

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

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: TPWD Commission Hearing Room - 4200 Smith School Rd Austin, TX 78744

Meeting chaired by: Karen Guz, Presiding Officer

Meeting Facilitators: Josh Sendejar, TWDB Support Staff

<i>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</i>	Jennifer Allis	<i>Institutional Water Users</i>	
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	Alternate: David Villareal	<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: Steve Bednarz	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Jay Bragg
<i>Texas Water Development Board</i>	Kevin Kluge	<i>Refining and Chemical Manufacturing</i>	Craig Elam
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	Aubrey Spear	<i>Electric Generation</i>	Gary Spicer
<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 Roundtree Schlessinger	<i>Water Control and Improvement Districts</i>	Alternate: Dustan Compton
<i>River Authorities</i>	Vacant	<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]: Lynne Hamlin; [Interested Parties]: Valerie Miller, John De Cell, Doug Goodwin, Dub Taylor, Clint Wolfe, Robert Stefanli, Whitney Johnson, Victoria MacClements, Meghan Bock, Kylie Beard, Gary Betz, John Dupnik, Sam Hermitte, Jessica Woods, Cameron Turner, Ruthie Redmond.

** Documents can be found at: <http://www.savetexaswater.org/meeting/council-meetings.asp>**

The meeting was called to order and began at 10:37 a.m.

1. Introduction
2. Approval of minutes from the May 9, 2018 meeting
The meeting minutes were approved.
3. Public Comment
There was no public comment.
4. Update from Texas Water Development Board
The nomination period for the Council Member representing River Authorities will end on June 29th.

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Online Conservation Report data portal still in development.

RFQ for Water Conservation tool sent out, hoping to have tool ready by Fall.

5. Review and possible action on revision of bylaws

The Bylaws were approved with presented edits.

6. Reports from Workgroups

- a. Agriculture: A Conference Call was conducted on June 13th; The Workgroup submitted an updated recommendation for the 2018 report. The need for improved data collection/availability was vehemently expressed from the workgroup.
- b. Commercial & Institutional: CI BMP Guide was put out for public comment and now ready for approval from the Council for submittal to TWDB.
- c. Industrial: Nothing to report.
- d. Municipal: 7 out of 8 Municipal BMPs sent out for public comment are ready for submittal to TWDB, with the approval of the Council.
The BMPs were discussed at the Municipal Workgroup Meeting on June 12th. The System Water Audit and Water Loss BMP needs further revision before submittal.
- e. Public Awareness: Nothing to Report.
- f. Water Loss: A meeting was held in conjunction with the Municipal Workgroup on June 12th. Data validation for the System Water Audit and Water Loss BMP was discussed.
- g. Wholesale & Regional Water Authorities: A Conference Call was held on June 6th. Updates to BMPs, Legislative Report Updates, and updates to the workgroup webpage were discussed.

7. Discussion and potential action on BMPs previously up for public comment

7 out of the 8 Municipal BMPs previously up for public comment were deemed ready for submission to TWDB for inclusion in the BMP Guide by the Municipal Workgroup.

Discussion was brought up on the *Enforcement of Irrigation Licensing Standards* BMP. Several interested parties commented that they did not believe enough time was given for proper comment to be received and asked for an extension of the public comment period. Several members agreed that perhaps the comment period should be extended.

Discussion was also brought up concerning the *Outdoor Watering Schedule* BMP. The discussion focused on the examples of variances and the omission of city parks from the list. Comments were made that this BMP is voluntary, and the list of examples is not conclusive but offers examples of variances a municipality could consider. K. Kramer brought up that if this is the only objection, TWDB can edit the BMP to include city parks in the examples list.

The public comment period for the Enforcement of Irrigation Licensing Standards BMP will be extended until July 17th.

The remaining 6 BMPs, including the Outdoor Watering Schedule BMP were accepted with discussed edits from TWDB.

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8. Discussion regarding the 2018 Legislative Report

Discussion was brought up about where we are in the report process. At this point, a few updates (including the two that follow) have been received.

a. Content Updates

Ken Kramer introduced an update to Charge 6 (Monitor the implementation of water conservation strategies by water users included in regional water plans). [see link above for document.]

b. Legislative Recommendations

The Agriculture Workgroup revised a recommendation from the 2016 Legislative Report (Maintain funding for agricultural water conservation programs). The update includes adding 'research' to the recommendation and other updates. [see link above for document].

After discussing ways of communicating needs for the report, it was decided that Josh will highlight which sections of the report have not received substantial updates and discuss with Karen. Josh and Karen will then focus messaging and correspondence on those best suited to provide necessary updates.

Additionally, recommendations will be discussed at the next meeting (July 18th), all recommendations should be drafted and submitted to Josh by July 11th.

9. Presentation – Clint Wolfe: AgriLife Water University – Research Based Education

[see link above for presentation]

10. Announcement of conferences and events

August 7-8: Public Drinking Water Conference – Austin, TX

<https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/conference.html>

August 28-30: Texas Groundwater Summit – San Antonio, TX

<https://texasgroundwater.org/draft-texas-groundwater-summit/>

September 30: Deadline for Film Submission – Water Texas Film Contest

<http://www.watertexasfilms.org/>

11. Future Meeting Dates and Locations

July 18th – LCRA Dalchau Service Center (3505 Montopolis Dr. Austin, TX 78744) [10:30 a.m.]

September 6th – Dalchau Service Center (3505 Montopolis Dr. Austin, TX 78744) [10:30 a.m.]

October 16th – Dalchau Service Center (3505 Montopolis Dr. Austin, TX 78744) [10:30 a.m.]

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:48 p.m.