

Groundwater Management Area #1 Meeting

Minutes

August 19, 2014

The Groundwater Management Area Number 1 (GMA #1) met on Tuesday, August 19, 2014, 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:

Jim Haley, Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District, Bob Zimmer, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Lynn Tate, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District and Danny Hardcastle, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District

Other Groundwater Management Area 1 Representatives Present:

Janet Guthrie, Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District, Steve Walthour, North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Jason Coleman, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District and C.E. Williams, Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District

Guests Present:

Commissioner Bech Bruun, Lauren Graber, Danny Krienke, Bill Mullican, Ray Brady, Robert Bradley, Alan Abraham, Dale Hallmark, Keith Good, Steve Shumate, Gene Borne, Cindy Cockerham, Jessica Mitchell, Scott Honeyfield

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 10:04 a.m. with Chairman Zimmer presiding.

2. **Roll Call and Introductions were made.**

Kyle Ingham called the roll for the GMA #1 Board and established that a quorum was present. Introductions of all in attendance were made.

3. **Opening Pledge**

Chairman Zimmer lead the Pledge of Allegiance

4. **Public Comment**

J. C. Adams noted as part of the public comment.

5. **Discuss and Consider – The Minutes from the May 30, 2014 GMA #1 Meeting**

Jim Haley stated that Ms. Raider's name does not have a 'l' in her name. Mr. Haley also stated that the comment about Jason Coleman measuring the dokum levels needs to be edited to state that Mr. Walthour and Mr. C.E. Williams are doing the same measurements for the dokum. Lynn Tate made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Jim Haley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Receive and Discuss – Presentation from Simone Kiel of Freese & Nichols Inc. regarding the development of the 2016 Panhandle Regional Water Plan for the Region A Water Planning Group and Strategies included in the most current State Water Plan.

Simone Kiel gave a presentation regarding the development of the 2016 Panhandle Regional Water Plan for Region A and the strategies included in the State Water Plan. The presentation will be included with the official minutes.

Steve Walthour suggested to the group that we included this item with Agenda item #9. (10:33). Chairman asked about the Irrigation Conservation and what degree of accuracy does the amount show. Ms. Kiel responded that these demands are represented on a decade basis and it was probably from 1998 to 2008 with an average demand and was used because the source of the aquifer and it would not accurately show the impact on the Ogalla. 10:37 *Danny Hardcastle asked if the conservation includes adaptation of technologies, abandonment, and other strategies. Ms. Kiel stated that it includes crop type changes and irrigation changes, conversion to dryland. All factors are lumped together. The Ag subcommittee of the Planning Group looks at these individual changes. *Mr. Haley asked how much time do they spend speaking about commodity prices into the future. Ms. Kiel responded that they do no focus on commodity prices. Mr. C.E. Williams comment stated that they could not come up. Mr. Haley stated that it is almost impossible to predict. Ms. Kiel stated that. Chairman Zimmer stated that there has been a change. Mr. Haley stated about irrigated grass. Mr. Williams stated that Dr. Clark would be the best person to present as the chair of the Ag Committee. The group decided to request Dr. Clark to come and present to the group regarding the Ag strategies. End- 10:44

10:45 Ms. Kiel continued with the presentation. Danny Kreinke asked what would account for the changes in the GAM. Ms. Kiel replied that Intera was in charge of doing the updating the model and they collected more well data and additional well information, with it showing the red bed to be deeper. Then with the Potter-Carson area there was a difference of interpretation between the Ogalla bottom and Dockum starting. They were using redbed data that was really in the Dockum and it shouldn't had of been. Most had was due to the red bed elevations. Mr. Walthour stated that the red bed is the base of the Ogalla and they are going in to greater detail. Mr. Haley asked who did the GAM run. Ms. Kiel stated that the TWDB does the GAM run and funds it. 10:52 CE comment. Intera was to try and get these. The districts put in \$300k to get the Intera. Mr. Williams stated that he believes it is one of the best that we have. Mr. Walthour comment 10:54. Mr. Williams stated that this is the best data that we have. Mr. Ingham comment regarding GAM runs. Mr. Haley asked if they did multiple GAM runs in 2011. Mr Ingham responded 10:55. Ms. Kiel comment. Ms. Guthrie stated that we did some through the joint planning process. Ms. Kiel response. End-10:57

7. Receive and Discuss – Presentation from Kent Satterwhite of the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) activities as a water producer and user in GMA#1

Back to this item after item #9. 11:01 - Kent Satterwhite made a presentation on CRMWA and their activities. His presentation will be included as part of the official record. Chairman Zimmer stated that the presentation is directly related to agenda item #8. The board discussed the activities of CRMWA with Mr. Satterwhite.

11:26 Steve Walthour comment: Are there anything regarding the endangered species from a joint planning side to help or do anything with. End-11:34 (10 minute break). **GO back and type-up Board member comments to Kent per Kyle's request.

8. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Updated and summarized information regarding Aquifer Uses or Conditions within the management area, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another for each of the Major Aquifers in GMA#1. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(1)}

11:48 Chairman Zimmer called the meeting back to order. Mr. Walthour presented the information and stated that the group should be looking more at pumping estimates. He further discussed and looked at the estimates on the charts located in the agenda packet and how each chart is being broken out. Mr. Walthour displayed the 4 counties that are showing the most pumping in the northwest counties and the numbers associated with the counties in acre-per feet. Janet Guthrie stated that their 5 year water level trend and attempt was to try to mirror and match the other districts. 11:57 Hemphill County year to year allows us to see the oil and gas development and how it moves, as well as, looking at the long term trends and the shifts. Janet stated that they would present the same kind of map with the same timeframe as the other districts. Mr. Walthour statement. Danny stated that we should get the maps in the same timeline and if it would be possible to put a GMA map for the whole area. Chairman Z stated we can leave the maps and timeline to the managers and their discretion. Danny would like to get the trend lines for the entire area on one map. 12:02 Saturated Thickness Map. Mr. C.E. stated that they met with the appraisal district and setup the boundaries the way PRDA had them. He stated that this is a problem to know what district that they are in 12:05. PGCD and HPGCD each have some in Armstrong counties. Mr. Walthour continued to discuss the summary tables for each area. Mr. Walthour stated that we need to figure out what the sustainability means and the group needs to discuss at some point. CE stated that they found a definition of sustainability and a national organization put it together and that he will send it to Steve Walthour. CE stated that I believe it is a big issued in defining it and Steve Walthour agreed. Mr. Haley stated that we need to have the bookends defined more. Haley: At least the starting saturated thickness. 12:11. Mr. Ingham stated that we may need to look a timeline period. Mr. Tate stated that we should have the Managers look at the years and have them decided on a standard jointly. CE stated that the stuff that Bill did goes under this instead of number 9. Mr. Haley asked a question on Table 2 regarding Municipal Use in 2009. Started Phase 3 in 2010 for CRMWA. End 12:16

The Board decided that they want to see more about sustainability.

9. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Updated and summarized information regarding water supply needs and water management strategies included in the 2012 Texas State Water Plan. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(2)}

Went to this item after item # 6. Steve Walthour comment. Mr. Walthour asked the difference between the term need and shortage. Ms. Kiel replied that they are used interchangeably. Chairman Zimmer noted the items located in the packet attached to this agenda. Mr. Walthour recommended adding Ms. Kiel's presentation to this item.

10. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Updated and summarized information regarding background information related to hydrologic conditions, including for each aquifer in the GMA#1 planning area, the *current* total estimated

recoverable storage as provided by the Texas Water Development Board Executive Administrator. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(3)}

Steve Walthour discussed that this is a summary and that all these numbers will change. Nothing additional was added, just the additional items with the aquifers.

Chairman Zimmer asked if the Whitehorse needs to be added to this. Danny and CE stated, No. PGCD will meet and bring recommendations. The Blaine does not need to be added either. End-12:20

12:18 CE definition of sustainability for item #8.

11. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Presentation regarding Environmental Impacts, including impacts on spring flow and other interactions between groundwater and surface water of potential Desired Future Conditions in the major aquifers of GMA#1. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(4)}

12:21 Steve Walthour made comments to the Board regarding Environmental Impacts on spring flow and the interactions between ground water and surface water of DFCs. He stated that spring flows are generally declining in the area due to pumping. There was a discussion of each aquifer's geologic and hydraulic formations. Jason comment 12:23. Mr. Walthour response. CE stated that they have several that are Dockum wells. Robert Bradley comment. Mr. Walthour asked if they want the Managers to bring maps of stream flow. Danny Hardcastle asked Janet if they had any monitoring of spring flows. Janet stated that they have their 3 models and it was not based on an actual GAM run. Danny stated that it would be good to look at the model and it helps with DFCs. Jim Haley agreed. End-12:28

-CE comment about new numbers for spring flow numbers. (important) All numbers will be updated.

12. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Presentation regarding the impact of subsidence of potential Desired Future Conditions in the major aquifers of GMA#1. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(5)}

Steve Walthour made comments regarding subsidence and the only area that they have seen is only due to poor well construction and there appears to be no regional subsidence. Mr. Walthour stated that subsidence does not seem to be an issue in this area. The board does not see the benefit for additional work under subsidence. K. Ingham asked Robert Bradley regarding subsidence and TWDB. End-12:31 jumped back to item 11.

13. Receive, Discuss and Consider – Presentation regarding the socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur based on potential Desired Future Condition in the major aquifers of GMA#1. {Texas Water Code S36.108(d)(6)}

12:33 Steve Walthour made comments regarding the socioeconomic impacts and commented that there are 3 surveys in the packet for the board to review. Mr. Walthour elaborated on each of the individual impacts. Mr. Walthour stated that Steve Ammasson has done several studies on the impacts and possibly having him come and discuss the impacts. CE did a study. Gave comments about impact. End-12:44

12:45 – All members commented. Lynn Tate spoke about lots of meetings amended their plans. Have not drafted enforcement provisions. 12:47 Chairman Zimmer stated that they adopted rules to meet their DFCs. About to open conservation center.

14. Discuss and Consider – Scheduling of the Next Meetings of the GMA #1

November 6, 2014 at 10:00 Motion by Lynn Tate, seconded by Danny. Motion passed unanimously.

Kyle stated Items:

Have City of Amarillo's water projections for next several years. Invite them to speak on it.

15. Adjournment

Adjourned at 12:55pm motion by Jim Haley, seconded by Lynn. Unanimous.

DRAFT