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# THE CROSS SECTION

VOLUME 59 --NO. 10

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR WATER!

OCTOBER 2013

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE HIGH PLAINS UNDERGROUND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT NO. 1, LUBBOCK TX

## Surplus items up for auction

*"A house is just a place to keep your stuff while you go out and get more stuff."*

— Comedian George Carlin

Throughout time, we all accumulate items that are no longer used and take up needed space.

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is certainly no exception! Because of this, the district is holding an auction in November to sell surplus items.

The auction is set for 10 a.m., Nov. 15 at the High Plains Water District's warehouse, 2613 Erskine Avenue, in Lubbock. *(It is located at the intersection of Clovis Road and Erskine Avenue—about two blocks west of University Avenue and Clovis Road.)*

Fletcher Auctioneers is in charge of the sale. *(TX Auction License 7131/Broker License 198406)*

Items in this auction range from pickup trucks and trailers to office equipment and other miscellaneous items.

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## HPWD Board sets November 12 rulemaking hearing to receive public comments on moratorium extension

The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District Board of Directors have scheduled a Nov. 12 public hearing to receive comments on proposed rule amendments to extend the district's current moratoriums through Dec. 31, 2014.

The Board is also considering amendments to rules relating to the district's water well permit process.

The hearing is set for 9:30 a.m. in the A. Wayne Wyatt Board Room of the High Plains Water District (HPWD) office, 2930 Avenue Q, in Lubbock.

"Based upon comments at our recent County Advisory Committee meeting, the HPWD Board of Directors is considering extending the current moratoriums for an additional year," said Board President Lynn Tate of Amarillo.

"The HPWD Board believes this is prudent since it gives

additional time to review and make possible revisions to Rule 5, relating to implementation of the district's 50/50 management goal and groundwater production limitations. The Board wants plenty of time to work on this rule in order to get it right," he said.

In addition, amendments are being considered to Rule 7.7, "Content of Permits," and Rule 7.8, "Deposits."

The proposed amendments are posted as a PDF at <http://www.hpwd.com/about-hpwd/agendas-and-official-notices>.

It is located under the HPWD Public Hearing (Rulemaking) subhead. Proposed changes to the rules are shown in color on the PDF.

Persons may request the amendments by e-mail at [info@hpwd.com](mailto:info@hpwd.com). Copies are also available for public viewing at the district headquarters in Lubbock,

HPWD County Offices, and the HPWD office at 6500 Canyon Drive, Ste 200, in Amarillo.

Written comments concerning the proposed rule amendments will be accepted at the district's Lubbock office until 5 p.m. on Nov. 11.

The HPWD Board may take action to adopt the rule amendments as proposed or may adopt them with additional changes based upon comments and/or discussion received at the Nov. 12 public hearing.

The Board may take action at their regular meeting immediately following the hearing or may wait until their monthly meeting in December.

The public is invited to attend. Comments will be accepted either in person or in writing at this hearing.

Visitors are asked to park their vehicles in the lot to the west of the HPWD building. If full, overflow parking will be on 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

## Observation well data available on interactive map

With winter approaching, the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District is preparing to make annual water level measurements in its observation well network.

Water level data are frequently requested by our customers. Because of this, the High Plains Water District is providing additional access to this information through an online map on the district's web site ([www.hpwd.com](http://www.hpwd.com)).

This map will be updated each year following completion of the annual water level measurements. Initially, the map will feature the most current water level measurement for

each well site. An additional nine years of historic data will be added for each well site when the map is updated to reflect results of the 2014 water level measurements.

Here's how to access the online map:

1. Go to <http://www.hpwd.com/maps-and-charts/reference-maps-charts> and click on the link, "Observation Well Measurements."

2. You will then see a map showing the location of observation wells within the boundaries of the High Plains Water District. You can choose to view the map with either a road map or aerial imagery for the background.

3. Clicking an individual well site on the interactive map allows access to the most current water level measurement for that well. These values are displayed as the depth-to-water from the elevation of the land surface at that location.

If you are not comfortable using a computer—don't worry! Results of the water level measurements and average annual change in feet for a one-year, five-year, and 10-year period will continue to be published in *The Cross Section*.

