton County and the Westerly line of said
- 20 Fort Bend County to the POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 21 PART 2
- 22 BEGINNING at a point in the centerline of said US Highway 90, being
- 23 the intersection of said centerline with an interior West line of
- 24 the limits of said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 25 and being located West Southwesterly along the centerline of said
- 26 US Highway 90 approximately 3,820 feet from the intersection of the
- 27 centerlines of said US Highway 90 and Spencer Road;

- 1 THENCE, Southerly, along and with an interior West line of the
- 2 limits said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to a
- 3 point in the right-of-way of Randon School Road;
- 4 THENCE, Westerly, along and with an interior North line of said City
- 5 of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction and generally along the
- 6 Randon School Road approximately 1,900 feet to an interior corner
- 7 of the limits of said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial
- 8 Jurisdiction:
- 9 THENCE, Northerly, along and with an interior East line of the
- 10 limits said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to a
- 11 point in the centerline of said US Highway 90;
- 12 THENCE, East Northeasterly, along and with the centerline of said
- 13 US Highway 90 to the POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 14 PART 3
- 15 All of the corporate limits of the City of Beasley and all of that
- 16 land within the limits of the City of Beasley Extraterritorial
- 17 Jurisdiction (all references to the corporate limits of the City of
- 18 Beasley and the limits of the City of Orchard Extraterritorial
- 19 Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013.
- 20 Precinct 4
- 21 Description
- 22 BEGINNING at a point in the North line of Brazoria County, same
- 23 being the South line of Fort Bend County and being the intersection
- 24 of said common County line with the centerline of State Highway No.
- 25 36;
- 26 THENCE, Northwesterly and Northerly, along and with the centerline
- 27 of said State Highway No. 36 to the intersection of said centerline

- S.B. No. 1870
- 1 with the South corporate limits of the City of Rosenberg (all
- 2 references to the corporate limits of the City of Rosenberg are as
- 3 of January 1, 2013);
- 4 THENCE, Southerly, Easterly, and Northerly along and with the
- 5 Southerly and Easterly limits of the South corporate limits of said
- 6 City of Rosenberg and the City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial
- 7 Jurisdiction (all references to the limits of the City of Rosenberg
- 8 Extraterritorial Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013) to the
- 9 intersection of said Easterly limits with the centerline of Farm to
- 10 Market Highway (FM) 762;
- 11 THENCE, in a general Southerly direction, along and with the
- 12 centerline of said FM 762 to the intersection of said centerline
- 13 with the centerline of FM 1462;
- 14 THENCE, Westerly and Southwesterly, along and with the centerline
- 15 of said FM 1462 to the intersection of said centerline with the
- 16 North line of said Brazoria County, same being the South line of
- 17 said Fort Bend County;
- 18 THENCE, Northwesterly, along and with the North line of said
- 19 Brazoria County, same being the South line of said Fort Bend County
- 20 to the POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 21 Precinct 5
- 22 Description
- 23 BEGINNING at a point in the North line of Brazoria County, same
- 24 being the South line of Fort Bend County and being the Southwesterly
- 25 intersection of said common County line with the centerline Farm to
- 26 Market Highway (FM) 1462 and being located approximately 250 feet
- 27 Southwesterly from the intersection of said FM 1462 with Nordt

- 1 Road;
- 2 THENCE, Northeasterly and Easterly, along and with the centerline
- 3 of said FM 1462 to the intersection of said centerline with the
- 4 centerline of FM 762;
- 5 THENCE, in a general Northerly direction, along and with the
- 6 centerline of said FM 762 to the intersection of said centerline
- 7 with the East line of the City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial
- 8 Jurisdiction (all references to the limits of the City of Rosenberg
- 9 Extraterritorial Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013);
- 10 THENCE, Northeasterly, Southerly, Easterly, and Northerly, along
- 11 and with the East line of said City of Rosenberg Extraterritorial
- 12 Jurisdiction and the East corporate limits of the City of Rosenberg
- 13 (all references to the corporate limits of the City of Rosenberg are
- 14 as of January 1, 2013) to the intersection of said East corporate
- 15 limits with the South line of the City of Sugar Land
- 16 Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references to the limits of the
- 17 City of Sugarland Extraterritorial Jurisdiction are as of January
- 18 1, 2013);
- 19 THENCE, in a general Easterly direction, along and with the South
- 20 line of said City of Sugar Land Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to
- 21 the intersection of said South line with the West line of the City
- 22 of Missouri City Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references to
- 23 the limits of the City of Missouri City Extraterritorial
- 24 Jurisdiction are as of January 1, 2013);
- 25 THENCE, in a general Southerly direction, along and with the West
- 26 line of said City of Missouri City Extraterritorial Jurisdiction
- 27 and the West corporate limits of the City of Missouri City (all

- S.B. No. 1870
- 1 references to the corporate limits of the City of Missouri City are
- 2 as of January 1, 2013) to a point for the common West corner of said
- 3 City of Missouri City Extraterritorial Jurisdiction and the City of
- 4 Alvin Extraterritorial Jurisdiction (all references to the limits
- 5 of the City of Alvin Extraterritorial Jurisdiction are as of
- 6 January 1, 2013);
- 7 THENCE, in a general Southerly direction, along and with the West
- 8 line of said City of Alvin Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to a point
- 9 in the centerline of Cow Creek just upstream from its confluence
- 10 with the Brazos River, same being the North line of said Brazoria
- 11 County and the South line of said Fort Bend County;
- 12 THENCE, Westerly, Southerly, and Northwesterly along and with the
- 13 North line of said Brazoria County and the South line of said Fort
- 14 Bend County (said common County line partly being the centerline of
- 15 said Cow Creek) to POINT OF BEGINNING.
- 16 SECTION 4. (a) The legal notice of the intention to
- 17 introduce this Act, setting forth the general substance of this
- 18 Act, has been published as provided by law, and the notice and a
- 19 copy of this Act have been furnished to all persons, agencies,
- 20 officials, or entities to which they are required to be furnished
- 21 under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, and Chapter 313,
- 22 Government Code.
- 23 (b) The governor, one of the required recipients, has
- 24 submitted the notice and Act to the Texas Commission on
- 25 Environmental Quality.
- 26 (c) The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has filed
- 27 its recommendations relating to this Act with the governor,

- 1 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives
- 2 within the required time.
- 3 (d) The general law relating to consent by political
- 4 subdivisions to the creation of districts with conservation,
- 5 reclamation, and road powers and the inclusion of land in those
- 6 districts has been complied with.
- 7 (e) All requirements of the constitution and laws of this
- 8 state and the rules and procedures of the legislature with respect
- 9 to the notice, introduction, and passage of this Act have been
- 10 fulfilled and accomplished.
- 11 SECTION 5. (a) Section 8878.119, Special District Local
- 12 Laws Code, as added by Section 1 of this Act, takes effect only if
- 13 this Act receives a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to
- 14 each house.
- 15 (b) If this Act does not receive a two-thirds vote of all the
- 16 members elected to each house, Subchapter C, Chapter 8878, Special
- 17 District Local Laws Code, as added by Section 1 of this Act, is
- 18 amended by adding Section 8878.119 to read as follows:
- 19 Sec. 8878.119. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. The district may
- 20 not exercise the power of eminent domain.
- 21 (c) This section is not intended to be an expression of a
- 22 legislative interpretation of the requirements of Section 17(c),
- 23 Article I, Texas Constitution.
- 24 SECTION 6. Except as provided by Section 5 of this Act:
- 25 (1) this Act takes effect immediately if it receives a
- 26 vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
- 27 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution; and

- 1 (2) if this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
- 2 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.