

Fort Worth, Texas,

January 22nd, 1926.

The Board of Directors of Tarrant County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 met in special session at its offices in the County Court House of Tarrant County, Texas, in the City of Fort Worth on the 22nd day of January A. D. 1926.

A. L. Baker, Vice President occupied the chair in the absence of W. C. Weeks, President. Other Directors, who, with said A. L. Baker constituted a quorum present were L. C. Abbott, W. E. Bideker and H. M. Hightower.

This meeting was called by Vice President Baker, who had been theretofore informed that several citizens of Mansfield and Britton headed by Mr. Holland of Mansfield desired to meet with this Board to get information in a general way regarding the purposes and scope of the District's work and more particularly what steps should be taken by parties who believed that their lands can never to irrigated to be excluded by the District.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Baker, who thereupon requested Mr. Holland to state the object of his and the other visitors' presence: Mr. Holland stated that they were present, at this time, solely for information. That he and others at Mansfield and Britton had been approached and asked to put up money, amounting to so many cents per acre, to fight the district in court and compel the district to exclude their lands. He further stated that he and other citizens of that district doubted if that was the proper way go at the matter of exclusion, that it seemed that the law on the subject was plain and that a suit or redress in court would <sup>not</sup> be necessary, if they should make application for exclusion.

When Mr. Holland had finished, Mr. L. C. Abbott, Stated that he appreciated the fact that these visiting gentlemen had come to the board for information, as that was just what certain agitators in this community had not done heretofore, but had gone into different communities and misinformed the people as to just what this District is trying to do at this time. He said that the work of the District is yet just in its preliminary stages. That no bond issue is contemplated at all now, and will not be contemplated until sufficient data is obtained to cause to believe the Board/that it will be not only profitable to the City of Fort Worth but the County as a whole to vote it, that it must appear reasonably sure that the proposition will be to a great extent self sustaining. He state further that he believed that they ought to go with a majority in determining what this investigation will show, and when completed, it is quite possible that no bond issue will be called at all.

Major John B. Hawley, who was present at this meeting at the request of the Chair, wastcalled upon by Mr. W. E. Bideker, to tell the visiting gentlemen our wonderful assets in being the possessor of the West Fork and Clear Fork of the Trinity Water Rights: He stated that as an engineer who had spent most of his life in the study of the problems of supplying water, it would be hard to estimate the many millions of Dollars these acquired rights were worth to all of Tarrant County. That we were exceedingly fortunate in having obtained them, for other very large public and private enterprises are constantly on the watch, to file on them should they lapse for a minute's time.

Mr. Bideker then said: Gentlemen, we believe we can show you that the completion of what we are endeavoring to do, if we decide that it will be profitable to do it at all, will be for the best interests of



every citizen in Tarrant County; that an issue would not be called at all if we did not believe that the revenues would liquidate the indebtedness and that soon after completion the district would be no great burden on the people of the district.

Mr. J. M. Back of Mansfield said: "We want out of this Water District. We absolutely know that, and we want you gentlemen to let us out now. We know we can never benefit from it at all: We don't want to have any fight to do it, we just want to get out, but if it comes to the point that we have to do it we will fight to get out".

Mr. K. Robey, who was present stated that he would advise the visiting gentlemen not to pay any lawyer to institute proceedings against the District or to get them out of the District until they had "delivered the goods" He further stated that he believed that if the District went through with its program of constructing the lakes that are being contemplated in our preliminary investigation, that every farmer's land in Tarrant County would be doubled in price.

Mr. Williams, a farmer, was present and stated: "It is impossible to ever think of irrigating our land. It is impossible to irrigate any land, the world over, situated as our land is and, if water could be put on it, it would cause the crops to be scalded in hot weather, bring on boll weevil and other insects and be generally bad for the District."

At this juncture, Mr. Baker thanked the gentlemen for calling and seeking honest information, and told them that they would be informed in plenty of time after the investigation had been completed to preserve any and all rights they have under the law.

Upon motion by H. M. Hightower, seconded by L. C. Abbott, it was voted to pay L. A. Freeman, Tax Assessor the balance due him for assessing the 1925 taxes, the amount being \$ 1,500.00,

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read, discussed and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the Board adjourned to meet on Monday, February 1st, at 10 o'clock A. M. same being the date fixed by law for the regular quarterly meeting of the District.

Attest:

M. E. Bauer

Secretary.

A. L. Bauer  
Vice President.