

Groundwater Management Area #1 Meeting

Minutes

August 9, 2012

The Groundwater Management Area Number 1 (GMA #1) met on Thursday, August 9, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the PRPC Board Room, 415 SW 8th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas with the following members in attendance:

Voting Members Present:

John R. Spearman, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District; Bob Zimmer, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Jim Conkwright, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District; Jim Haley, Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District.

Other Groundwater Management Area 1 Representatives Present:

C.E. Williams, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District; Steve Walthour, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District; Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District; Robert Meyer, High Plains Water District

Staff Present:

Jamie Allen, Local Government Services Coordinator; Sharee Bailey, Administrative Program Specialist; Kyle Ingham, Local Government Services Director, Joe Price, Local Government Services Program Specialist

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with Chairman Spearman presiding.
2. **Roll Call and Introductions were made.** Chairman Spearman for the benefit of the public asked the members to identify themselves. All members were present. Mr. Spearman made note that a quorum was present
3. **Discuss and consider the minutes from November 18, 2011 GMA #1 Meeting.**
Mr. Spearman asked for a motion of approval. Mr. Conkwright made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Mr. Haley seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.
4. **Discuss and consider – Action as may be necessary in regard to GMA#1 Officers and Membership**
Mr. Haley moved that the current slate of officers be retained with Mr. Zimmer replacing Mr. Danny Krienke as Secretary. Mr. Conkwright seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.
5. **Discuss and consider – Action as may be necessary in regard to administrative services for GMA#1 through the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission.**

Members considered administrative services being provided through the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission. Currently, the rate is \$55 per hour and the members

are asked to approve an extension to the existing contract. Mr. Conkwright moved to approve the extension. Mr. Zimmer seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

6. Discuss and consider – Action as may be necessary in regard to updating GMA#1 Bylaws and GMA#1 Procedures resulting from changes initiated by SB660 in the 82nd Texas Legislature.

Members considered the Bylaws and Procedures resulting from changes initiated by SB660 in the 82nd Texas Legislature. Several items were discussed that required revising and Mr. C.E. Williams suggested tabling the item until the next meeting. Mr. Conkwright agreed. Ms. Guthrie will amend the documents. Mr. Zimmer moved that instead of tabling the item, that revisions be made and the amendment should be sent back to managers to review. Mr. Haley seconded the motion; the motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. Discuss – Status Report from Each GCD in GMA #1

High Plains – Mr. Conkwright reported that they have established a 50/50 starting 1/1/10 – 12/31/60. They held 5 public meetings in March, 2011 and had approximately 1,500 individuals to attend and they received approximately 300 sets of written comments. 2 public hearings were held in June, 2011, with 130 people in attendance. July 2011 adopted plan & rules, APRs for 2012/2013 1 ¾ ft. per acre. 2014/2015 1 ½ ft. per acre, 2016 1 ¼ ft. per acre. Stated they required annual reports on wells, adopted alternative measuring methods thru 2015, 2016 all wells, systems should have meter, adopted water banking feature to carry balance forward 3 years, 2/2012 came back with relaxation, 2yr moratorium on installation of meters, reporting, meters of new wells, effective 1/1/2012 all new wells must have meter; board appointed technical scientific study committee w/3 members each from 4 different producer commodity organizations looking @ options can we extend alternative measures longer than 2016; are there areas, systems to identify do they need required meters, accurate water use report, Mr. Meyer stated no limit on contiguous acres and in 9/2012 recommendation from State meter specific list adopted.

North Plains – Mr. Zimmer – Dallam joined and now NP is a larger district, production limits go into effect 2013, production reporting in 4/2014; stakeholder meeting, 9/12, new rules this fall, annual allowable production won't be larger, considering idea of building in trigger points, positive response

Hemphill – Mr. Haley stated that 2010 established DFC, tracking procedure has been developed, calculations initial conditions have been calculated, current states chart prepared, baseline established, 2010 water and storage calculated, 2060 DFC - 80% of volume. 2011 water level measure a little over 1 million acre feet there is insufficient data to establish a trend, district meets the adopted DFC. Ms. Guthrie stated management plan updated submitted to TWDB on 8/13, current rules different allocation methodology required new production at +200 gallons per minute to report, rules since 2004, issued first new permit for over 200 gallons a minute

Panhandle – Mr. C.E. Williams updated the Board rules and management plan in 4/12, completed 7th year of completion management program, currently 8% district is affected by "areas of concern", 12 study areas, 1 conservation area in district, board approved district management plan in 4/12, approved by TWDB 5/14/12, in 2004 new permitted wells required to have meters, have ceiling on pumping 1 acre ft. for contiguous acreage.

8. Discuss and Consider as Appropriate – TWDB Groundwater Availability Model 12-005

Mr. Zimmer asked how often does the board want to request a new run and how reliable and should the run and accountability be addressed? Mr. Bradley with TWDB responded ...achieve DFC.

Mr. Williams asked what happens if cap is exceeded...TWDB will do nothing. All districts are required to have actual annual production requirements. Mr. Bradley stated all actual and permitted use is required. Mr. Walthour asked how good is the tool...best guess model. Mr. Speech? (name) spoke about the model accuracy with GAM update some changes are expected and adjustment made along the way. Mr. Williams asked about the last date to recertify and Mr. Bradley stated 5 years after adoption.

Mr. Zimmer moved to approve the GAM run. Mr. Haley seconded the motion; the motion carried.

9. Discuss and Consider – Desired Future Condition of the Ogallala Aquifer in the GMA #1 Planning Area

Members discussed the DFC of the Ogallala Aquifer in the GMA#1 Planning Area. Ms. Guthrie asked what is the next step to adopt DFC? Mr. Williams stated 6 months before start process. It was also asked if there was any idea how long to start the process. GMA doesn't have to vote until the 5th anniversary. Mr. Walthour stated to walk thru the interpretation for TWDB at the next meeting.

10. Discuss and Consider – Desired Future Condition of other Aquifers in the GMA #1 Planning Area

Combined with item 9???

11. Discuss and Consider – Action relating to future planning and meeting schedules

A stakeholder meeting to present draft rules to the Board on 8/22/12 and Board meeting on 9/12/12. Mr. Walthour also stated that once proposed, have TWDB explain how it was worked before adoption.

12. Discuss other business and any future agenda items.

Mr. Walthour stated that statues should be added to the agenda for the next meeting. A Certificate of Appreciation for Mr. Danny Krienke was also discussed.

13. Establish the date and location for the next meeting.

TBA

14. There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Spearman declared the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.