

PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP

Minutes

January 10, 2008

A meeting of the Panhandle Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Thursday, January 10, 2008, 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:

Emmett Autry, City of Amarillo; Tom Bailiff, Greenbelt Water Authority; Joe Baumgardner; Nolan Clark, USDA-ARS; the Honorable Vernon Cook, County of Roberts; Jim Derington, Palo Duro River Authority; Kathleen Garrett, TWDB; Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County UWCD; Gale Henslee, Xcel Energy; Denise Jett, Phillips Petroleum; Steve Jones, Texas Department of Agriculture; David Landis, City of Perryton; Charles Munger, Texas Parks and Wildlife; Kent Satterwhite, Canadian River Municipal. Water Authority; Grady Skaggs; Janet Tregellas; Steve Walthour, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Ben Weinheimer, Texas Cattle Feeders Association; John Williams, Canadian River Municipal Water Authority; C.E. Williams, Panhandle Ground Water Conservation District

REGION A MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mickey Black, USDA-NRCS; Charles Cooke, TCW Supply, Inc.; John Schmucker, Great Plains Ag Credit; Jenny Pluhar; John Sweeten, Texas Ag. Experiment Station - TAMU Ag. Res. & Ext;

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:

Amy Crowell for Bill Hallerberg; Thomas Merek for Dr. John Sweeten, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station – TAMU Ag. Res. & Ext.; Cole Camp for Rusty Gilmore

OTHERS PRESENT:

Cindy Cockerham, Senator Kel Seliger's Office; Jennifer Foster, Senator Robert Duncan's Office; Simone Kiel, Freese & Nichols, Inc.; Bridget Scanlon, BEG-UT; Steven Miller, City of

Amarillo; Cleon Namken, NRCS; Kevin Hopson and Stefan Schuster, Daniel B. Stephens and Associates;; Shane Currie, Talon/LPE; David Bowser and Kevin Welch, Amarillo Globe News; Ray Brady, Hydrologist; Jim Conkwright and Dan McReynolds, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District; Dale Hallmark, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Thomas Marsh, Texas Agricultural Extension Service; Keith Good.

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Coffman, Local Government Services Director; Chris Sharp, Local Government Services Coordinator; Sharee Bailey, Administrative Program Specialist

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. C. E. Williams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

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

Chairman Williams called roll of members and the designated alternates. Three designated alternates were recognized: Amy Crowell for Bill Hallerberg; Cole Camp for Rusty Gilmore and Thomas Merek for Dr. John Sweeten. A voting quorum was established.

3. **MINUTES**

Judge Vernon Cook made the motion to accept the minutes from the August 22, 2007 meeting with one correction: Kent Satterwhite was listed twice on the previous minutes. Dr. Clark seconded the motion; motion carried by unanimous vote.

4. **PRESENTATION BY BEG-UT**

Ms. Bridget Scanlon updated the Water Planning Group on the progress of the Eastern Panhandle Recharge Study. The study focused on Roberts and Hemphill Counties. No action by the Water Planning Group was required.

5. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE PANHANDLE WATER PLANNING GROUP**

Members considered the election of officers. Judge Cook moved that Mr. C.E. Williams remain as the group's Chairman. Dr. Clark seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote. Dr. Clark moved that Judge Vernon Cook continue to serve as the group's Vice Chairman. Mr. Skaggs seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote. Judge Cook moved that Mr. David Landis be elected as the group's Secretary. Ms. Tregellas seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

In addition to the officers, the group also utilizes an executive committee consisting of the elected officers and two at large members. Mr. Skaggs moved that Dr. Clark be appointed to fill one of the At-Large positions. Mr. Autry seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote. Mr. Weinheimer moved that Mr. John Williams remain as the group's other At-Large representative. Mrs. Guthrie seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chairman C.E. Williams appointed Dr. Nolan Clark to be the official financial liaison with the PWPG administrator of the PRPC and to review and report to the PWPG the quarterly financial reports.

6. **DISCUSSION ON THE PROPOSED NORTH PLAINS GROUNDWATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGEMENT PLAN FROM THE REGION A WATER PLANNING GROUP**

Mr. Steve Walthour presented a proposed management plan from the Region A Water Planning Group. After lengthy discussion and various points questioning the document, the Planning Group did not make any official comments as the planning group and thanked Mr. Walthour for the informative presentation.

7. **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO SERVE ON THE SCOPE OF WORK (SOW) COMMITTEE FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF FUNDING ASSISTANCE FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Mr. C.E. Williams asked for volunteers to work with the Executive Committee on the SOW Committee. Mr. Walthour and Mrs. Guthrie volunteered. No action by the Group was required. Mr. Williams also suggested that if someone else would like to serve on this committee, all that was needed was notification to himself or Chris Coffman.

8. **DISCUSS AND CONSIDER INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION AND COOPERATION BETWEEN REGION A AND REGION O INCLUDING THE VIDEO CONFERENCING PROJECT**

Jim Conkwright from Region O reported their consultants would be meeting next week and begin the development of specifications for the project. No action was needed by the planning group at this time.

9. **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2007**

Members heard a review on the financial report ending September 30, 2007. Dr. Clark made a motion to adopt the report. Judge Cook seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

10. **DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO ESTABLISHING A FUTURE DESIRED CONDITION OF THE OGALLALA AQUIFER BY THE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA #1**

Meetings have taken place but an agreement has not been made. Members are confident that they will have something in place by the end of 2008.

11. **REGIONAL REPORTS – REGION B AND REGION O**

Work has been done but a formal report has not been developed yet for Region O. Chairman Williams suggested that a joint meeting be held at a date in the future to continue with the inter-regional coordination.

12. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business or comments was presented.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Planning Group, the meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

DRAFT