

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

August 18, 2006

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group (PWPG Region A) was held on Friday, August 18, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, 415 W. 8th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas.

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

REGION A MEMBERS PRESENT:

Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County UWCD; Vernon Cook, County of Roberts; David Landis, City of Perryton; Denise Jett, Conoco Phillips Petroleum; Ben Weinheimer, Texas Cattle Feeders Association; Rudie Tate; Dr. Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; Grady Skaggs; Rusty Gilmore, Rita Blanca Well Service; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; Richard Bowers, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; C.E. Williams, Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District; John Williams; Charles Cooke, TCW Supply, Inc.; Janet Tregellas; Temple McKinnon, Texas Water Development Board; Charles Munger, TPWD; Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS; Kent Satterwhite, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority

REGION A MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dan Coffey, City of Amarillo; Bill Hallerberg; Inge Brady; B.A. Donelson, First State Bank; Steve Jones, Texas Department of Agriculture; Bobbie Kidd, City of Clarendon; and Dr. John Sweeten, Texas Ag. Experiment Station - TAMU Ag. Res. And Ext.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cindy Cockerham, State Senator Kel Seliger's Office; Jennifer Foster, State Senator Robert Duncan's Office; Steve Stevens, Mesa Water; Jim Conkwright, High Plains Water District; Robert Meyer, High Plains Water District; Don McReynolds, High Plains Water District; Shane Currie, Talon/LPE; Steve Amosson, TAES; Kevin Hopson, Daniel B. Stephens and Assoc.; Joe Baumgartner and Stefan Schuster, FNI.

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Coffman, Local Government Services Program Director PRPC

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. C.E. Williams called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

2. Roll Call of members to establish a quorum

Chairman Williams called roll of members and the designated alternates. The five Designated Alternates were recognized: Steve Miller for Dan Coffey; Lloyd Pippin for Inge Brady, Cole Camp for Rusty Gilmore; Fran Bretz for Dr. John Sweeten and Lacy Crow for Steve Jones. A total of 17 voting members were accounted for and established a quorum

3. Consider the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 24, 2006.

A motion from Charles Cooke to approve the minutes as presented was made and a second from Judge Cook, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

4. Consider the minutes from the joint meeting with Region O held on June 20, 2006.

A motion from Judge Cook to approve the minutes as presented was made and a second from Dr. Nolan Clark, the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

5. Discuss and consider the voting Board Member appointments recommended by the PWPG Executive Committee to fill the expired terms of eight members. Expired member's term are Richard Bowers, Inge Brady Rapstine, Vernon Cook, Charles Cooke, B.A. Donaldson, Rusty Gilmore, Bill Hallerberg and Bobbie Kidd.

Judge Cook was recognized by Chairman Williams to give the report from the executive committee concerning this item of the agenda. Judge Cook listed the members with expiring terms and then made the following nominations for the board positions from the executive committee:

Name	Geographic Area Represented	Area of Interest
Richard Bowers	Moore County and Others	Water Districts
Jenny Pluhar	Randall County	Environment
Vernon Cook	Roberts County	Counties
Charles Cooke	Hutchinson County	Utilities
Johnny Schmucker	Moore County	Agriculture
Rusty Gilmore	Dallam County	Small Business
Bill Hallerberg	Potter County	Industry
Tom Bailiff	Childress County	Water Districts

Upon the recommendations, Judge Cook asked if there were any additional nominations. None were added to the list and Chairman Williams inquired if there were any opposition to these nominations and no opposition was mentioned. Judge Cook moved to approve the nominees by acclamation and Dr. Nolan Clark made the second. The PWPG unanimously supported these nominations and the members were approved.

6. Discuss and consider the continuation of the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission to serve as the official political subdivision in the development of the third round of regional water planning.

Dr. Nolan Clark made a motion for the PRPC to be the official political subdivision for the next round of regional water planning and Jim Derington seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

7. Discuss and consider a recommendation to the PRPC of the continuation of Freese and Nichols Inc. to serve as the technical consultant to the PWPG for the development of the third round of water planning.

Charles Cooke made the motion to recommend to the PRPC to continue with FNI to serve as the technical consultant to the PWPG for the third round of planning. John Williams made the second and the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Conduct a public hearing to allow citizens to comment in regard to the scope of work for the third round of regional planning.

Chairman Williams opened the public hearing and invited those in attendance to solicit comments. The public did not have any comments but a few board members inquired about the details of the Scope of Work that was to be considered in item 10 of this meeting. Upon completion of discussion by the various board members, Chairman Williams closed the public hearing.

9. Conduct a public hearing to allow citizens to comment in regard to the application for financial assistance for the two year planning grant available from the Texas Water Development Board.

Chairman Williams opened the public hearing and invited those in attendance to solicit comments in regard to this item. No comments were made by the citizens present and Chairman Williams closed the public hearing.

10. Discuss and consider the recommendations from the Joint Regions A and Region O Recharge Sub-Committee concerning the scope of work for the two year planning grant available for the Texas Water Development Board.

Chairman Williams called on Stefan Schuster to discuss the proposed scope of work that has been developed up to the time of the meeting. The priority of the Ogallala recharge is the number one priority as recommended by the joint Recharge subcommittee. In particular the joint recharge sub-committee listed the following as the priority of the process of the recharge study that would need to be conducted by subcontractors;

1. Quantify recharge rates using the chloride mass balance approach.
2. Numerical modeling of groundwater recharge
3. Geochemical studies
4. Unsaturated zone geologic framework

At the time of the meeting, the preliminary budget for the complete application is approximately \$775,000 and it was expected that this number would be reduced before the final application would be submitted.

