

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
of the
REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP “I”
Wednesday November 9, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Nacogdoches Recreation Center
1112 North Street, Nacogdoches, Texas

1. Call to Order – Kelley Holcomb, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – David Alders
3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum –The roll was called by Stacy Corley and a quorum was determined as follows:

Voting Members Present (13 of 21)

Kelley Holcomb
David Alders
David Brock
Josh David
Chris Davis
Mark Dunn
Scott Hall
Mike Harbordt
John Martin
Dale Peddy
Monty Shank
Darla Smith
Worth Whitehead

Voting Members Absent (8)

Leah Adams
Jeff Branick
William Heugel
Joseph Holcomb
Bill Kimbrough
David Montagne
Gregory Morgan
J. Leon Young

Proxies: (2)

William Heugel to Darla Smith
J. Leon Young to David Alders

Voting Member Category Vacancies: (1) Water Utilities

Non -Voting Members Present:

Governmental Reporting Agencies Present:

Lann Bookout, Texas Water Development Board
Scott Galaway, Texas Water Development Board
Terry Stelly, Texas Parks and Wildlife

Other Guests Present:

Stacy Corley, City of Nacogdoches
Rex Hunt, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc.
Spandana Tummuri, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
Gary Ashmore, Lower Trinity GCD
William L. Sheehan, Rusk County GCD
Jess Landreneau, Panola Co GCD
Mary S. Vann, Sabine River Authority
Stephen Cortes, Averitt & Associates
Canyon Hamilton
Steve Bartlett, City of Nacogdoches Engineer

4. Consideration and approval of the minutes of the May 18, 2016 meeting.

David Alders moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Dunn and unanimously passed.

5. Report from City of Nacogdoches – Stacy Corley

Mrs. Corley report Cycle 4 has closed out and Cycle 5 is underway. Region I received Advance #1 (\$23,578.20) and APAI has been paid for two invoices.

6. Reports of adjoining regions activity (only as needed)
 - a. Region C – Mike Harbordt/Connie Standridge - None
 - b. Region D – Worth Whitehead/Vacant - None
 - c. Region H – David Alders/Steve Tyler

David Alders advised Region H met on November 2nd in Conroe. Group discussed Harris County Flood District's Future Water Demands – next meeting March 1, 2017.

7. Reports from Standing Committees (only as needed)
 - a. Executive Committee – Kelley Holcomb - None
 - b. Finance Committee – Darla Smith – Met today, will have item later in agenda.
 - c. Bylaws Committee – David Alders - None
 - d. Technical Committee – Scott Hall - None
 - e. Nominations Committee – Monty Shank – Met today, no action on carry over Water and Public vacancies.
8. Reports from other state agencies:
 - a. Texas Water Development Board staff – Lann Bookout

Lann Bookout advised the Board scheduled financial workshops coming up in early 2017 – schedule may be found on TWDB Website. These workshops will touch on the SWIFT Water and Revolving Loan Fund opportunities. Scott Galaway noted on November 17th the Board should adopt the amended Rules. Also, in the afternoon session the Board will ask for comments from the region chairs regarding by-laws, how planning groups grow their membership, representation of interest groups and decision making among other topics. Lann stated the Board is preparing an RFA for 5th Cycle Amendment for additional funding for Tasks that the legislature could not fully fund during session. He advised public notice of intent to apply for funding is required in February 2017 as well as the application. Regarding the letter sent by Kevin Kluge – TWDB, comments on the draft demand projection methodologies should be submitted to Mr. Kluge by December 2016. Chairman Holcomb discussed with Scott Hall and Rex Hunt the need for the Technical Committee to hold conference call to discuss changes in determination of populations as in the boundary based method.

b. Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife – Terry Stelly

Terry Stelly gave update on fishing stating that after nine weeks, with one week remaining for fall gill netting, spotted sea trout catch rates remain low, half the 30-year average. Salinities remain relatively high (10-15 ppt) which should have enhanced trout numbers. With a number of weak cold fronts, flounder seem to be moving from the marsh to the ship channel for their fall Gulf migration.

c. Texas Department of Agriculture – Manual Martinez – Absent.

