

**Minutes of the  
South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group  
August 4, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 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-four of the 24 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

**Voting Members Present:**

Jason Ammerman	Gary Middleton
Tim Andruss	Con Mims
Donna Balin	Ron Naumann
Evelyn Bonavita	Iliana Peña
Darrell Brownlow	Robert Puente
Rey Chavez	Steve Ramsey
Will Conley	Suzanne Scott
Rick Illgner for Karl Dreher	Greg Sengelmann
Mike Fields	Milton Stolte
Bill Jones	Tom Taggart
John Kight	Bill West
Mike Mahoney	Tony Wood

**Voting Members Absent:**

None

**Non-Voting Members Present:**

Norman Boyd, Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife (TPWD)  
Matt Nelson, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)  
Ken Weidenfeller, Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Public Comment**

There was no public comment at the time.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the May 5, 2011 meeting were not available for consideration.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Status of the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program (EARIP)**

Dr. Robert Gulley, EARIP, provided an update of EARIP activities to the Planning Group. Dr. Gulley stated a recommendation will be made on the plan for addressing the Endangered Species Act. The EARIP members have reached an agreement on the plan and a funding mechanism to implement the project. The members are currently waiting to review the

documents – the complete draft of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and the Implementing Agreement. A final recommendation may be ready for review by the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA) October 12, 2011. After reviewing the recommendations, the EAA must make a decision to accept or reject the recommendation.

At this time, the EAA has sent out letters to municipal and industrial users to address the increase in aquifer management fees. Municipal and industrial users may bear a large part of the cost of implementing the HCP.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Chair's Report**

Chairman Mims had no report at this time.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications**

Temple McKinnon, TWDB, provided a report on the modification of Senate Bill 660 which requires that, in addition to the representation of the 11 interest groups currently required by statute, each Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) will now have to maintain additional representation for each Groundwater Management Area (GMA) from a Groundwater Conservation District located within the regional water planning area and the GMA that is at least partially located within the regional water planning area. Senate Bill 660 will take effect on September 1, 2011.

Region L has five GMAs within its region – GMA 7, GMA 9, GMA 10, GMA 13 and GMA 15. Each Groundwater Conservation District in the GMA is responsible for informing the Planning Group of the appointed GMA representative. RWPGs must accept the individuals appointed by the GCDs in the GMAs without a vote or other confirmation by other RWPG members and the newly appointed representative is a voting member of the RWPG.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Replacement of Planning Group Members**

Mr. Mims informed the Planning Group the Executive Committee met to review the nomination packages and interview nominees for the thirteen vacancies on the Planning Group at this time, two of which are vacancies and eleven expired terms. The thirteen vacancies are in the following Interests: 2 River Authorities, 1 Water Districts, 3 Municipalities, 2 Environmental, 1 Counties, 1 Industries, 2 Agricultural, 1 Electric Generating Utilities.

The Executive Committee recommended the reappointment of current incumbents as follows: Con Mims and Bill West, River Authorities; Mike Mahoney, Water Districts; Gary Middleton, Robert Puente and Tom Taggart, Municipalities; Iliana Pena and Donna Balin, Environmental; John Kight, Counties; Rey Chavez, Industries; and Milton Stolte, Agricultural.

The Executive Committee recommended Alan Cockerell to the Agricultural position and Kevin Janak to the Electric Generating Utilities position.

Gary Middleton made a motion to approve the Executive Committee's recommendations for all thirteen vacancies. Bill West seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

All thirteen vacancies terms will expire in 2016.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: 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)**

Suzanne Scott, Chair of the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas and San Antonio BBASC, provided an overview to the Planning Group of the BBASC draft recommendations accomplished so far. Ms. Scott explained each level of a recommendation for flow regimes at several gage locations (subsistence flows, base flows, pulses, etc.), using the San Antonio River recommendations for flow regimes as an example for the 16 gage sites the stakeholder group is developing flow regime recommendations for. Though the recommendations are complex, the stakeholder committee strives to balance environmental needs and human needs while structuring the flow recommendations.

Ms. Scott discussed the balancing issues the stakeholder group is currently discussing regarding the bays and estuaries recommendations. Ms. Scott provided background on the methodology used and attainment criteria provided by the BBEST and the reasoning behind the BBEST recommendations for the bays and estuaries. The BBASC stakeholder group is currently working through their draft recommendations for the bays and estuaries while taking all issues into consideration, such as habitat, seasonal flows, current permits, etc.

Mr. Mims reminded the Planning Group this recommendation process is going on throughout the state with several stakeholder groups, but all eyes are currently on Ms. Scott's stakeholder group. Ms. Scott also informed the Planning Group the recommendation report will include recommended strategies the stakeholder group will work on.

