

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

December 16, 2004

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Thursday, December 16, 2004, at 10:00 a.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 Ground Water Conservation District; Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; Dan Coffey, City of Amarillo; Vernon Cook, County of Roberts; Charles Cooke, TCW Supply, Inc.; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service; William Hallerberg; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy; David Landis, City of Perryton; Ben Weinheimer, TCFA; Temple McKinnon, Texas Water Development Board; Charles Munger, TWPD Canyon Fisheries Lab; Grady Skaggs, County of Oldham; John Sweeten, Texas Ag. Experiment Station - TAMU Ag. Res. & Ext; Rudie Tate; John Williams, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority; C.E. Williams, Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald Bertrand, Texas Department of Agriculture; Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS; Inge Brady; B.A. Donelson, First State Bank; Denise Jett, ConocoPhillips Petroleum; Bobbie Kidd, Greenbelt Municipal & Industrial Water Authority; Kent Satterwhite, CRMWA; Frank Simms; Janet Tregellas; Dean Looper, Public;

OTHERS PRESENT:

Steve Stevens, Mesa Water; Fran Bretz TAES; Bill Kelley; Steve Amosson, TCE; Kay Ledbetter, Amarillo Globe News

STAFF PRESENT:

Colby Waters, Regional Water Planning Coordinator, Janice Blandford, Clerical Support

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. C. E. Williams called the meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present.

Gary Pitner, Executive Director of the Planning Commission introduced Colby Waters to the Planning Group. Mr. Waters, with the departure of Jarrett Atkinson, will be assuming the responsibilities and duties of Regional Water Planning Coordinator. Mr. Waters is a Panhandle native and 1998 graduate of the University of Oklahoma and has been employed by the PRPC for approximately five years.

2. **ESTABLISH ATTENDANCE & RECOGNIZE DESIGNATED ALTERNATES**

Fran Bretz for Dr. John Sweeten and Obie Kelley for Mickey Black were recognized as Designated Alternates. Dr. Sweeten joined the table before business began.

3. **MINUTES**

There were two changes to the minutes of the last meeting held on August 24, 2004. They are as follows: 1) on page 1 Richard Bowers noted that Danelle Barber was listed as a PWPG member and should be moved to the Others Present list. 2) Dr. Nolan Clark noted that on page 3, Item 7, second paragraph is repeated under Item 8 on page 4.

Bill Hallerberg made the motion that with the above-mentioned changes, the minutes of the August 24, 2004 meeting be approved. Vernon Cook seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TASK 3 WATER SUPPLIES ANALYSIS**

Stefan Schuster, Freese & Nichols, Inc. presented the Task 3 - Water Supply Analysis data. Mr. Schuster discussed supplies for groundwater and surface water sources. He discussed WAM inflows, major surface water supplies, the TCEQ WAM, long-term impact on naturalized flows, historical flows and updated historical flows. He mentioned Issues of availability and aquifer classification as well as discussions on lumping the Santa Rosa with the Ogallala in the southern GAM.

He presented seven different spreadsheets depicting the following: water user groups with needs in Region A, livestock supply analysis, manufacturing supply analysis, irrigation supply analysis, steam electric supply analysis, mining supply analysis and municipal supply analysis. He provided a brief overview of each worksheet.

5. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TASK 4 WATER NEEDS ANALYSIS**

Stefan Schuster, Freese & Nichols, Inc. presented the draft results for Task 4 – Preliminary Needs Analysis data. There was a discussion on the needs of Carson, Dallam, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hutchinson, Lipscomb and Moore Counties.

Chairman C.E. Williams announced a short recess at 12:00 P.M. for lunch, the meeting reconvened at 1:00 P.M.

6. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TPWD PROPOSED UNIQUE STREAM SEGMENTS RECOMMENDATIONS**

The PWPG discussed the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's designation of Unique Stream Segments in the PWPG area. The Board discussed the possibility of these designations conflicting with previously permitted or planned facilities upon various waterways in the area. The Board discussed that no recommendations were submitted from the PWPG during the first round of water planning.

Vernon Cook made a motion to pass of making recommendations to the TPWD regarding Unique Stream Segments. Bill Hallerberg seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. **COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

There were no committee actions at this time.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

A. A motion was made by Charles Cooke for the Panhandle Water Planning Group to draft and adopt a resolution recognizing the outstanding efforts made by Jarrett Atkinson during his tenure as Water Planning Director for the Region A Water Planning Group. Dr. Nolan Clark seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

B. Dr. Steve Amosson of TCE presented "Water Management Strategies for Reducing Demands" to the PWPG.

C. Report from the Texas Water Development Board – Temple McKinnon announced the hiring of a new Director of Regional Water Planning, Carol Brittain and reminded the Group of the Chairs Meeting on January 26, 2005

D. Next Meeting of the PWPG will be February 3, 2005

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 2:00 P.M.