"Development of this interactive map is just one more way that the High Plains Water District is

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VISIT THE HIGH PLAINS WATER DISTRICT'S WEB SITE AT [WWW.HPWD.COM](http://WWW.HPWD.COM)

## HPWD selling surplus items

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“Most of this equipment is left over from HPWD programs and activities which have since been discontinued. These items have piled up throughout the years and we just need to get rid of them,” said Manager Jason Coleman.

A complete inventory of auction items is available on-line at [www.hpwd.com](http://www.hpwd.com) and [www.fletcherauctioneers.com](http://www.fletcherauctioneers.com).

Proceeds from the sale will be returned to the High Plains Water District for use in future water conservation efforts.

## County Advisory Committees named

A few months ago, the High Plains Water District Board of Directors asked area residents to serve as members of the district’s County Advisory Committee organization.

“The Board has worked to revitalize the County Advisory Committees. We greatly appreciate everyone’s interest and willingness to serve,” said Precinct Five District Director Ronnie Hopper of Petersburg. “Input from local residents is vitally important as the Board moves forward with groundwater management decisions,” he said.

The newly-appointed County Advisory Committees are as follows:

**Armstrong:** Jim Bob Burnett, James Stockett, and James Watson.

**Bailey:** Nick Bamert, Bruce Barrett, Tim Black, Jim Pat Claunch, and Eric McElroy.

**Castro:** Darrell Buckley, Donny Carpenter, Kirk Farris, Coy Myrick, Vic Nelson, Max Swinburn, Paul Wayland, and Dale Wilhelm.

**Cochran:** Tommy Carter, Curtis Griffith, and Scott Simpson.

**Crosby:** David Appling, Dusty Cornelius, Wayne Laminack, John Schoepf, Brad Thornhill, and Heath Verett.

**Deaf Smith:** Frankie Bezner, Michael Carlson, Andrew Gee, Chris Grotegut, Scott Hall, Andy Schaap, and Harold Sides.

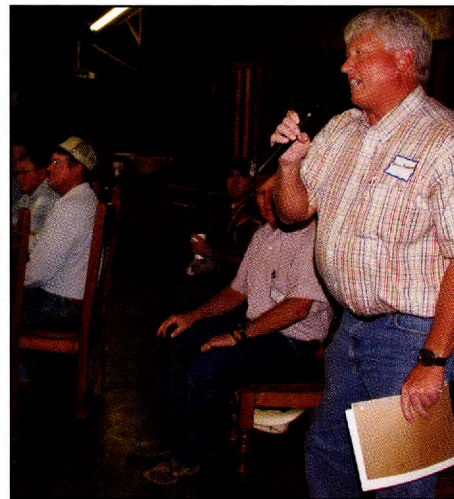
**Floyd:** Ray Brady, J. O. Dawdy, Boyd Jackson, Warren Mitchell, Kerry Pratt, and John Woelful.

**Hale:** Rob Bass, Gaylord Groce, Jeff Harrell, Brad Martin, and Jimmy Sageser.

**Hockley:** David Carter, George Childress Jr., R. E. Hensley, Raymond Marek, Donald Rhoads, and Preston Turner.

**Lamb:** Kerry Faver, Dustin Jennings, Steve Johnson, David Lawrence, Kevin Riley, Tullie Struve, and William A. Thompson Jr.

**Lubbock:** Gary Evitt,



### Committee Comments

Bailey County Advisory Member Bruce Barrett (at right) comments during the Sept. 18 orientation meeting in Lubbock.

Lynn Harrist, Tracey Kitten, Dan Krieg, and Rodney Terry.

**Lynn:** Ty Askew, Kevin Buxkemper, Craig Heinrich, Ralph Huffaker, Stacy Smith, and Mike White.

**Parmer:** Tony Beauchamp, Jerry Don Glover, Terry Jesko, Josh McDonald, and Todd Ware.

**Potter:** Bruce Blake and Michael Menke.

**Randall:** Charles Allison, Randy Darnell, Clinton Glenn, Dillon Poole, and David Winters.

**Swisher:** Brian Borchardt, Trent Finck, Cindy Hurt, Max Moore, and Jeremy Reed.

County Advisory Committee members serve solely in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors. Each person serves a one-year term and may be reappointed to a second one-year term. However, no one will serve more than two years.

“Area residents are encouraged to contact their County Advisory Committee member and share any groundwater management concerns that they have,” Hopper said.

Others interested in serving on the County Advisory Committees should contact their respective District Director for more information, he added.

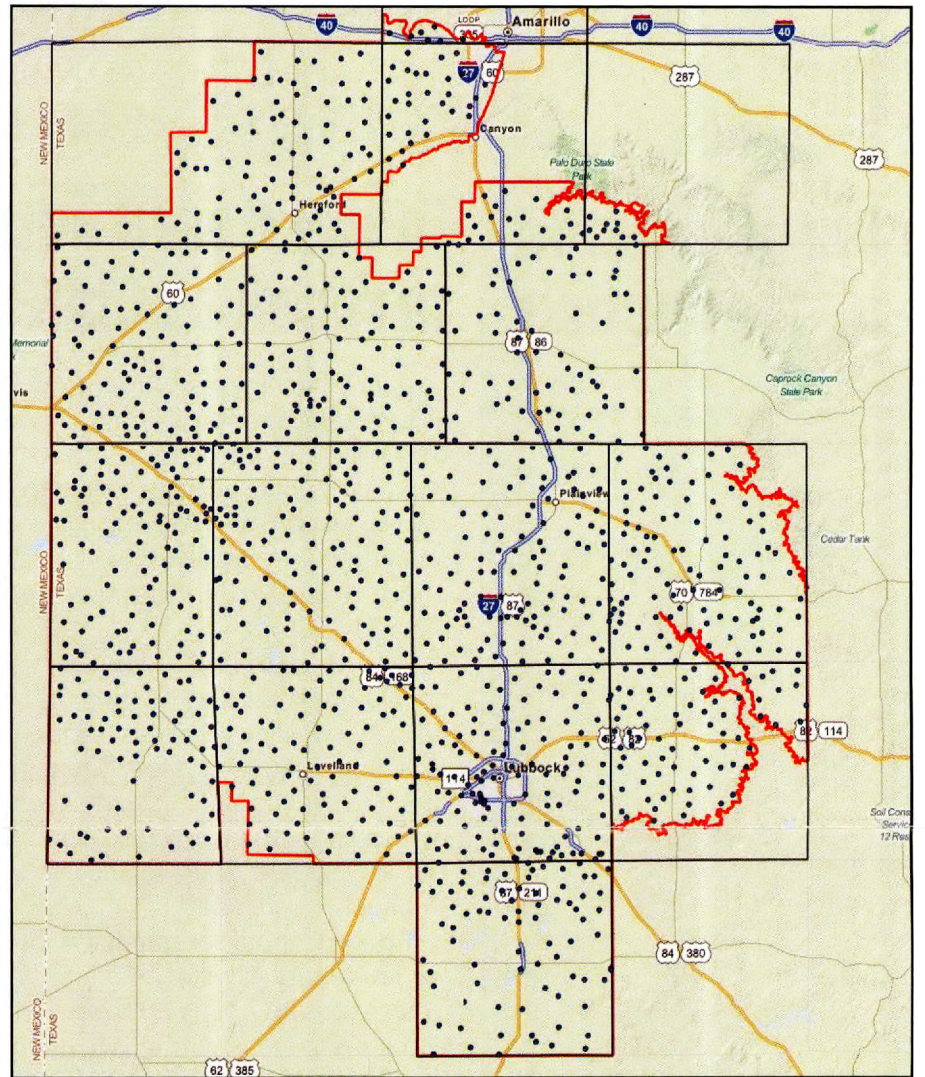
## District launches new interactive map

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providing users additional access to reliable groundwater data for the Ogallala Aquifer within its 16-county service area,” said GIS Specialist Jed Leibbrandt.

“We encourage people to

visit the district’s web site and use the interactive map feature. Afterwards, we’d appreciate your feedback. District personnel want to make this a beneficial tool that is user-friendly for all,” said Manager Jason Coleman.



