

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday January 27, 2010
 Time: 10:02 am – 1:20 pm
 Location: 1501 North Congress Ave
 Austin, Texas
 Conference Rooms of Robert E. Johnson Bldg

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

Council Members in attendance are listed below:

<i>Institutional Water Users</i>		<i>Refining & Chemical Manufacturing</i>	
<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Carole Baker	<i>Landscape Irrigation & Horticulture</i>	Kelly Hall
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	CE Williams	<i>Environmental Groups</i>	
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Cindy Loeffler	<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	Luana Buckner
<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>		<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Richard Egg
<i>Electric Generation</i>	Gary Spicer	<i>TWDB</i>	Robert Mace
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	Gary Walker	<i>TCEQ</i>	Scott Swanson
<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	Gene Montgomery	<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Steven Bednarz
<i>Rural Water Users</i>	Alternate ~ Lara Zent	<i>Higher Education</i>	Vivien Allen
<i>Water Control & Improvement Districts</i>	Alternate ~ Linda Christie	<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	Wayne Halbert
<i>River Authorities</i>	Jim Parks	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Wilson Scaling
<i>Municipalities</i>	Karen Guz		

At 10:02 am the council meeting was called to order by Presiding Officer C.E. Williams. The first item on the agenda was the approval of the previous council meeting minutes. The previous minutes were approved. The floor was opened for public comment for which there was none.

The next item on the agenda was a presentation by Chris Neighbors with Texas Custom Turf. His presentation discussed using synthetic turf applications in residential and commercial settings as a water conservation measure. In his presentation he discussed the historical use of the product, the chemical make up of the product and the potential water savings.

The next item on the agenda was a discussion on the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) strategic planning process. Robert Mace gave an update on some upcoming initiatives. He informed the Council that the TWDB would be sending out two surveys in the near future. One would be a survey on agency services that is intended to reach out to a large audience of TWDB customers and stakeholders. The other survey would be sent out to a select group of stakeholders for the purposes of gathering input on agency activities to include in the TWDB' 2011-2015 Strategic Plan. This lead into a discussion on the time frames for the TWDB' Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) for both baseline appropriations and for exceptional items requests and how the Council can coordinate their efforts with those dates in

mind. Following the meeting, TWDB staff prepared a draft time line which is included as an attachment to these minutes.

After that discussion, a question was raised about the results of the TWDB' 2010 Research and Planning Fund grant topics. The response was that there may possibly be one or two water conservation related topics that will make a final list for Request for Proposals. That is still to be determined.

The next item on the agenda was discussion on the Best Management Practices (BMP) Guide and the processes of updating the guide. Some council members expressed concerns about taking on the lead role for receiving, accepting and reviewing BMP suggestions. There was concern about the time investment and expertise required to support that type of initiative. There was some question and discussion about the levels of data and information that currently exists relating to the usage and implementation of BMPs. It was suggested that maybe the TCEQ, TWDB, and Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) could provide some general level of information pertaining to the levels and extent of implementation.

A motion was proposed to revise the current BMP solicitation draft letter. The letter would be revised to target a more specific group such as associations. It was also decided that the letter will not include a detailed set of guidelines. Motion proposed by Linda Christie and unanimously approved.

The next item on the agenda was discussion on the legislative report. Council members discussed the timeline and format of what the next report should look like. They discussed how the report should be more concise, focus more on the charges, and focus more on policy recommendations/suggestions versus appropriations. The attached draft time line also includes tasks for the Council's report.

The next item on the agenda was a status report from the workgroup chairs. Workgroup 1 provided the Council with a written summary of the action items that have been taking place since the last council meeting.

Workgroup 2 provided the Council with a written summary of the action items that have been taking place since the last council meeting. The next Workgroup 2 meeting will be 2/24/10, location TBD. It was suggested and agreed that the WCAC would invite Sherri Vogel from New Mexico to give a presentation on GPCD.

Workgroup 3 will plan on scheduling another conference call soon.

A member from Workgroup 4 proposed that the charges of workgroup 4 be reallocated to Workgroup 1 because it may fit better within education and awareness. No decision was made on this suggestion.

The next council meeting date was set for April 1, 2010 at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Austin Field Office.

The council meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

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Attachment: Timeline of 2010 Activities

Key Dates	Financial & Appropriations Suggestions	Policy Suggestions	WCAC Legislative Report
February 2010			TWDB staff prepares outline and partial draft content for Council Members review
March 2010	WCAC members are encouraged to finalize their suggestions for any TWDB LAR appropriations		Council Members provide TWDB staff with additional ideas and content
April 2010	A package is developed by TWDB staff in preparation for presenting initial LAR appropriations and exceptional items to TWDB Board Members.	April 1 Council meeting: Members discuss suggestions	April 1 Council meeting: Review and discussion on report content; assignments to Members and TWDB staff for additional content
May 2010	LAR appropriations and exceptional items are presented to TWDB Board Members.		
June 2010		WCAC members are requested to finalize their policy suggestions and submit to TWDB, TCEQ as appropriate	Council Members review and discuss a “complete draft” of report and request revisions as needed
July 2010	TWDB Board Members vote on approval of TWDB’ LAR appropriations and exceptional items.	A package is developed by TWDB staff in preparation for presenting policy recommendations to TWDB Board Members.	WCAC members are encouraged to review, compile and finalize content of report
August 2010	LAR appropriations and exceptional items are presented to Legislative Budget Board.	Policy recommendations are presented to TWDB Board Members.	Legislative Report DRAFT Submitted to TWDB , TCEQ Leadership for comments.
September 2010			Council reviews and approves content of final report. Legislative Report submitted to TWDB for editorial review & publication preparation
October 2010			
November 2010			Legislative Report published
December 2010			Legislative Report submitted