

# Burnet Bulletin

## Commissioners awash in support for water district

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**By Mark Atwood, Highland Lakes Newspapers**

"I feel like we've dodged a bullet this time," County Judge Dave Kithil, said, summing up the sentiment on the commissioner's court regarding the need for action on a proposed Burnet County water district.

Kithil's comments came during the regularly scheduled meeting of the court, on Monday.

Both he and Precinct 1 Commissioner Bill Neve had similar opinions regarding how close Burnet County had come to potential trouble, when the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) considered including the groundwater of this county in a tri-county water district.

In a resolution put before the court, one of the key points was the consideration the TCEQ had given to tying Burnet County's water futures to those of Williamson and Travis counties.

Another key issue facing the county on all fronts, and specifically water usage, is growth. With estimates ranging up to 2,000 new county residents annually, commissioners pointed to the need to reserve control over the county's water resources to handle this potential growth.

A stark video, produced by the TCEQ, was also referenced at the meeting. Neve referred to a statement by the TCEQ on this video that proclaimed a priority over the coming years to move water away from agricultural areas for municipal uses, and that the time was coming to move water from rural areas to urban areas.