### Another Tool in the Toolbox

Annual water level data from more than 1,300 observation wells is now available through an interactive map on the HPWD web site (shown above). Clicking on a well location allows access to current water level measurements for that site. Historic data will be added in the near future,

## THE CROSS SECTION

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Brad Heffington, Member ..... Littlefield  
Mike Beauchamp, Secretary-Treasurer ..... Friona  
Lynn Tate, President ..... Amarillo  
Ronnie Hopper, Member ..... Petersburg

### DISTRICT STAFF

Jason Coleman, P. E. .... Manager  
Juan Peña ..... Permit Group Supervisor  
Gray Sanders ..... Information Technology Supervisor  
Keith Whitworth ..... Field Technician Supervisor

Tammy Anderson ..... Bookkeeper  
Billy Barron ..... Field Technician  
Terry Bridges ..... Field Technician  
C. J. Campbell ..... Field Technician  
Liz Casias ..... Receptionist/Administrative Assistant  
Lee Cranmer ..... Field Technician  
Ray Eads ..... Field Technician (Amarillo)  
Adeline Fox ..... Education & Outreach  
Lance Epperson ..... Field Technician  
Mark Hamilton ..... Field Technician  
Greg Holder ..... Field Technician  
Pat Kunkel ..... Bookkeeper  
Jed Leibbrandt ..... GIS Specialist  
Andrés Villarreal ..... Field Technician

## Adjust sprinkler controllers to account for cooler weather

Most turf grasses are preparing to go dormant—now that cooler weather has arrived across the region. High Plains Underground Water Conservation District officials remind area residents that this is the perfect time to adjust automatic landscape sprinkler system controllers in preparation for winter.

October 6 marked the first freeze of Fall 2013 for portions of the southern Texas Panhandle and areas of the northwestern South Plains. This was about two weeks ahead of the normal first freeze date, according to the National Weather Service forecast office in Lubbock.

“Because of this, sprinkler systems may still be programmed for summer watering schedules. All too often, we set it and forget it. The High Plains Water District asks homeowners and businesses to adjust their controllers to avoid wasting water caused by unnecessary irrigation during the winter months,” said Manager Jason Coleman.

Operating irrigation systems in freezing weather can also create dangerous conditions for drivers.

“Water from the irrigation system often leaves the landscape and pools in roadways, intersections, and along curbs. This creates a very dangerous situation for drivers, which we hope

can be avoided through proper management of these systems,” Coleman said.

Since landscape irrigation controllers and systems can vary, HPWD recommends that homeowners and businesses contact local landscaping professionals or landscape irrigation specialists for instructions on changing controller settings for winter.

This simple practice of adjusting automatic sprinkler systems in response to changing weather conditions helps reduce water waste and can save money for homeowners and businesses.



## Being social: HPWD now using Twitter and a blog to share information

Over the past 20 years, many aspects of our world have changed. For one, businesses are moving faster and constantly adapting to changes in technology. This technological revolution brings many new avenues for communicating. Social media websites are some of those avenues.

Social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, have significantly impacted the way people of the 21<sup>st</sup> century communicate. Businesses and individuals alike are utilizing these platforms to communicate a professional vision or to leisurely

stay connected with friends and family. Either way, it is not a matter of if these tools should be used, but rather how well they should be used.

### How Does a Water District Use Social Media?

Some might wonder how the High Plains Water District could benefit from using social media.

The answer is simply to tell our story or to share the stories and ideas of others within the water industry.

Social media platforms create a two-way communication channel,

which allows for interaction on both sides of the conversation.

With so much pertinent information to go around, communicating through social media also reaches many more people in one setting. All in all, companies can communicate a message that is seen by an endless amount of people. The impact of social media is still growing as more people get connected.

### Our Social Media

The High Plains Water District

now has a Twitter (@HPUWCD) and a Wordpress blog (<http://hpuwcd.wordpress.com>) account.

Twitter is a fast-paced 140 character post platform. Twitter has recently become popular with industries and businesses because it communicates more with less.

While hash tags (#) and at (@) symbols might be unfamiliar to new Twitter goers, the easiest explanation is that they are used to find subjects that relate to one another.

For instance, if there is a #water, any Twitter account that has posted about #water will show up in a separate feed making it easy for people to find specific content.

As for the blog, it is more like an online journal. The High Plains Water District posts articles of interest and current events on the blog page.

