

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

May 30, 2002

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group was held on Thursday, May 30, 2002, at 1:30 p.m. in the PRPC Board Room, 415 West Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

C.E. Williams, Chairman, presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ronald Bertrand, Texas Department of Agriculture; Inge Brady; Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; Judge Vernon Cook, Roberts County; Bill Hallerberg; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy; David Landis, City of Perryton; Dean Looper, City of Canadian; Kent Satterwhite, CRMWA; Stefan Schuster, TWDB; Frank Simms; John Sweeten, TAES-TAMU; Janet Tregellas; John Williams, CRMWA; C.E. Williams, PGWCD; Judge Don Allred, Designated Alternate – Grady Skaggs; Art Tollett, Designated Alternate – Denise Jett; Brian VanZee – Designated Alternate – Charles Munger; Cole Camp – Designated Alternate – Rusty Gilmore; Judge Jim Forrester, Designated Alternate- Rude Tate.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS; Richard Bowers, NPGWCD; Dan Coffey, City of Amarillo; Charles Cooke, TCW Supply, Inc.; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; B.A. Donelson, Stratford; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service; Denise Jett, Phillips Petroleum; Bobbie Kidd, Greenbelt Municipal & Industrial Water Authority; Charles Munger, TWPD Canyon Fisheries Lab; Grady Skaggs, County of Oldham; Rudie Tate; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Fred Richardson, Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter; Steve Stevens, Mesa Water; Simone Kiel, Freese & Nichols; Richard Morris, City of Pampa; Janet Guthrie, Hemphill UWCD; Steve Amosson, TCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Jarrett Atkinson, Janice Blandford

1. CALL TO ORDER

C. E. Williams called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present.

2. ESTABLISH ATTENDANCE & RECOGNIZE DESIGNATED ALTERNATES

Five Designated Alternates were recognized: Judge Don Allred representing Grady Skaggs; Art Tollett representing Denise Jett; Judge Jim Forrester representing Rudie

Tate; Brian Van Zee representing Charles Munger; Cole Camp representing Rusty Gilmore;

3. MINUTES

Judge Vernon Cook made the motion to approve the minutes. Bill Hallerberg seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. REVIEW FINAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE REPORT (IFR) AND TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD COMMENTS

C.E. Williams stated that the Texas Water Development Board has completed their review of the draft Infrastructure Finance Report (IFR) for this region. He stated that the comments were relatively minor and that the requested changes have been made. Members of the Group were provided with the IFR. There was a roundtable discussion.

5. CONSIDER AND APPROVE FOR SUBMITTAL INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE REPORT

Nolan Clark made the motion to approve the Final Infrastructure Finance Report. John Williams seconded the motion; motion carried by a vote of 18 to 1 with Inge Brady voting “no”.

6. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ISSUES REGARDING PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS OF PWPG MATERIAL

C.E. Williams stated that several requests have come in recently regarding either presentations by the PWPG or regarding the use of PWPG public presentation material for purposes that merit discussion by the Group. In order to ensure that the Group is properly represented, he asked for input on this issue.

Nolan Clark made a motion that the electronic form presentation material developed by the PWPG be used only by PWPG members or staff. Janet Tregellas seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with John Sweeten abstaining.

7. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MATTERS REGARDING SUBMITTED SCOPE OF WORK AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCOPE OF WORK

C.E. Williams stated that after negotiations with the TWDB regarding the submitted Scope of Work, it was approved as submitted. He entertained discussion and action on this item. There was a discussion on Tasks 1 and 5. Stefan Schuster stated that Tasks 2 and 3 can drop out because the TWDB will be completing them.

John Williams made the motion that using the available data, the Supplemental Scope of Work be approved. Vernon Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried by a vote of 17 to 2 with Inge Brady and Gale Henslee voting “no”.

8. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING WATER EDUCATION ISSUES FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS

Rusty Gilmore has authored a proposal to address the lack of education on water issues for secondary school students. Mr. Gilmore envisions a program that would provide educational information on matters ranging from actual geology of water formations, production of raw water, uses of water, how water is handled and moved, the value of water and the future of water to secondary students. Cole Camp presented the proposal on Mr. Gilmore's behalf.

After a round table discussion, Dr. John Sweeten suggested that 4-H groups were not mentioned and also that perhaps the Public Participation Committee might look at this issue and make a recommendation. Stefan Schuster suggested adding a high school or college student to the Group. Gale Henslee noted that the TNRCC employs a Science Educator who visits industry to keep abreast of what is going on and tries to incorporate this information into curriculum. Inge Brady suggested developing a curriculum and video conferencing into secondary classrooms.

Chairman Williams instructed the Public Participation committee to work with Rusty Gilmore, Cole Camp, and Jarrett Atkinson to further refine the proposal.

9. COMMITTEE ACTIONS

C.E. Williams stated that there is no need to schedule any committee meetings at this time.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Report from Region B and Region O Liaisons – Kent Satterwhite reported that Region O is working on routine Scope of Work and Infrastructure Finance Report Issues. There was no report from Region B.
- B. Stefan Schuster reported that Harold Petrini has been selected to fill the position formerly held by Bill Mullican prior to his promotion to Deputy Executive Administrator. He added that the State Water Plan is in the mail and additional copies can be obtained for somewhere between \$7.50 and \$10.00 each. He reported that the IFR and Scope of Work have been reviewed by the TWDB and with no major revisions, most of the contracts will be approved.
- C. Fred Richardson of the Sierra Club questioned the Group on their treatment of Tasks 4 and 6 in the Scope of Work and stated that these tasks both speak to conservation. He pointed out that the Sierra Club is interested in planning that affects areas of the environment which they consider “wildlife habitat”, i.e., a river or springs that flow from the Ogallala Aquifer. Simone Kiel explained that Task 4 is water-management strategies; therefore, strategies that are identified as “water-management strategies” (including most of our irrigation-type strategies as well as other reuse or conservation-type strategies) would be evaluated under Task 4. Task 6 is set up for examining drought management and conservation for the whole region with regard to developing a model drought contingency plan. Stefan Schuster added that every single water management strategy has to include

conservation measures. Mr. Richardson stated that the concern was with the timing of Task 6 beginning in August of 2004, that it would be at the end of the entire Scope of Work process and his concern is whether conservation will be fully included when evaluating demand however after this discussion, it sounds like that will all happen in Task 4. He also complimented the Group on including the Unique Stream segment issue in the Scope of Work.

D. Consider Next Meeting Date – the next meeting date was not set.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.