

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

August 27, 2003

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2003, at 1:30 p.m. in the PRPC Board Room, 415 West Eighth Avenue, Amarillo, Potter County, Texas.

Mr. C.E. Williams, Chairman, presided.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Bowers, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; Dan Coffey, City of Amarillo; Charles Cooke; TCW Supply; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy; David Landis, City of Perryton; Dean Looper; Charlie Munger, TPWD; Frank Simms; Grady Skaggs, Oldham County; Rudie Tate; Janet Tregellas; C.E. Willaims, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District; John Williams, CRMWA; Temple McKinnon, TWDB; Mike Aker – Designated Alternate – Denise Jett; Quincy Howard – Designated Alternate – Inge Brady; Steve Jones – Designated Alternate – Ronald Bertrand; Obie Kelley – Designated Alternate – Mickey Black; Thomas Marek – Designated Alternate – John Sweeten.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald Bertrand, Texas Department of Agriculture; Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS; B. A. Donelson; Bill Hallerberg; Denise Jett, ConocoPhillips Petroleum; Bobbie Kidd, Greenbelt Municipal & Industrial Water Authority; Kent Satterwhite, CRMWA.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tommy Powell, Collingsworth County UWCD; Stefan Schuster, FNI; Fran Bretz, TAMUS; Leon New, TAMUS; Kay Ledbetter, Amarillo Globe News; Rhonda Artho, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Cole Camp, LPE, Inc.; Steve Amosson, TAMUS.

STAFF PRESENT:

Jarrett Atkinson; Colby Waters

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ESTABLISH QUORUM

Mr. C. E. Williams called the meeting to order and noted that a quorum was present at 1:34 p.m.

2. ESTABLISH ATTENDANCE & RECOGNIZE DESIGNATED ALTERNATES

Five Designated Alternates were recognized: Mike Aker for Denise Jett; Quincy Howard for Inge Brady; Steve Jones for Ronald Bertrand; Obie Kelley for Mickey Black; Thomas Marek for John Sweeten.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Vernon Cook made the motion to accept the minutes from the June 27 meeting. Second by John Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

4. REVIEW AND CONSIDER REVISED IRRIGATION WATER DEMAND PROJECTIONS

Nolan Clark presented the Agricultural Committee's recommendations for approving the presented demand projections using the PWPG 2003 scenario. After review and discussion, Dr. Clark made the motion to approve the demand projections for use and submission to the TWDB under the proposed PWPG 2003 scenario. Second by Frank Simms. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

5. REVIEW AND CONSIDER REVISED LIVESTOCK WATER DEMAND PROJECTIONS

Nolan Clark presented the Agricultural Committee's recommendations for approving the presented livestock water demand projections using the PWPG 2003 scenario. After review and discussion, Dr. Clark made the motion to approve the demand projections for use and submission to the TWDB under the proposed PWPG 2003 scenario. Richard Bowers seconded the motion; motion carried unanimously.

6. REVIEW AND CONSIDER MUNICIPAL, MINING, STEAM ELECTRIC, AND MANUFACTURING DEMAND PROJECTIONS

Dan Coffey presented the Municipal & Industrial Committee's recommendations for water demand projections in the categories of municipal, mining, steam electric, and manufacturing. For the sake of review and discussion, each use category was presented and discussed separately.

Municipal – the Municipal & Industrial Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2006 projected water demands for approval. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Dan Coffey to approve the Draft 2006 (20 year GPCD) demands for use and submission to the TWDB, with conservation numbers being applied to the growth components of the projections. Second was made by John Williams, motion passed unanimously.

Mining – the Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2006 demands as presented. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Frank Simms, seconded by Dan Coffey to approve the Draft 2006 Mining demands for use and submission to the TWDB. The motion passed unanimously.

Steam Electric – the Committee recommended approval of the SWP 2002 steam electric demands as presented. Following a brief review and discussion, a motion was made by Vernon Cook to approve the SWP 2002 steam electric demands as presented for use and submission to the TWDB. The motion was seconded by Gale Henslee and passed unanimously.

Manufacturing – the Committee recommended approval of the Draft 2006 manufacturing water demands as presented. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Janet Tregellas, seconded by Charles Cooke, to approve the Draft 2006 manufacturing water demands for use and submission to the TWDB. Motion carried unanimously.

7. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER PROCESS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY ISSUES AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

Chairman Williams and Jarrett Atkinson presented a prioritized list of the 73 TWDB provided policy issues for the Group's consideration. After discussion, it was recommended that the standing committees each review their recommended list of policy topics in order to prepare draft responses for future evaluation by the PWPG. In addition to the standing committees, it was recommended that a new committee, titled Environmental Issues be created to address the specific environmental policy issues on the enclosed list. Topic #51 is also to be added to the Agricultural Committee's suggested list as well.

Chairman Williams appointed the following members to the new Environmental Policy Issues committee:

Nolan Clark, Chair
Grady Skaggs
Janet Guthrie
David Landis
Inge Brady

Chairman Williams further requested that the Committee Chairs work with Jarrett Atkinson to prepare for meetings to begin the evaluation process and to prioritize those issues that were deemed to be of the greatest relevance.

8. CONSIDER REQUESTING UPDATED WATER AVAILABILITY STUDIES FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The PWPG needs to prepare a formal request to the TWDB for updated water availability studies using the GAM model. This request will be based on the demands approved in earlier items and will form the basis for conducting the assessments of potential needs for the Round II Water Plan. Discussion included requesting updated availability studies, updated images of for the visual model, and such scenarios as the Modeling Committee deems appropriate. Nolan Clark made the motion that the Modeling Committee be authorized to develop a list of items to submit to the TWDB regarding the updated water availability studies. Richard Bowers seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Modeling Committee will meet shortly to develop the list of requested runs.

9. COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The Modeling Committee is to meet on September 4, 2003 at the offices of the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District in White Deer, TX. Representatives from the TWDB, FNI, and the BEG will be in attendance as well.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

Report from Region B & Region O Liaison – no report

Report from Texas Water Development Board – Temple McKinnon noted that 87 nominees were received for the 30 positions on the Water Conservation Task Force.

Public Comment – Inquiries were made regarding the potential presentation from Mesa Water, Inc., referenced in an earlier meeting. No action available at the current time.

Next Meeting Date – no meeting date was set.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.