Recent blog posts have covered a wide range of subjects including:

- basic water facts;
- HPWD President Lynn Tate’s remarks to Randall County producers;
- the HPWD booth and rainwater harvesting barrel giveaway in “Fair at the Square” in Canyon, and;
- classroom presentations at the Playa Lake Festival in Lockney and “Ag in the Bag” in Lubbock.

Overall, social media can be a very useful tool on a personal and professional level.

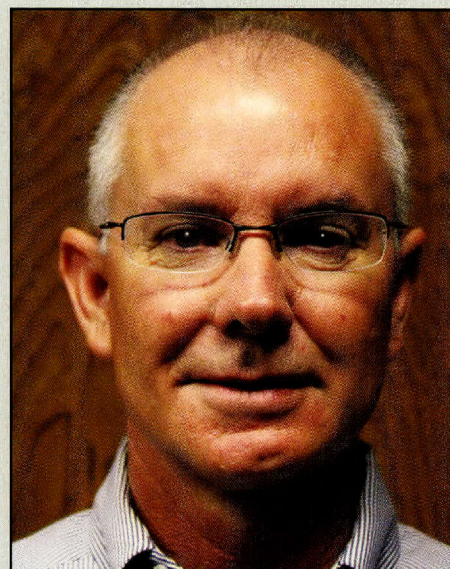
Make sure you visit the High Plains Water District’s Twitter page, Wordpress blog, and our website at [www.hpwd.com](http://www.hpwd.com) for the latest water-related information.

## HPWD Staff Changes



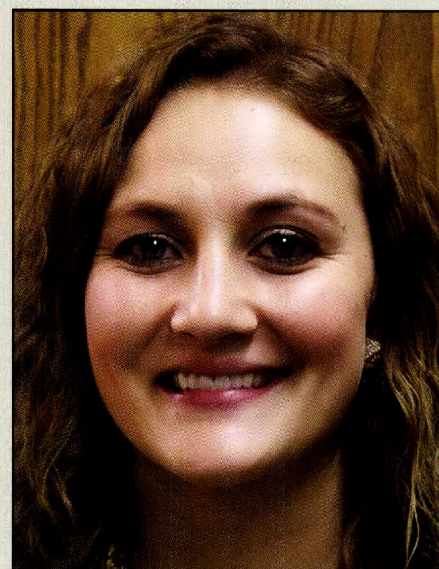
**CRENWELGE**

Gerald Crenwelge retired August 31. He coordinated the annual joint HPWD/USDA-NRCS pre-plant soil moisture survey from 1995 to 2010. He then joined the HPWD staff in 2010 as field data collection coordinator. Congratulations on your retirement!



**WHITWORTH**

Keith Whitworth is the district’s new Field Technician supervisor. Some of his responsibilities include the district’s water level observation network, rain gauge readings, and the cost-in-water income tax depletion program. Keith has been a HPWD staff member since 1978.



**FOX**

Adeline Fox joined the HPWD staff in September to handle Outreach and Education—including social media. She previously served as Education and Public Relations Coordinator for the Southern Ogallala Conservation and Outreach program.

## A&M researchers, Siemens partner to remove heavy metals from water

From TX AgriLife Today

**COLLEGE STATION** – Siemens Water Technologies and Texas A&M AgriLife Research have signed an exclusive license agreement and a research and development agreement to continue to develop and commercialize a chemical-based technology to more efficiently and cost-effectively remove heavy metals from water and wastewater at power utility, mining, refinery and remediation sites.

“The Texas A&M University System is a leader in water technology in our agriculture and engineering programs. We are excited to partner with Siemens, a worldwide leader in technology, to commercialize and advance this technology, which could have significant benefits to water and wastewater treatment,” said John Sharp, A&M System chancellor.

In a single process unaffected

by temperature or pH-levels, the technology can remove selenium, mercury, zinc, copper, chromium and other heavy metals as well as metalloids to meet National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System limits.

The commercialized system is being designed to occupy a smaller footprint than current remediation treatment systems to reduce capital expense and to operate more efficiently in a wider range of environments.

The technology is based on an Activated Iron Process for the removal of contaminants from water and wastewater developed by Dr. Yongheng Huang, associate professor of biological and agricultural engineering at Texas A&M University.

