

**Minutes of the
South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group
August 1, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. in the San Antonio Water System's (SAWS) Customer Service Building, Room CR 145, 2800 US Highway 281 North, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Twenty-seven of the 29 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

Voting Members Present:

Gená Leathers for Jason Ammerman	Dan Meyer
Tim Andruss	Gary Middleton
Donna Balin	Con Mims
Evelyn Bonavita	Ron Naumann
Rey Chavez	Tyson Broad for Iliana Peña
Alan Cockerell	Robert Puente
Will Conley	Steve Ramsey
Don Dietzmann	Diane Savage
Art Dohmann	Suzanne Scott
Vic Hilderbran	Greg Sengelmann
Rick Illgner for Karl Dreher	Milton Stolte
Kevin Janak	Tom Taggart
Bill West	Tony Wood
John Kight	

Voting Members Absent:

Mike Mahoney
Bill Jones

Non-Voting Members Present:

Matt Nelson, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Steve Ramos, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, South Texas Watermaster
Charles Wiedenfeld, Region J Liaison

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Public Comment

There were no public comments at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Approval of Minutes

Chairman Con Mims asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from May 2, 2013. Mr. Mims received minor corrections and provided the corrections to the Planning Group. Mr. Mims asked for a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Gary Middleton made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Ron Naumann seconded the motion. The motion carried by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Chair's Report

Mr. Mims asked Matt Nelson, TWDB, to provide an update to the Planning Group on House Bill 4 and the ramifications to regional water planning and project prioritization.

Mr. Mims also informed the Planning Group the Unique Stream Segment legislation passed through the Senate with no opposition and landed in the House; but died in House Natural Resources.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Status of Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

Dr. Robert Gulley, EAHCP Executive Director, provided an update on implementation of the Habitat Conservation Plan. Dr. Gulley stated on August 13, 2013, the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) and San Antonio Water System (SAWS) boards will consider a contract between EAA and SAWS to implement the ASR Program, which is a key piece of the HCP.

The second element of the HCP is the *Refugia* Program. At the last Implementing Committee meeting, the committee made the decision to fund the three facilities US Fish and Wildlife serves in San Marcos, Uvalde and Inks Dam. The intent of the *Refugia* Program is to ensure adequate protection of the species; to preserve the capacity for the species to be reestablished in the event of the loss of populations of the critical species.

The third element is the process of completing the negotiations on a contract with the National Research Council (NRC). The NRC will be providing independent science review of all activities for the first 7 years of the HCP. Once the contract is in place, the NRC will create a panel of experts to review the different models and approaches being taken towards developing an Adaptive Management Program and preparing for the Phase 2 decision.

Suzanne Scott thanked Dr. Gulley for his leadership, expertise and guidance throughout the process of the HCP. Dr. Gulley recently announced his retirement.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Status of Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) and Expert Science Team (BBEST) and Nueces River and Corpus Christi and Baffin Bays Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) and Expert Science Team (BBEST)

Mrs. Scott, Chair of the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC), informed the Planning Group the BBASC was successful in its request during legislation for funding allocation for studies (work plan elements) in the Work Plan for Adaptive Management. The GSA BBASC established a work group to discuss how the GSA BBASC could provide recommendations to the TWDB on how to prioritize the study submittals for the funding allocation.

The next GSA BBASC meeting will be at the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority River Annex on August 22, 2013. Ms. Scott also informed the Planning Group there a currently a vacancy open for nominations in the Regional Water Planning Group category. If anyone is interested, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) will be announcing the vacancy and providing the nomination forms.

Mr. Mims, Chair of the Nueces River and Corpus Christi and Baffin Bays Stakeholder Committee (BBASC), informed the Planning Group that the group submitted their Work Plan for Adaptive Management and have not received feedback.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Nominations to Fill Voting Member Vacancies

Mr. Mims opened the discussion by informing the Planning Group the Executive Committee met to review the nomination packages and interview nominees for the twelve vacancies on the Planning Group with terms expiring in 2018. The twelve vacancies are in the following Interest Categories: (1) Public, (1) Counties, (1) Industries, (1) Agricultural, (2) Small Business, (1) River Authorities, (3) Water Districts, and (2) Water Utilities.

The Executive Committee recommended the reappointment of current incumbents as follows: Will Conley, Counties; Suzanne Scott, River Authorities, Steve Ramsey, Water Utilities; Tim Andruss and Greg Sengelmann, Water Districts. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections to the reappointment of current incumbents as presented. There were no objections to the Executive Committee's recommendation.

