



MINUTES

Attached are the minutes from the
August 8, 2013
ETRWPG meeting

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
of the
REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP “I”
Wednesday, August 8, 2013 – 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 10:06 a.m.
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – David Alders gave the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum –The roll was called by Lila Fuller and a quorum was determined as follows:

Voting Members Present (16 of 24)

Kelley Holcomb
Leah Adams
David Alders
David Brock
Jerry Clark
Josh David
Chris Davis
Scott Hall
William Heugel
Bill Kimbrough
John Martin
Dale R. Peddy
Monty Shank
Darla Smith
Worth Whitehead
J. Leon Young

Voting Members Absent (4)

Jeff Branick
Mark Dunn
Michael Harbordt
Joseph Holcomb

Voting Member Vacancies (4)

Proxies:

Scott Hall for Jeff Branick
Monty Shank for Michael Harbordt
Kelley Holcomb for Joseph Holcomb

Non-Voting Members Present:

Connie Standridge – Region C

Governmental Reporting Agencies Present:

Lann Bookout, Texas Water Development Board
Terry D. Stelly, Texas Department of Wildlife – CF
Bill Hoppe, Texas Department of Agriculture

Other Guests Present:

Lila Fuller, City of Nacogdoches
Stacy Corley, City of Nacogdoches
Rex Hunt, Alan Plummer Associates
Mary S. Vann – SRA-Tx
Jim Brown – SRA-Tx
R.D. Wittner – Rusk County Groundwater
Jim Jeffers – City of Nacogdoches
Steve Bartlett – City of Nacogdoches
Greg Morgan – City of Tyler
Bill Goodrum – ForeStar Group
Bruce Drury - BTA

4. **Consideration and approval of the minutes of the May 22, 2013, meeting.**

Chris Davis moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Josh David and unanimously passed.

5. **Report from City of Nacogdoches – Lila Fuller.**

Lila Fuller stated the membership directory would be updated electronically until all of the vacancies were filled, then new books would be prepared.

6. **Reports of adjoining regions activity (only as needed):**

- A. Region C - Connie Standridge commented that Region C had appointed three representatives to mediate on behalf of the Region to resolve the interregional conflict between the 2011 Region C and D Regional Water Plans concerning Marvin Nichols Reservoir. They also authorized their Chair to participate on the Stakeholder Committee to develop prioritization standards for the SWFT) and SWIRFT legislation.
- B. Region D - Worth Whitehead stated Region D was working on supply and demand numbers as well.
- C. Region H – David Alders stated Region H was at about the same place in their regional planning as Region I, and that they had adopted population demands as adjusted through TWDB.

7. **Reports from Standing Committees (only as needed):**

- A. **Executive Committee** – No report.
- B. **Finance Committee** – Budget to be presented later in the agenda.
- C. **Bylaws Committee** – No report.
- D. **Technical Committee** – Michael Harbordt reported Item 13 on this agenda would be discussed with the planning group.
- E. **Nominations Committee** – Monty Shank, chair of the Nominations Committee a committee recommendation would be presented under Item 14.

8. **Reports from other State agencies:**

- A. Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife – Terry Stelly reported that there was a larger than average dead zone this year over what was predicted and discussed the impact that

had on the coast. He also stated TWDB/TPW and TDA were looking for pictures of drought impacted areas and they could be uploaded to flicker/groups/texasdrought or contact Lauren at 512-463-2322 to submit.

- B. Texas Department of Agriculture. – Bill Hoppe reported that CDBG grant awards would be announced soon. Explained these grants were for communities and counties and most went for sewer lines, water lines or water wells.

9. **Report from Texas Water Development Board staff:**

A. **Update on 2016 Regional Water Planning process.**

Lann Bookout presented a prioritization of regional water plan projects based on decade of need, feasibility, including availability of water rights, viability, including whether the project is a “comprehensive solution”, sustainability and cost effectiveness. He stated TWDB will convene the stakeholders committee in September to determine standards, with standards to be submitted to TWDB by December 1. He stated the draft prioritization of 2011 regional water plan projects was due June 1, 2014, with final by September 1, 2014.

Lann explained the State Water Plan prioritization was based on:

- Serving a large population
- Serving a diverse urban and rural population
- Provide regionalization
- Meet high percentage of water needs
- As well as considering: local contributions, repayment capacity, emergency needs, ready to proceed, and demonstrated or projected impact on conservation

The role of the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) advisory Committee was to provide comments and recommendation to the Board regarding rulemaking related to State Water Plan project prioritization and use of money in the fund; and to provide evaluations of various aspects of operation of the fund. Committee recommendation n rules regarding SWP prioritization and disbursement of loans from the fund must be submitted to the Board by September 1, 2014.

Lann reviewed the SWIFT implementation Timeline for September 1, 2013 through March 1, 2015 and answered questions.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation can be obtained from the Administrator)

10. **Report from consultant team – Rex Hunt/Alan Plummer Associates. Inc.**

A. Review of schedule (remainder of 2013)

Rex Hunt reviewed the schedule for the remainder of the calendar year.

11. **Educational presentation** – Presentation relating to the provisions of HB 4.

