

## **MINUTES**

### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER & RURAL AFFAIRS**

Monday, June 4, 2018

10:00 AM

Capitol Extension, Room E1.012

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Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs was held on Monday, June 4, 2018, in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.012, at Austin, Texas.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Charles Perry, Chair  
Senator José Rodríguez, Vice Chair  
Senator Bob Hall  
Senator Juan Hinojosa  
Senator Lois Kolkhorst

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Brandon Creighton  
Senator Borris Miles

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The chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM. There being a quorum present at 10:10 AM, the following business was transacted:

The following members arrived after the roll was called:

Senator Lois Kolkhorst  
Senator Juan Hinojosa

The Chair called the following individuals to provide invited and public testimony on the following interim charges (see attached witness list) :

- 1) Regulatory Framework of Groundwater Conservation Districts and River Authorities:  
Study and make recommendations on the regulatory framework for managing groundwater in Texas to ensure that private property rights are being sufficiently protected. Study the role of river authorities and groundwater conservation districts including the state's oversight role of their operations and fees imposed.

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- 2) Agricultural Fees: Review licensing, permitting, or registration requirements and fees imposed on the agriculture industry by licensing agencies within the committee's jurisdiction. Make recommendations for state licenses and fees that should be reduced, repealed or transitioned to private-sector enforcement.

There being no further business, at 2:26 PM Senator Perry moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.

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Senator Charles Perry, Chair

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Lauren Murray, Clerk