Mr. Mims also reiterated the BBASC Instream Flow Recommendations, the new census, the EARIP and the Managed Available Groundwater actions will significantly impact the planning process for the 2016 RWP.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Consultant Work and Schedule**

Brian Perkins, HDR Engineering, provided a draft working schedule for the Planning Group which outlines the schedule of tasks to be completed for the planning process. Mr. Perkins provided a schedule based on each task and dates information will be due to TWDB during the planning process phase. Mr. Perkins briefly reviewed how HDR will evaluate water availability and existing water supplies and needs, as well as considering EARIP and BBASC recommendations and how they will affect water availability and supplies. The consultant schedule will be updated and briefed on at each Planning Group meeting.

Mr. Perkins provided a brief update on his review of the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) Mining Report on Projected Water Use as requested by the Planning Group at the May meeting. Mr. Perkins provided general comments on the projected water use amounts within Region L and specific comments on the BEG report to Mr. Mims for his review and approval to be forwarded to TWDB.

The Planning Group had several questions regarding county numbers TWDB has estimated, specifically regarding current mining within Region L counties. Mr. Perkins informed the Planning Group the numbers under discussion today came straight from the final BEG report. These numbers do not represent what TWDB will use as the final mining projections. The Planning Group still has the opportunity to provide comments to the TWDB before the final mining projections for Region L are released. Ms. McKinnon confirmed the Planning Group still has time to review the mining use numbers from the BEG Report and provide comments to TWDB. At this time, Planning Groups must provide comments on all projections (municipal, mining, population, non-municipal) to TWDB by July 2012, tentatively.

Mr. Perkins also provided an update on the draft modeled available groundwater (MAG) numbers available within Region L. Mr. Perkins stated the numbers are draft only and not final, but will affect the planning process as well. Darrell Brownlow expressed to the Planning Group that having just completed the Desired Future Conditions (DFC) process, there are substantial differences between numbers was used in the 2011 RWP versus what should be considered in the next round of planning

Mr. Mims suggested we place an item on the next planning group meeting to discuss the draft projections provided by the BEG report, as well as the draft projections TWDB will be sending to the regional water planning groups. The agenda item may cover how the projections were developed by TWDB and any other information that will assist the planning group on understanding how the projections will affect the planning process.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Discussion and Appropriate Action to Authorize Administrator to Negotiate and Execute Interlocal Agreement for Funding of SB1 Region L Administrative Costs, 2012 – 2016**

Erin Newberry, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), provided a draft Interlocal Agreement for Funding of SB1 Region L Administrative Costs, 2012 – 2016 for Planning Group approval. The Interlocal Agreement is between participating entities and the San Antonio River Authority for five years. The participating entities have agreed to fund administrative costs, based on the approved budget each calendar year, incurred by the Administrator, on behalf of Region L activities. Mr. West made a motion to approve the Administrator to negotiate and execute the Interlocal Agreement for Funding of SB1 Region L Administrative Costs, 2012 – 2016 with participating entities. Evelyn Bonavita seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Review/Approve Administrator's Budget for CY2012**

Ms. Newberry reviewed the proposed administrator's budget for 2012 with the Planning Group. The budget is operated on a calendar year basis. The Administrator has proposed the budget remain the same as the 2011 budget, \$58,000.00. Rick Illgner made a motion to approve the budget for 2012 at \$58,000.00. Mike Mahoney seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Possible Agenda Items for the Next South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group Meeting**

Mr. Mims proposed the following agenda item for the February 2, 2012 meeting:

- EARIP Update

- Status of SB3, Environmental Flows Process
- Discussion Regarding TWDB Projections
- Presentation and Discussion on BEG Report and Mining Projections
- Discussion Regarding New Planning Group Member Orientation

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Set Dates and Times of Regional Water Planning Group Meetings for 2012**

Mr. Mims asked the Planning Group if the quarterly dates provided in the agenda packet would suffice for 2012 meeting dates. There were no objections. Mr. Mims stated if concerns came up closer to those dates, specifically November 1, 2012, we would discuss at that time.

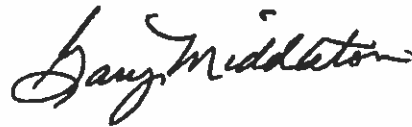
**AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Public Comment**

Steve Raabe, SARA, handed out information for the Alamo Area Council of Government (AACOG) on a potential grant application within a few counties in Region L the AACOG will be applying for. Mr. Raabe stated if the representatives from the effected counties had questions, to please contact Brian Mast at SARA or Ms. Newberry.

Ms. Scott informed the Planning Group that Dr. Brownlow has been appointed by Governor Perry to represent Wilson County on the Board of Directors of the San Antonio River Authority.

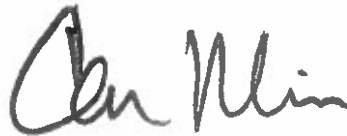
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned by consensus at 12:38 p.m.

Recommended for approval.



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GARY MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

Approved by the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group at a meeting held on February 2, 2012.



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CON MIMS, CHAIR