

*** Meeting minutes should be considered DRAFT until approved at the next council meeting. ***

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 20, 2018
 Time: 10:30 a.m.
 Location: 3505 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX 78744

Meeting chaired by: Karen Guz, Presiding Officer
 Meeting Facilitators: TWDB support staff

<i>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</i>	Jennifer Allis	<i>Institutional Water Users</i>	Eddy Trevino
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	Alternate David Villarreal	<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Carole Baker
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Cindy Loeffler	<i>Higher Education</i>	Tim Loftus
<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Alternate Steven Bednarz	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	-----
<i>Texas Water Development Board</i>	Alternate Kevin Kluge	<i>Refining and Chemical Manufacturing</i>	-----
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	Aubrey Spear	<i>Electric Generation</i>	-----
<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Maria Martinez	<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	CJ Tredway
<i>Municipalities</i>	Karen Guz	<i>Landscape Irrigation and Horticulture</i>	Anai Padilla
<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	Sarah Schlessinger	<i>Water Control and Improvement Districts</i>	-----
<i>River Authorities</i>	-----	<i>Rural Water Users</i>	Celia Eaves
<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Ken Kramer	<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>	Donna Howe
<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	Wayne Halbert		

Also present: (Alternates) Jennifer Walker; and (Interested Parties) Valerie Miller, James Theiss, Ruthie Redmond, Jonathan Kleinman, Beth Hood, Gary L. Betz, Heather Dalrymple, Meghan Bock, Kelley Faulk, Natalie Houston, and Veronica Osegueda.

- Meeting called to order at 10:35 a.m.
- Introduction:
 - Jason Godeaux is the new Alternate for TCEQ
- Approval of Minutes from February 14, 2018 meeting
 The council took up minutes from the previous meeting. Minutes were approved with 1 edit (spelling correction).
- Public Comment
 There was no public comment.
- Update from Texas Water Development Board
 John Dupnik was introduced as the Deputy Executive Administrator for the TWDB. There have been some changes as the Board of the TWDB. Peter Lake was named Chairman of the Board, and Director Brooke Paup has been brought on as the newest board member.

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Daniel Rice and Shae Luther are continuing to conduct Water Loss Audit Workshops around the state.

The TWDB and other state agencies have to review their Records Retention Plan. Kevin has been working with legal staff to discuss how the Records Retention Plan applies to the Council's files, which are held on the TWDB server. Agendas and meeting minutes are considered permanent; however, the Legislative Reports are to be kept for six years before being archived with the state library. Certain resources held on the Save Texas Water website are required to be held for three years prior to being archived. Kevin will keep the Council updated as things progress or if anything needs Council consideration.

- Report from the subcommittee to review council bylaws:

The bylaws committee submitted recommendations for changes to the Council's bylaws. Changes were made available for review and discussion by the Council. [Changes can be found on the Save Water for Texas Website].

The Council did have a few issues regarding the language concerning voting for legislative recommendations vs. elections, etc., what constitutes a majority, and how many members/alternates are needed for a quorum. The Bylaws committee will revisit and bring a new draft to the Council at the next meeting.

- Workgroup Reports

- Agriculture – nothing to report.
- Commercial & Institutional – CI BMP Guide has gone out and is welcoming feedback from Council Members.
- Industrial – nothing to report.
- Municipal – The Municipal Workgroup met on February 28th. Multiple BMPs were discussed, several people offered to draft BMP documents. Also, the workgroup believed a 'Getting Started' document would be very beneficial.

Karen G. asked about how distributing the submitted feedback was going. Josh stated that the Council could continue receiving submitted feedback through emails via Josh or Josh could potentially make a 'dummy' page through the Save Texas Water website, email the link to said page out to the Council and thereby the Council would have one place to review all submitted feedback. The Council agreed creating the 'dummy' webpage would be preferred.

The workgroup will have another meeting on April 5th.

- Public Awareness – nothing to report.
- Water Loss – There was a meeting of the Outdoor Watering Focus Group on March 28th, in which several BMPs regarding water loss were discussed.
- Wholesale – There will be a conference call for the Wholesale Workgroup on April 11th. Josh will send out additional information.

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- Discussion Regarding the 2018 Legislative Report

A draft of the 2016 report was given out with comments regarding updates needed, etc. Discussion focused on the deadline for a first draft for the report. Council members elected to have a draft of content to be included in the 2018 report by the May 9th meeting.

Legislative recommendations were also discussed. The Council elected to keep the additional recommendations from the previous report on the table and discuss in more depth at the June 20th meeting.

D. Villarreal proposed a recommendation regarding the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee. The Committee would like to include four of the remaining five recommendations from the previous report in their upcoming report, as well as ask the Council to include a recommendation to the legislature to clarify the roles of the WCAC vs. the TGPC in terms of providing legislative recommendations.

Additionally, Ken K. brought up taking a look at the statute regarding the Tax Holiday, and seeing if the Council could make recommendations on what items are included. Karen G. brought up content regarding conservation plans.

Karen G. mentioned that while there is a lot of data asked for the conservation plan, there is not a narrative document or statement of intent or how an entity intends to achieve its goals required for the conservation plan. A question was raised as to if a change would have to be implemented by statute. A point raised was that the timing of including in this report may not be optimal considering conservation plans would be due in May 2019. Perhaps this recommendation would best be saved for the next report. Ken K. mentioned perhaps we could include a recommendation regarding implementation of the conservation reports. The prospect of requiring entities to post their conservation goals to their communities/the public was brought up. Anai P. commented that standardizing the plans could be something TWDB looks at due to the discrepancy in information turned in as part of the Water Conservation Plans. Kevin K. brought up that TWDB is attempting to integrate water loss and conservation databases and ultimately create online reports to show what has been submitted.

David V. will draft language and background information on the TGPC recommendation.

Karen G. will draft language regarding the Conservation Plan Content recommendation.

All Members/Alternates were asked to take a look at the sections pertaining to their respective interests and get feedback to Josh before the next meeting.

- Announcement of Conferences and Events

Mindy Conyers, now in charge of the State Flood Assessment is holding workshops across the state. Visit: www.TexasFloodAssessment.org

Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium is being held on Thursday, March 22nd in Houston.

- Future Meetings:

Thursday, April 5th 11:00 a.m.: Municipal Workgroup Meeting @ LCRA Rosebud Center

Thursday, April 5th 1:00 p.m.: Outdoor Watering Focus Group Meeting @ LCRA Rosebud Center

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Wednesday, May 9th 10:30 a.m.: WCAC Meeting @ LCRA
Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive, Austin, TX 78744 Building A

Wednesday, June 20th 10:30 a.m.: WCAC Meeting @ Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road, Austin, TX 78744 Commission Hearing Room

- Presentation

Ruthie Redmond, Water Resources Specialist – Texas Living Waters Project & Jonathan Kleinman, President – Aqueous: *Water Conservation by the Yard: A Statewide Analysis of Outdoor Water Savings Potential*.

- Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.