9. Report from consultant team – Update on the Round 5 Planning Cycle.

Rex Hunt, planning consultant updated the group on the project schedule, changes to water user groups, interbasin transfer permits and proposed methodology for projections. He highlighted the 2017 schedule including the RFA for 5th Cycle Amendments. Entities losing designation as Water User Groups because they were absorbed into another WUG or 2010 population was less than 500 or projected to provide less than 100 AFY of municipal supply. Entities with new names were another topic, for example, Southern Utilities Company became Southern Utilities or Crystal Systems Inc became Crystal Systems Texas. New municipal water user groups: in August 2016 TWDB released a list of potential WUGs which would provide over 100 AFY of municipal supply but are not owned by a political subdivision; and in September 2016, RWPG Chair submitted a letter to TWDB requesting the TWDB develop projections for potential WUGs. New municipal water user groups established: Federal & State Facilities: TDCJ Coffield Michael, TDCJ Beto Gurney & Powledge Units and TDCJ Eastham Unit. Private Utilities: Algonquin Water Resources of Texas and Wildwood POA. Interbasin transfer (IBT) Permits – TWDB made requests to consultant teams for identification of 2016

WMSs that will require IBT permits, 17 strategies on the list for review and determination whether they are likely to need an IBT. Proposed methodology for developing draft irrigation, manufacturing, and steam-electric water demand projections: November 4, 2016 TWDB released methodology for: Irrigation: most recent 5-year use estimated held constant over the planning period; Manufacturing: 10-year employment growth projections through 2030 used as proxy for demand projections; Steam-electric: based on ERCOT capacity, demand, and reserves report. *December 16, 2016* is the deadline for questions and comments.

10. Educational Presentation:

a. Stephen Cortes – Introduction of the Goldwater Project, the Texas Water Foundation’s proposed project goal is to:

- quantify the amount of water saved as a result of water conservation strategies with quantifiable information and data to allow water planners to more accurately predict future water needs;
- proof that conservation is a source of water that can replace expensive infrastructure projects; reliable and assessable results of conservation efforts for water authorities in the Region; and
- necessary data for an effective and accurate cost-benefit analysis when considering various conservation-oriented policies.

As the project proceeds to measure conservation efforts, many more benefits will be derived. The Texas Water Foundation wants to make conservation a tangible source of water, rather than a vague concept that does not help us plan for future water needs.

The current Regional Water Plan calls for the development of 1.5 million acre-feet of new water at a cost of \$12 billion. Some of the planned projects have an uncertain future as environmental, regulatory, and economic hurdles arise. If all of these projects are not put online in a timely manner, where will we turn for water? The most logical solution is to enhance conservation efforts. As the Project shows the economic viability of water conservation, water conservation will be seen as a *reliable* means to reduce water demand; make conservation a *tangible source* of water that can be planned for and counted on; and *reduce the cost* of new water.

Break for lunch about 11:30 AM

Back in session 12:00 PM

11. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes) None

12. Unfinished Business:

- a. Discussion and Possible action regarding public comments received for Round 5 Water Planning activities – Rex Hunt

Rex Hunt advised the public comment submitted for the 5th Cycle Water Planning activities was from John A. McCall, Sr., OD stating: *“As a long time East Texas land owner, I am strongly opposed to politician’s control of my use of water on my land. I am especially opposed to any meters on my water wells. Most politicians are mainly interested in getting more tax money.”* The comment has been noted and requires no action.

13. New Business:

- a. Consideration and Approval of potential new municipal Water User Groups.

Mark Dunn made a motion to approve the potential new municipal Water User Groups. The motion was seconded by Chris Davis and unanimously passed.

- b. Consideration and Approval authorizing the City of Nacogdoches to provide public notice and submit a grant application to the TWDB for funding to complete Round 5 Planning activities; and to amend the current TWDB Contract for Round 5 Planning activities.

David Alders made a motion to approve authorizing the City of Nacogdoches to provide public notice and submit a grant application to the TWDB for funding to complete Round 5 Planning activities; and to amend the current TWDB contract for Round 5 Planning activities. The motion was seconded by Monty Shank and unanimously passed.

- c. Consideration and Approval of the FY 2017 Administrative Budget – Darla Smith

Darla Smith, Finance Committee Chair proposed a new funding option whereby the four River Authorities in Region I would provide funding for the 2017 Administration Budget by prorating usage per acre foot: ANRA – 3.6%; LNVA – 50.5%; SRA – 36%; and UNRA – 10%. Darla Smith asked for approval of the FY 2017 Administration Budget of \$15,900; and requested \$8,000 (One half of Budget) from River Authorities for the FY 2017 Administration Budget.

Monty Shank had questions about the four river authorities in Region I supplying funding for the Region I 2017 Administration Budget.

After further discussion, Monty Shank made a motion to approve the FY 2017 Budget of \$15,900; and Table the funding request of \$8,000 from the four river authorities until the next regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Michael Harbordt and unanimously passed.

14. General Discussion – None

15. Next Meeting Date - February 8, 2017

16. Adjourn - 12:12 PM. Mark Dunn made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Monty Shank and unanimously passed.

APPROVED THIS 16 day of August 2017.

Kelley Holcomb, Chair
ETRWPG – Region I

ATTEST:

David Brock, Secretary

DRAFT