Janet Guthrie questioned the reason for the map in the SOW to be colored differently. She suggested that the map be changed to reflect the entire study area and be in a light blue or some other color to prevent any confusion that might be drawn from all the different

colors used in the map. Chairman Williams stated he would correct that and thanked Janet for the suggestion.

Chairman Williams asked Jim Conkwright representing Region O for any comments he may have on the recommendation and Mr. Conkwright voiced support for the project and reassured the group of the importance of the study and that Region O has also made this their number one priority for this application cycle.

Dr. Nolan Clark made a motion to approve the recommendations from the joint Ogallala recharge sub-committee with the final review and approval to come from the Region A members of the Ogallala recharge sub-committee. Judge Cook made the second and the motion passed unanimously.

11. Consider a resolution supporting the inter-regional coordination efforts between Regions A and O with the agreed stated priorities for future study.

Ben Weinheimer suggested that Resolution 2006-1 be supported and that flexibility be given to the Chairman to allow the resolution to become a joint resolution with Region O. David Landis made a motion to allow the resolution to become a joint resolution if needed and to approve Resolution 2006-1. Charles Cooke made the second and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

12. Review and consider the Financial Report

Chairman Williams called on the group's treasurer, Dr. Nolan Clark for a financial report. Dr. Clark stated that the report was for the quarter ending June 30, 2006.

In the state fund, as of June 30, 2006, the total expenditure for the development of the water plan was \$782,734 with the total of reimbursement from the TWDB was \$762,758. Dr. Clark reported that the TWDB had been invoiced for the full amount of the contract of \$805,664 in July that is not reflected in the report that was distributed. Additionally, there were more invoices from FNI that would need to be added in the next quarterly report.

In the local fund, as of June 30, 2006, the total expenditures of \$18,085 were made and a total of \$66,053 had been received by local contributions leaving a total local fund balance of \$96,769. Dr. Clark explained that by the end of the fiscal year, he estimate that there would be approximately \$70,000 - \$75,000 in the local fund balance.

Dr. Clark made the motion to approve the report and Judge Cook made the second. The motion to approve the report was approved with a unanimous vote.

13. Consider allocating local funds toward the recharge project.

Chairman Williams inquired of the group if there was any interest in allocating some of the local funds toward funding the Ogallala Recharge Project. Discussion followed and Chairman Williams inquired of the group if anyone had an amount in mind. He stated that CRMWA had mentioned their intent to contribute \$50,000 toward the project and the Panhandle Groundwater District was considering contributing to the project. He explained that the local funds used in the project could help it score better in the competition when the TWDB Scores the applications. Mrs. McKinnon from the TWDB agreed.

Some discussion followed by the group considering that a large portion of the local fund balance might be needed to fund the PRPC and FNI during the interim period. Chris Coffman mentioned that historically, the PRPC budgets \$60,000 of the local funds for administration.

Judge Cook suggested an amount of \$25,000 and others agreed. Judge Cook made the motion to invest \$25,000 of the local funds in the Ogallala project. Charles Cooke made the second and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

14. Discuss and consider the solicitation for local funds

Dr. Clark suggested that the group reactivate the public contact committee to write a letter of accomplishments to the supporters and have the committee be involved in the solicitation process. Members of this committee are Vernon Cook, Dan Coffey, Richard Bowers, C.E. Williams, Charles Cooke and Bill Hallerberg.

Dr. Clark reviewed the level of commitment of local funds from the local entities in the past.

Year	Total Contributions
2004	\$62,391
2005	\$63,736
2006	\$66,053

Dr. Clark suggested the future contributions for the fiscal year 2006-2007 are estimated to be approximately \$65,000.

Dr. Clark made the motion to reactivate the committee and solicit local contributions at the current level as previously solicited. Judge Cook made the second and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

15. Regional Reports

Mrs. Temple McKinnon reported that Region B would be having their meeting on August 23 and that Region O would be having their next meeting on August 31. Mrs. McKinnon announced that the TWDB has reassigned her to serve in a different region and will no longer be our point of contact.

Chairman Williams and the entire planning group expressed deep gratitude for all the professional assistance Temple has provided through the years and stated that she would be missed.

Charles Cooke made the motion to have Chairman Williams write a letter of protest to the TWDB and ask them to leave Mrs. McKinnon as our point of contact. Chairman Williams stated that he would do that and see if there was anything that could be done to keep Temple as our representative.

16. Other business

At this time David Fairbanks, PE of Fairbanks Engineering Resources was introduced by Gale Henslee. Mr. Fairbanks made a short presentation on the water cooling needs of a nuclear electrical generation plant that was capable of producing 2700 megawatts. He disclosed that his estimates were rough in nature but they needed to be considered as an impact on the local water resources. A handout was distributed and discussed. (The hand out will be kept in the agenda packet folder for permanent record.) At the conclusion of his presentation the group thanked him for his interest and sharing of his knowledge on the subject.

17. Closing comments for the Chairman and Board members.

Chairman Williams solicited comments and there were none and stated that the date for the next meeting was not yet established.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM.