

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

December 1, 2005

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Thursday, December 1, 2005, at 1:30 p.m. at the offices of the USDA-ARS facility located in Bushland, Potter County, Texas.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Charles Munger; Rudie Tate; Bill Hallerberg; John Williams, CRMWA; Grady Skaggs; Janet Tregellas; Kent Satterwhite, Canadian River Mun. Water Auth.; Dan Coffey, City of Amarillo; David Landis, City of Perryton; Vernon Cook, County of Roberts; Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County UWCD; Richard Bowers, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; C.E. Williams, Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District; John Sweeten, Texas Ag. Experiment Station - TAMU Ag. Res. & Ext; Ben Weinheimer, Texas Cattle Feeders Association; Steve Jones, Texas Department of Agriculture; Temple McKinnon, Texas Water Development Board; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Inge Brady; Bobbie Kidd, City of Clarendon; B.A. Donelson, First State Bank; Denise Jett, Phillips Petroleum; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service; Charles Cooke, TCW Supply, Inc.; Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS;

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stefan Schuster, Freese & Nichols, Inc.; Cindy Cockerham, Senator Kel Seliger's office; Steven Miller, City of Amarillo; Bridget Guerrero, TCE; Fran Bretz, TCE

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Coffman, Local Government Services Director; Janice Reece, Support Staff

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. C. E. Williams called the meeting to order at 1:30 and noted that a quorum was present.

2. SELECTION OF MEMBERS TO FILL EXPIRING TERMS

Vice Chair Honorable Vernon Cook stated that the terms of Dr. Nolan Clark, David Landis, Janet Guthrie, Grady Skaggs, John Sweeten, Rudie Tate and Janet Tregellas have expired. He said that each has been contacted and each has expressed a willingness and desire to serve another term. Further, Judge Cook

stated that he wished to nominate those same people to serve another term on the Panhandle Water Planning Group.

C.E Williams said that he would like to place the names of Dr. Nolan Clark, David Landis, Janet Guthrie, Grady Skaggs, John Sweeten, Rudie Tate and Janet Tregellas in nomination and further that nominations cease and that they be elected by acclamation. Richard Bowers seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

3. **SELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. C.E. Williams asked for nominations for the office of Chairman. Rudie Tate nominated C.E. Williams to serve another term as Chairman of the Panhandle Water Planning Group. John Williams moved that the nominations cease and that C.E. Williams be elected by acclamation. David Landis seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

C.E. Williams nominated Judge Vernon Cook to serve another term as Vice Chairman of the Panhandle Water Planning Group and made the motion that nominations cease and Judge Cook be elected by acclamation. Steve Jones seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

Bill Halleberg nominated Dan Coffey to serve another term as Secretary of the Panhandle Water Planning Group and made the motion that nominations cease and Dan Coffey be elected by acclamation. Richard Bowers seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

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

Four Designated Alternates were recognized: Obie Kelley representing Mickey Black; Thomas Marek representing Dr. Nolan Clark; Cole Camp representing Rusty Gilmore; and Lloyd Pipin representing Inge Brady.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Richard Bowers made the motion to accept the minutes from the meeting held on October 27, 2005 as presented. Judge Vernon Cook seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. **DISCUSS, REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE INTERREGIONAL COORDINATION OF THE WATER PLANS BETWEEN PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP REGION A AND THE LLANO ESTACADO PLANNING GROUP REGION O**

C.E. Williams said that upon learning of a project in the Region O IPP which impacted Region A significantly, he and Chris Coffman attended a meeting in Plainview. At that meeting Chairman Williams requested (on behalf of Region A) that Region O consider doing an appropriate evaluation of the needs and possibilities of the project. There was some resistance to this request but he was able to get the item tabled for consideration at a later meeting. After much discussion between our Executive Committee and Region O, Chairman Williams presented wording (agreed upon and signed of on by a Region O representative) to be added into our IPP in regard section 4.11.1 *CRMWA Expand Capacity of Groundwater Supply*.

After a thorough discussion of the wording, which brought about further clarification where 1.25% annual withdrawal is mentioned, Vernon Cook made a motion to include 4.11.1 in the IPP. Dan Coffey seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. DISCUSS, REVIEW AND CONSIDER TASK THREE OF THE WATER PLAN

Stefan Schuster presented the following appendices to be included in the IPP: *Senate Bill 2 – Region A Task 3 Memorandum on Water Supply Analysis*, a report prepared by TAES; *Vulnerability Assessment for Lake Meredith and Lake Palo Duro and Modifications to the Canadian River Basin WAM to Assess Surface Water Supplies in Region A*. He said that now is the time for all revisions to be delivered to him at Freese & Nichols, Inc., so that he can be sure to include the in the final draft.

8. DISCUSS, REVIEW AND CONSIDER TASK NINE OF THE WATER PLAN

Stefan Schuster presented *Task 9 Report to Legislature on Water Infrastructure Funding Recommendations*. Mr. Schuster said that this report addresses shortages. He said that it remains to be seen how the State intends to finance shortages. Section 9.4 shows how respondents to a survey expect shortages to be addressed. He said that at the tail end of Chapter 4 there are reallocated supplies and one shortage has dropped off due to the reallocation.

9. DISCUSS, REVIEW AND CONSIDER TASK TEN OF THE WATER PLAN

Chris Coffman said that much like Task 7 of the last plan, help will be sought from the members of the PWPG in sharing information about their participation in public information events concerning development of the Plan. He said that most data on surveys, meetings and public hearings are complete and told the members if they have any input not yet forwarded to staff or consultants to please send it on. This information will be included in chapter as well as appendices.

10. DISCUSS, REVIEW AND FINALIZE THE RESPONSES TO THE PUBLIC COMMENTS TO THE INITIALLY PREPARED PLAN

Stefan Schuster presented an updated version of the *Panhandle Regional Plan Comments and Responses* spreadsheet. Several additions and corrections have been made since the agenda packet was mailed. He gave an overview to changes made since that time.

The following changes were forthcoming from the Committee:

- Gale Henslee suggested that GPDC be further defined on page 6.
- Temple Mckinnon pointed out that the very last comment coming from TWDB was a comment made on its own work. Therefore, no response is noted.
- John Williams said that Dr. Dutton's comments on depth of aquifer should be condensed.

Mr. Schuster said that the chapters will be either e-mailed to members or added to the website so that members can review as soon as they are finished. Also, he said that the table of contents will be in the final version of the IPP.

John Williams noted that the PWPG had received a letter from a concerned citizen and requested that a letter of response be drafted to Mr. John Drake. Mr. Schuster said that he would be happy to draft the letter with the help of Chairman Williams.

Dr. John Sweeten introduced *The Texas High Plains Evapotranspiration Network (TXHPET) User Manual* (AREC 05-37) developed by a team comprised of Dr. Dana Porter, P.E., Thomas Marek, P.E., Dr. Terry Howell, P.E. and Leon New, P.E. of the Texas A&M University System Agricultural Research and Extension Centers and recommended that this information be used as an addendum to the IPP. There was no action taken.

Ben Weinheimer asked if there is a place to acknowledge the late announcement of a new industry in the Panhandle, noting that projections were 99% accurate until this announcement was made. Mr. Schuster said that he will add paragraph addressing this.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

- A. Consider Next Meeting Date – The next meeting of the PWPG will be Friday December 16, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. at the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, 415 W. 8th Avenue, Amarillo
- B. Board Member Comments – Richard Bowers presented a report, *Suggested Change to Language on Page 34 of the Task # Report*

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.