Mr. Mims continued by informing the Planning Group he will present the Executive Committee recommendations by Interest Category for Planning Group consideration, as follows:

For the vacancy in the Public Interest Category, the Executive Committee recommended Dianne Wassenich. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections to the recommendation. There were no objections.

For the second vacancy in Water Utilities, the Executive Committee recommended Gene Camargo. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections or recommendations to the recommendation. There were no objections.

For the vacancy in Industries, the Executive Committee recommended Gená Leathers. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections or recommendations. There were no objections to the recommendation.

For the vacancy in Agriculture, the Executive Committee recommended Blair Fitzsimons. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections or recommendations. Robert Puente seconded the motion to elect Ms. Fitzsimons to represent Agriculture. Art Dohmann nominated Pat Calhoun to represent Agriculture. Mr. Andruss seconded the motion to elect Mr. Calhoun. Mr. Mims stated that as consensus was not achieved, a vote will be taken. The final majority vote was in favor of Ms. Fitzsimons.

For the two vacancies in the Small Business Interest Category, the Executive Committee recommended David Roberts and Brad Smith. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections or recommendations from the list of nominees presented. Mr. Puente made a motion to nominate Judge Reynolds Cate to one of the vacancies for Small Business. Bill West seconded the motion. Donna Balin recommended Doug McGooky to one of the vacancies for Small Business. Tony Woods seconded the motion.

Mr. Mims put the vacancies to a vote, one vacancy at a time, with four nominees recommended; David Roberts, Brad Smith, Doug McGooky and Judge Reynolds Cate. With the majority vote,

David Roberts was elected to the first vacancy for Small Business and Doug McGooky was elected to the second vacancy.

For the remaining vacancy in Water Districts, the Executive Committee recommended Roland Ruiz. Commissioner Will Conley recommended Erin Banks to the vacancy. The recommendation failed due to no second to the motion to nominate Erin Banks. Mr. Mims asked if there were any objections to recommending Roland Ruiz to the third vacancy. The Planning Group had no objections.

Mr. Mims welcomed the new Planning Group Members. Mr. Mims recognized Ms. Bonavita, Mr. Naumann and Mr. Woods for their time on the Planning Group. Ms. Bonavita and Mr. Naumann both served 15 years on the Planning Group and Mr. Woods served 5 years. Mr. Mims thanked them for their contributions to Regional Water Planning.

Mr. Mims informed the Planning Group the two vacancies on the Executive Committee will be filled in February when regularly scheduled elections are held for the Executive Committee positions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications

Mr. Nelson provided an update on the staff and board changes at TWDB per Legislation that will take effect September 1, 2013.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Consultants Work, Schedule and Budget

Brian Perkins, HDR Engineering, presented a status update on the schedule of tasks/scope of work HDR is currently working on, as well as an update on their budget for those tasks. Mr. Perkins also reviewed deadline dates for the Technical Memorandum, the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) and the draft Regional Water Plan (RWP). Mr. Perkins also reviewed the timeline for draft water projections to be provided to TWDB in time for adoption by TWDB's board in September.

Commissioner Conley asked Mr. Perkins if they could meet to review the draft projections for Hays County after the meeting to ensure the projections are in line with the Hays County Water Management Plan. Mr. Perkins will follow up with Commissioner Conley to schedule a date and time as soon as possible.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Report, Discussion and Appropriate Action from Work Groups

- **Eagle Ford Shale Work Group – Suzanne Scott, Chair**
- **Carrizo Aquifer WMS Work Group, Greg Sengelmann, Chair**

Mrs. Scott, Chair of the Eagle Ford Shale Work Group, provided a brief synopsis of the Work Group's actions taken since the previous Planning Group Meeting. Mrs. Scott reminded the Planning Group that at the May 2, 2013 Planning Group Meeting, the Planning Group authorized the Work Group to continue to work with HDR Engineering and the Institute for Economic Development at UTSA to further review the population projections for DeWitt, Dimmitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Kames, LaSalle, Refugio and Victoria counties. Additionally, the Work Group could further study and compare the UTSA study findings with the TWDB

population projections to formulate a recommendation on whether to submit a request to the TWDB to consider modifications to population for one or more of the counties. The Work Group was also authorized by the Planning Group to present the final recommendations to the Executive Committee for review and consider the Work Group's recommendation for submission to the TWDB. The Work Group was to report its final recommendations to the Planning Group at the August 1, 2013 meeting.

Mr. Perkins informed the Planning Group how HDR Engineering and the San Antonio River Authority staff worked to put the population projection results from the UTSA study in context with the TWDB draft population projections and analyzed the effect potential revisions to population projections may have on water demand projections in the eight counties discussed.