Huang recently received the 2013 Rudolfs Industrial Waste Management Medal by the Water Environmental Federation at its Technical Exhibition and Conference. He is also an AgriLife Research scientist.

“AgriLife Research looks forward to further developing and commercializing its novel chemical process and reactor with a world leader such as Siemens Water Technologies,” said Dr. Craig Nessler, AgriLife Research director.

“We are confident that our partnership with Siemens will yield environmental and economic benefits across multiple industries,” Nessler said.

“Industrial operators are seeking new solutions to meet heavy metal remediation challenges and regulatory requirements,” said Dr. Lukas Loeffler, Siemens Water Technologies CEO. “The agreements between AgriLife Research and Siemens Water Technologies will help develop a solution to meet this need and is another example to our commitment to innovation and industry leadership through research and development.”

Siemens Water Technologies’ R&D is focused on ultrapure water and drinking water, waste reduction, energy and process efficiency, desalination and water reuse.

The company holds more than 1,800 granted patents and patent applications.

## Conservation Conversation

News briefs and other conservation-related information

**PROGRAMS AVAILABLE**--Looking for a program for your next civic club or professional meeting? The High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 has a wide range of presentations available to meet the needs of many civic clubs and professional organizations. Staff members are available to speak to meeting groups of any size—including civic organizations, service clubs, school children, church groups, political organizations, and businesses. Available presentations explain the Ogallala Aquifer and other sources of water in the region, how groundwater is used, and how persons can conserve water in the homes, landscapes, and businesses. For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact Carmon McCain or Adeline Fox at (806) 762-0181. They may also be reached at [info@hpwd.com](mailto:info@hpwd.com) or [adeline.fox@hpwd.com](mailto:adeline.fox@hpwd.com)

**RETIREMENTS** – **Rep. Allan Ritter** of Nederland announced Oct. 4 that he will not seek re-election when his current term ends Dec. 31, 2014. First elected in 1998, Ritter currently serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources. HPWD thanks Chairman Ritter for his many contributions to water conservation and sends best wishes for a happy, healthy retirement.

**Rep. William A. “Bill” Callegari** of Katy announced Sept. 23 that he will not seek re-election when his current term ends Dec. 31, 2014. First elected in 2000, Callegari currently serves as Chairman of the House Committee on Pensions, Chairman of the House Research Organization, and is the senior member of the House Committee on Natural Resources. HPWD thanks Chairman Callegari for his many contributions to water conservation and sends best wishes for a happy, healthy retirement.

**Wayne Bossert** retired Oct. 1 after 36 years as manager of the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 at Colby, KS. Bossert served as president of the Groundwater Management Districts Association (GMDA) in 1980 and 1995. In addition, he served as secretary in 1988-1989 and 1996-2011. HPWD thanks Wayne for his many contributions to water conservation during his career and sends best wishes for a happy, healthy retirement.

**TWDB ADMINISTRATORS NAMED**—**Kevin Patteson** became Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board on Oct. 1. He succeeds Melanie Callahan in the position. An attorney, Patteson was special counsel on federal initiatives for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). He previously served as special counsel to TCEQ Chairman Bryan Shaw, Deputy General Counsel to the Texas Workforce Commission, and Assistant General Counsel for the Office of the Governor.

**John Steib** is the new Chief Deputy Executive Administrator of the Texas Water Development Board. He served in several positions at the former Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission (now TCEQ), including Director of Air Permits, Deputy Director for the Office of Administrative Services, and Deputy Director for the Office of Compliance and Enforcement. He most recently led the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Program at the TWDB from 2009-2012.

**VISIT OUR BOOTH**--HPWD staff will be manning the district’s booth during the **Amarillo Farm and Ranch Show**, Dec. 3-5, at the Civic Center, 401 S. Buchanan, in Amarillo. Stop by and visit with us in Booth H-1101 in the Heritage Room. See you there!

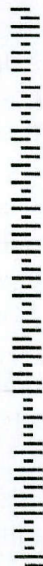
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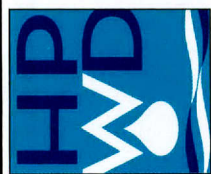
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