

FAR WEST TEXAS WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING

Thursday, September 27, 2012
1:30 P.M. (CDT) at:
Sul Ross State University
400 N. Harrison Street
Espino Conference Center A
Alpine, TX 79832
(432) 837-8191

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT	NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT
Tom Beard, Agriculture, Chairman	Connie Townsend, TWDB
Scott Reinert, Municipalities – Alt Ed Archuleta	
Jesus (Chuy) Reyes, Water Districts	
Teresa Todd, Legislative Representative	
Dave Hall, Public	
Janet Adams, Groundwater Districts	
Paul A. Perez, Industries Alt. Ann Allen	
Talley Davis, Groundwater Dist-Alt Randy Barker	
Jeff Bennett, Environmental	
Sterry Butcher, Public	
John T. Jones, GMA 4	
Albert Miller, Water Utilities	
Jim Ed Miller, Water Districts	
Charles Stegall, Counties – Alt Kenn Norris	
Arlina Palacios, Public	
Roger Chacon, Electric Generating Utilities	
VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Ed Archuleta, Municipalities	Michael Ada, RGCOG
Paige Waggoner, Econ Develop, Ex Comm Sect	Martha Arambula, RGCOG
Becky Brewster, Municipalities	John Ashworth, LBG Guyton
Ann Allen, Industries	Dennis Vasquez, NPS Guadalupe Mtns NP
Randy Barker, Groundwater Districts	Michael Sullins, TPWD
Michael Davidson, Tourism	Darryl S. Vereen, Attorney
David F. Etzold, Bldg/Real Estate	Kevin Urbanczyk, Ph.D.
Sylvia B. Firth, Municipalities	
Tania Chozet, Counties	
Mike Livingston, Small Business	
Kenn Norris, Counties	
Rick Tate, Agriculture	

I. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Chairman Tom Beard called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. CDT. Quorum was determined for execution of WPG business.

II. Recognition of Guests and Designated Alternates

All present were recognized.

Consent Agenda

III. Approval of the Minutes of the WPG Meeting, August 23, 2012.

IV. Certification of Allowable Administrative Expenses

Chairman Beard requested a motion to accept and approve Consent Agenda. Mr. Chuy Reyes made the motion. Motion was seconded. No Discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Agenda

V. Membership Affirmations and Appointments

a. Affirmations of Groundwater Management Area 4 Representative

Chairman Beard requested a motion to affirm Mr. John T. Jones as GMA 4 Representative for FWTWPG Region E. Teresa Todd made the motion. Motion was seconded. No Discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Affirmation of ascension of Alternate to Primary Voting Member Status, Roger Chacon (Electric Generating Utilities)

Chairman Beard requested a motion to affirm the ascension of Alternate to Primary Voting Member status of Roger Chacon (Electric Generating Utilities). Albert Miller made the motion. Motion was seconded. No Discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Appointment of Region E Voting Member liaison to Region F.

Chairman Beard volunteered to serve as Region E Voting Member liaison to Region F. Teresa Todd made the motion to appoint Tom Beard as Region E Voting Member liaison to Region F. Motion was seconded. No Discussion. The motion passed unanimously. Dave Hall expressed a desire to Mr. Beard to become his alternate in this category to learn how other groups conduct business and Mr. Beard Accepted.

VI. Member Updates

Mr. Scott Reinert and Mr. Chuy Reyes updated the group on the rehabilitation, installation, the cost of new water wells, and distribution of surface water. Mr. Reyes and Mr. Reinert informed the group that Mr. Ed Archuleta will be retiring around June or July, 2013 but will remain active in other activities.

Mr. Jeff Bennett with the BBNP updated the group on a Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC), project involving the development of a stable environmental tourism plan; the science around the killing of salt cedar/giant cane; the science around 2008 flooding; establishing an environmental flow program for the Rio Grande; and the development of a conservation assessment strategy for the Rio Grande. Mr. Bennett agreed to provide an official presentation regarding the items mentioned at the next general meeting of the Far west Texas Water Planning Group.

VII. TWDB Update

Ms. Connie Townsend updated the group regarding the new online source module database and the training given to consultants and project managers. The previously provided powerpoint presentation is being refined for statewide use by the TWDB. Additionally a pamphlet will be developed containing information from the presentation for statewide distribution. Managed Available Groundwater numbers are to be entered into DB17 by mid-October, 2012. November 8th Chairs Conference Call has been scheduled and an agenda is forthcoming. The TWDB will be issuing more consolidated user-friendly online surveys dealing with drought.

VIII. Consultant Update

a. Amended Round 4 Contract Budget Recommendations

(See issued Handout for Budget Recommendations). Mr. John Ashworth went over the issued handout and issued his recommendations to adjust the Round 4 Contract Budget. Chairman Beard requested a motion to allow The Rio Grande Council of Governments to negotiate the contract with the TWDB using LBG Guyton's Budget Recommendations. Dave Hall made the motion. Motion was seconded. No Discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. "MAGS vs. 2011 Plan Groundwater Supply Comparison."

(See issued Handout for MAGS vs. 2011 FWT Plan Availability). Mr. John Ashworth went over the MAG numbers on the Aquifers per GCD Counties.

IX. Administrative & Procedural Matters

a. Schedule Next Regular Meeting

Members requested an Executive Committee meeting to review TWDB contract negotiations. The meeting was tentatively set for November 15, 2012. Chairman Beard requested that the Executive Committee discuss requesting Mr. Ed Archuleta's continued involvement with the FWTWPG after his retirement.

X. Adjourn

Chairman Tom Beard adjourned the meeting at 2:45 P.M. (CDT).