Rex Hunt with Alan Plummer Associates, Inc. reviewed the provisions of House Bill 4 and its implications for East Texas. He stated HB 4 funding provisions provided for an overhaul of the Texas Water Development Board and established a State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) which would serve as a water infrastructure bank, with \$2 billion from the Rainy Day Fund if approved by Proposition 6 on the November 5, 2013 constitutional amendment ballot. If approved, funding would be for reservoirs, conservation programs and water infrastructure projects, but may not be used for grants. He stated after the election, if passed, the Lt. Governor

and Speaker would appoint the SWIFT Advisory Committee, with RWPG Chairs Committee submitting project prioritization standards by December 1, 2013.

The RWPG members asked questions and discussed issues concerning HB 4. RWPG members were encouraged to educate themselves and support Proposition 6 in November.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation can be obtained from the Administrator)

12. **Public comment** – Steve Bartlett, City of Nacogdoches, appeared and voiced his concern for water demand projections that were 30% lower than the City projected. He stated after speaking with ETRWPG staff, he concurs with their numbers and asked that the whole picture is shown in the future to help clarify information.

13. **Unfinished business:**

A. Consideration and Approval of a process to identify and select Water Management Strategies.

Rex Hunt reviewed the draft process to identify and evaluate water management strategies presented to the ETRWPG at the May meeting. He stated at this time the RWPG must receive input on the process, document the process and include any public comment.

The basic steps presented were: 1) identify entities and needs, 2) review recommended strategies in 2011 Plan; 3) determine if new or changed strategies are needed; 4) contact the entity for input and 5) verify recommendation.

He stated potentially feasible WMSs may include: Expanded use of existing supplies, new supplies, conservation and drought management measures, reuse, interbasin transfers and emergency transfers.

Rex stated the ETRWPG evaluation process would utilize current TCEQ-approved WAM for new surface water appropriates; considering environmental flows; utilize approved MAGS and DFCs for specific aquifers for new/expanded projects; provide an equitable and consistent comparison between all WMSs and prepare quantitative reporting for each WMS on quantity, cost and reliability. As part of the evaluation, impacts on water resources, impacts/threats to agricultural or natural resources, interbasin transfers and third-party social and economic impacts from voluntary redistributions of water, impacts on key water quality parameters, existing pipelines and other conveyance infrastructure and other relevant issues as necessary.

He further explained the strategy must also be sufficiently specific to allow financial decisions by TWDB, use proven technology, and have a firm supply during the drought-of-record, be appropriate for regional planning, have an identifiable sponsor, consider end use and meet existing regulations.

Scott Hall moved to approve the process for identifying and selecting water management strategies as presented. The motion was seconded by Worth Whitehead and unanimously passed.

(A copy of the PowerPoint presentation can be obtained from the Administrator)

14. **New Business:**

A. **Consideration of Recommendations from the Nominations Committee regarding Planning Group Membership.**

Monty Shank, nominations committee chair, stated the committee was looking at maintaining the original voting membership at 22 rather than 24 in light of the addition of GMA representatives and resignation of 4 voting members. He stated they had received seven (7) nominations for the vacancies, however did not have enough information for six of the applicants and would need time to get additional information. He reviewed the membership categories and made the following Committee recommendation:

- 1) Maintain the voting membership at 22 rather than 24
- 2) Move Kelly Holcomb from Water Utilities to River Authority representative, Josh David from Other to Agriculture representative, Bill Kimbrough from Other to Public representative, and add the Water Utilities and Municipality representative positions in the vacant classifications
- 3) Appoint Greg Morgan, City of Tyler, as the Municipality representative.

David Alders asked that the Bylaws be reviewed prior to making any decision on the membership numbers and categories, to verify there would be no conflict.

Monty Shank moved to appoint Greg Morgan, managing director of utilities and public works for the City of Tyler, to fill the Municipality position vacated by Duke Lyons. The motion was seconded by Josh Davis and unanimously passed.

Greg Morgan took his seat with the other RWPG members.

At this time, Chair Holcomb recognized Bill Goodrum with ForeStar Group to make a public comment.

Public comment – Bill Goodrum with ForeStar Group asked what the deadline was for water management strategies. Rex Hunt stated it would be helpful to have by the end of 2013.

B. **Consideration and approval of Municipal Population and Water Demand Projections for Water User Groups in the East Texas Regional Water Planning Area.**

Rex Hunt reviewed the recommended population projects by County and stated comments had been received from the City of Nacogdoches and City of Center. He explained the projections were determined from the 2010 Census figures.

Lann Bookout stated any changes in the populations must have supporting documentation.

David Alders moved to approve the Municipal Population and Water Demand Projections for Water User Groups in the ETRWPG as presented. The motion was seconded by Monty Shank and unanimously passed.

C. Consideration and approval of FY 2014 annual budget.

Darla Smith, Finance Committee chair, presented the FY 2014 annual budget for Administrative Funds, showing a 10% reduction in the County requests and a 15% reduction in expenditures.

Jerry Clark moved to accept the FY 2014 budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Chris Davis and unanimously passed.

15. **Chairman's Report – Kelley Holcomb.** Chair Holcomb reviewed the result of the Regional Chairs Conference call from July 2, which was mostly a discussion regarding the prioritization plan from TWDB and HB 4.

16. **General Discussion – Proposed dates for future meetings: November 20, 2013.**

Chair Holcomb stated the next meeting would be tentatively scheduled November 20, 2013 unless sooner required due to work on the 2017 Regional Water Plan.

17. **Adjourn** – Chair Holcomb adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 26th day of February, 2014

Kelley Holcomb, Chair
ETRWPG – Region I

ATTEST:

Jerry Clark, Secretary

Minutes approved: February 26, 2014