In order to fairly compare draft water demand projections, HDR Engineering used each of the UTSA population study scenarios to create multiple draft projected water demand projections to compare against TWDB's draft water demand projections. The Work Group chose to account for the highest water demand possible of the different scenarios for each county and, due to the challenges in requesting population revisions, the Work Group recommended adjusting draft water demand projections, county by county, to account for transient populations. This method assures we are providing adequate existing water supplies and future water supplies to meet the potential highest water demand in those areas.

The draft recommendation and analyses was sent to the Work Group on July 24, 2013 for comments and receiving no objections, provided to the Executive Committee at the Staff Work Group for their approval. The final Work Group recommendation is as follows:

It is recommended that the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group ask the TWDB to revise the water demand projections in seven of the eight counties (excluding Victoria County). Revision of these water demand projections will account for the transient, short-term residents/workers that aren't included in the TWDB population projections, without revising the population projections and making it necessary to offset the population projections increases in these counties by lowering the population projections in other counties within Region L.

Mr. Dohmann asked Mr. Perkins to include a detailed statement as to why the revisions are requested in certain counties to water demand projections for this planning cycle. Mr. Perkins confirmed the Technical Memorandum and backup data will be included as an Appendix in the Regional Water Plan.

Greg Sengelmann, Chair of the Carrizo Aquifer Water Management Strategies (WMS) reported HDR Engineering had received the information required from the majority of the Groundwater Conservation Districts in Region L in regards to groundwater availability from the Carrizo or Wilcox Aquifers. Each Groundwater Conservation District within Region L that have Carrizo or Wilcox groundwater were asked for their Managed Available Groundwater (MAG), amount of groundwater permitted, exempt use amounts and grandfathered amounts, if any.

Mr. Sengelmann informed the Planning Group there was one Groundwater District that was unable to provide the permitted information. The Work Group will need to determine how to determine availability of groundwater, if any, for use.

Mr. Mims asked what the next step for the Carrizo Aquifer WMS Work Group would be to complete the Work Group charge, which was to study WMS shown on the WMS list provided at the February 2013 Planning Group meeting that use or propose to use the Carrizo Aquifer as a water source, to identify and describe the interrelationships of each, noting, in particular, how

the use of each strategy affects the use of the others. Mr. Perkins stated he would develop a Technical Memorandum and submit it to the Work Group for their review and recommendation and report at the November Planning Group meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing Consultant to Work with TWDB to Negotiate/Resolve Any Issues Regarding Final Projections (Municipal and Non-Municipal)

Mr. Perkins reviewed the actions to date by the Planning Group in regards to Municipal and Non-Municipal draft projections received. At the May meeting, the Planning Group authorized HDR Engineering and SARA to package the requested revisions received for submittal to TWDB. However, following the meeting, HDR Engineering received four additional requests to draft population and water demand projections for Planning Group consideration. Mr. Perkins reviewed the requests from Plum Creek Water Company, East Central Special Utility District (SUD), County Line SUD and Buda. Mr. Perkins believed East Central and County Line SUD requests could be handled within Region L planning and Buda's request is being handled by Region K. Plum Creek Water Company's request would require TWDB consideration.

Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group for a motion to authorize the Technical Consultant to work with TWDB to negotiate or resolve any issues regarding final Municipal and Non-Municipal projections, to include previously authorized revision requests, requested revisions to water demand projections from the Eagle Ford Shale Work Group and a request by Plum Creek Water Company as presented today.

Milton Stolte made the motion to authorize HDR Engineering to work with TWDB. Gene Camargo seconded the motion. The motion carried by consensus.

Mr. Perkins also informed the Planning Group the revision requests to draft Municipal Projections have been reviewed by TWDB and forwarded to other State agencies for comment as well. All requests were carried forward with the exception to requested revisions for Mining in Goliad and DeWitt Counties, which were decreased.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Draft Water needs, Initial List of Water Management Strategies, and Drought Response Survey to Water User Groups (WUG) and Discussions with Wholesale Water Providers (WWP) (Tasks 4A & 4B)

Mr. Perkins informed the Planning Group that HDR Engineering is preparing to send out Phase 2 of the online survey to Water User Groups (WUG) and initiate discussions with Wholesale Water Providers. HDR Engineering utilized the information received during Phase 1 of the survey (water demand projections and existing supplies from WUGs) to calculate projected water needs. Mr. Perkins previously presented water user groups per county, reflecting projected water demands and existing supplies to calculate water needs.

