

Groundwater Management Area #1 Meeting

Minutes

November 7, 2013

The Groundwater Management Area Number 1 (GMA #1) met on Thursday, November 7, 2013, 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; Lynn Tate, 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; Mike Beauchamp, Jason Coleman, High Plains Water District; Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District; Danny Krienke, GMA#1 Representative to PWPG

Guests Present:

Ray Brady, Ronnie Hopper, Bill Mullican, James Beach, Simone Kiel, Amy Crowell, Robert Bradley, Ethan McMillan, James Powell, Dale Hallmark, Steve Shumate, Cindy Cockerham

PRPC Staff Present:

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 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. Mr. Spearman made note that a quorum was present
3. **Discuss and Consider the minutes from July 23, 2013 GMA #1 Meeting.**
Bob Zimmer made a motion to approve the minutes as presented and Lynn Tate seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
4. **Discuss and Consider Action as may be necessary in regard to updating GMA #1 bylaws and GMA #1 procedures resulting from changes initiated by the 82nd and/or 83rd Texas Legislature**

C.E. Williams noted some changes made based on discussions from the July 23, 2013 meeting between the District Managers. It was decided that each section would be taken individually for review purposes. As suggestions were made, members discussed individual changes and agreed on those changes prior to changes being implemented in the bylaws. Bob Zimmer made a motion to approve the bylaws as amended and Jim Haley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Amended bylaws are attached to these minutes.

5. Discuss and Consider – Timeline developed by Bill Mullican related to establishing Desired Future Conditions for GMA #1 that meet all guidelines and regulations

Mr. Mullican introduced his first proposed timeline for the DFC process. He noted that the May 1, 2016, deadline for DFC proposal adoption and the second deadline, November 2016, requiring RWPGs to use availability numbers from previous DFC adoptions in place. He then explained the five phases of planning. Mr. Mullican stated that the timeline presented is based on a schedule of regularly scheduled quarterly meetings to begin January 2014. There was a brief discussion of the necessity of predictive simulations. He noted that there should be an agreement that the DFC baseline should be agreed upon prior to the consideration process. Steve Walthour mentioned that during the previous DFC process, a curve was created in later TWDB models and that the same type of curve may be beneficial during this DFC process. It was noted that the minutes from each of the meetings during the DFC process would be important in documenting the decisions made for purposes of constructing the explanatory report. In the consideration of Meeting #4, at which private property rights are proposed to be discussed, Steve Walthour noted that including the group's attorneys would be vital. The proposed timeline notes that the proposed DFCs may be adopted in January 2016, which starts a 90 day clock for public input. The final DFCs are proposed to be adopted in August 2016, approximately. After discussion of various topics, Bob Zimmer made a motion to adopt the timeline as generally presented, with thanks to Bill Mullican for his work. Jim Haley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discuss and Consider – Processes and roles in going through DFC consideration and adoption

Lynn Tate made a motion to table this item and Jim Haley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Report and Discuss – Each GCD in GMA #1 will provide a status report on process to amend management plans and rules necessary to achieve the adopted Desired Future Condition

Lynn Tate introduced Jason Coleman and noted that High Plains has been meeting multiple times weekly and has engaged stakeholders extensively. He noted that the public they've spoken with has indicated a desire to be more involved during this DFC process than in the last, but that no significant DFC comments have been made.

Bob Zimmer noted that North Plains is deep in their review of the management plan.

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

Agenda Items 8 & 9 were combined. No comments made.

9. Discuss – Desired Future Condition of other aquifers in the GMA #1 Planning Area

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

Lynn Tate made a motion to make February 6, 2014 the next meeting time and Bob Zimmer seconded that motion. Motion carried unanimously. It was also noted that it would be advantageous for the managers from each of the Districts to get together to discuss their views on how best to approach to the planning process prior to the next meeting.

11. Public Comment

Robert Bradley noted that Prop 6 was passed in the recent election and also that a Rural Ombudsman position had been posted.

12. Discuss – Other business and any future agenda items

Steve Walthour noted that a discussion regarding modeling for GMA and PWPG and their interactions should take place. It was noted that TWDB would run their new models to establish the MAGs once the DFCs are adopted.

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

14. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Spearman declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:20pm.