

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Monday, August 26, 2013
 Time: 10:36 a.m. – 12:34 p.m.
 Location: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
 Conference Room – Building 6
 1340 Airport Commerce – Austin, TX

Meeting chaired by: C.E. Williams, Presiding Officer
 Meeting Facilitators: TWDB support staff

<i>Institutional Water Users</i>	Bill Hoffman	<i>Refining & Chemical Manufacturing</i>	----
<i>Landscape Irrigation & Horticulture</i>	Brad Smith	<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Ken Kramer
<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Alternate Nora Mullarky	<i>Higher Education</i>	Kevin Wagner
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	C.E. Williams	<i>Water Control & Improvement Districts</i>	Linda Christie
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Alternate Lynne Hamlin	<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	Stacey Steinbach
<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>	Donna Howe	<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Richard Egg
<i>Electric Generation</i>	Gary Spicer	<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	David Villarreal
<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	CJ Tredway	<i>TWDB</i>	Alternate Jim Bateman
<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Jay Bragg	<i>TCEQ</i>	Chris Loft
<i>Rural Water Users</i>	Lara Zent	<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Steven Bednarz
<i>River Authorities</i>	Jim Parks	<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	Wayne Halbert
<i>Municipalities</i>	Karen Guz		

At 10:36 AM the meeting was called to order by C.E. Williams. The minutes were approved from the June 26, 2013 meeting without discussion. The group introduced themselves and special recognition was given to new Council members in attendance.

Executive Director of Keeping PACE in Texas-Charlene Heydinger gave a presentation on Senate Bill 385 and how it relates to water conservation in the state. Discussion centered on conservation incentive programs for businesses and industry.

There was discussion on the Best Management Practice timeline to be posted on the website for tracking of workgroup progress. The Council approved the timeline for future use.

The Council discussed suggestions for water conservation education programs to be funded by the Texas Water Development Board. The discussion centered on matching funds and groups that have shown progress already within the sector. Additionally, the Council felt like universities, industrial entities and commercial groups would be interested in the water conservation education programs.

The Council took up the Best Management Practices that are ready or active within the workgroups. The Agriculture Workgroup described their work on their five Best Management Practices updates: Furrow Dikes, Land Leveling, Contour Farming, Conversion of Supplemental Irrigated Farmland to Dryland, and Brush Control. The Council voted and approved the five practices for submission to the Texas Water Development Board for final processing.

The Industrial Workgroup is continuing to work on their Best Management Practices for the future. Will have practices for discussion at a later date.

There was discussion on the Landscape Workgroup and if one should be created. The group would like to create more of a resource document that could be linked between the different Best Management Practices in different sectors. The Texas Water Development Board staff will work with the Workgroup to develop the links and a resource document on the website.

The Municipal Workgroup brought up several Best Management Practices for approval by the Council. The Council moved and approved the Gallons Per Capita Daily calculator to be a resource document instead of a standalone Best Management Practice. The Council discussed and edited slightly the System Water Audit and Water Loss Control Best Management Practice. The Water Waste Prohibitions and Enforcement Practice will receive more editing and refinement by the workgroup and Texas Water Development Board staff. There was a motion to approve the following Best Management Practices by the Council: Residential Clothes Washer Initiative, Conservation Ordinance Planning and Development, Athletic Fields Conservation, Small Utility Outreach and Education, Residential Landscape Irrigation Evaluation, and Partnerships with Nonprofit Organization. The Council voted and approved the Best Management Practices for submission to the Texas Water Development Board for final processing.

The Municipal workgroup would like to continue to update other Best Management Practices as needed.

The Council discussed the creation of a Blue Legacy Award in Landscape Practices. The Council agreed to table the award program for discussion in the future while they work on more information for the exact industry and recipients they had in mind.

The Council discussed the proposed Blue Legacy Award in Manufacturing with a draft of the Award Packet. Texas Water Development Board staff provided background on the origins of the award. The Council decided to give out one award for the inaugural round. The program will follow the same process as the previous Blue Legacy Awards. The nominees will go to a selection committee with the Council.

The Council discussed upcoming conferences.

- The Texas Groundwater Summit begins August 27th, tomorrow.
- On September 11th the National Council for Public Private Partnerships will have a conference on Water in Texas.
- There will be a workshop for industrial users including energy, food and beverage on Sept 25th at the LCRA Service Center.

The Council scheduled the next two meetings of the Water Conservation Advisory Council at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Austin Field Office.

- Tuesday, October 15, 2013 at 10 a.m.
- Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 10 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:34 p.m.