Since that initial presentation, HDR Engineering refined the information even more based on additional communications with WUGs and WWPs and will be using the current information for Phase 2 of the survey. A large part of Phase 2 is for WUGs and WWPs to identify and/or confirm, as well as prioritize their water management strategies to meet their projected water needs reflected. The water management strategies listed are from the 2011 RWP, or strategies that HDR Engineering has been informed of by the WUG or WWP.

Mr. Perkins reviewed, by county, projected water needs for municipal and non-municipal water user groups, highlighting any county that may need help planning additional water management strategies. Again, each WUG will have an opportunity to respond to the information reflected via the survey.

Once Phase 2 of the survey is completed and HDR Engineering has compiled the information, Mr. Perkins will report the updated information to the Planning Group.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Evaluation of Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies (Task 4B), Draft Scopes of Work and Budgets for Submittal to TWDB and Inclusion into Planning Contract, TWDB Contract No. 1148301323 (Task 4D)

At the May 2, 2013 Planning Group Meeting, HDR Engineering received authorization to begin drafting scopes of work and budgets for twelve WMS: 1) Wells Ranch – Phase 2 (Canyon Regional Water Authority (CRWA) and Others), 2) Brackish Wilcox for the CRWA (CRWA and Others), 3) Hays/Caldwell PUA: Phases 1 & 2 (San Marcos, Buda, Kyle, CRWA), 4) CRWA Siesta Project (CRWA), 5) Brackish Wilcox for SAWS, 6) Expanded Local Carrizo – Bexar County (SAWS), 7) Brackish-Wilcox – Gonzales County (SSLGC), 8) Texas Water Alliance Carrizo Well Field – Gonzales County (TWA), 9) Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer – Wilson County (Cibolo Valley Local Government Corporation), 10) GBRA Mid-Basin Project and Alternatives (GBRA), 11) GBRA Lower Basin Off-Channel Reservoir (GBRA), and 12) GBRA Lower Basin New Appropriation (GBRA).

Mr. West informed the Planning Group that TCEQ issued the draft Mid-Basin permit along with the notice on July 29, 2013, and that there is a 30-day comment period.

Mr. Perkins presented the results to the Planning Group, reviewing each WMS and budget for evaluation. Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there were any objections to the scope and budget of the twelve water management strategies presented by HDR Engineering. There were no objections by the Planning Group. The budgets and scopes were approved by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Authorizing Political Subdivision to Submit Request for Notice-to-Proceed for Evaluation of Twelve Water Management Strategies and Authorize Administrator to Execute Contract Amendment with TWDB

Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if there was any objection to the San Antonio River Authority, as Administrator, submitting a request for Notice-to-Proceed for the evaluation of the twelve WMS presented by HDR Engineering, authorizing Administrator to execute a contract amendment with TWDB. The Planning Group had no objections and the action was approved by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Identification of Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies (Task 4B), Draft Scopes of Work and Budgets for Consideration at the Next South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

Mr. Perkins requested Planning Group authorization to begin drafting scopes of work and budgets for sixteen additional WMS: 1) Edwards Transfers, 2) Purchase from WWP, 3) Water Resources Integration Pipeline (SAWS), 4) Advanced Meter Infrastructure (SAWS), 5) Regional Water Supply Project – RFCSP (SAWS), 6) Regional Brackish Wilcox Project – Alternative (SAWS), 7) Integrated Water-Power Project (GBRA), 8) Luling ASR (GBRA), 9) New Braunfels ASR Project (NBU), 10) New Braunfels Trinity Well Field (NBU), 11) New Braunfels Reuse Project (NBU), 12) Expansion Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, Guadalupe County (SSLGC), 13) Lavaca River Off-Channel Reservoir, 14) Brackish Wilcox Groundwater for SS WSC, 15) Carrizo/Buda/Austin Chalk/Leona & Regional ASR (City of Uvalde), and 16) Texas Water Alliance (Trinity Well Field in Comal).

With Planning Group authorization, HDR Engineering will draft scopes of work and budgets for future technical evaluations. Mr. Mims asked if there were any objections to HDR Engineering beginning to draft scopes of work and budgets for the sixteen water management strategies presented. The Planning Group had no objections. Mr. Perkins' request was approved by consensus.


AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Possible Agenda Items for the Next South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

Mr. Mims proposed the following agenda items for the November 7, 2013 Planning Group Meeting:

- EAHCP Update
- Status of SB3, Environmental Flows Process
- Report, Discussion and Appropriate Action from Work Groups
- Presentation on Brush Management as a WMS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Public Comment

Recommended for approval.



GARY MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

Approved by the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group at a meeting held on November 7, 2013.



CON MIMS, CHAIR