

Summary of Minutes

Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2015
 Time: 1:00 pm
 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>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</i>	Chris Loft	<i>Institutional Water Users</i>	Bill Hoffman
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	Dan Hunter	<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Carole Baker
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Cindy Loeffler	<i>Higher Education</i>	Kevin Wagner
<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Alternate Steven Bednarz	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Jay Bragg
<i>Texas Water Development Board</i>	Robert Mace	<i>Refining and Chemical Manufacturing</i>	Alternate Craig Elam
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	C.E. Williams	<i>Electric Generation</i>	Gary Spicer
<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Alternate Brian Wenberg	<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	CJ Tredway
<i>Municipalities</i>	Alternate Ruthanne Haut	<i>Landscape Irrigation and Horticulture</i>	-----
<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	Stacey Steinbach	<i>Water Control and Improvement Districts</i>	Alternate Dustan Compton
<i>River Authorities</i>	Alternate Denise Hickey	<i>Rural Water Users</i>	-----
<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Ken Kramer	<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>	Donna Howe
<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	Wayne Halbert		

Also attended: (Alternates) Jennifer Allis, Calvin Finch, Nora Mullarkey, Eddy Trevino, David Villarreal, and Jennifer Walker; and (Interested Parties) Kathleen Jackson, Jennifer White, Perry Fowler, JimBob Sims, Jonathon Blackburn, Shannon Rodriguez, Katie Anderson, Matthew Berg, Damian Kemper, Charlie Flatten, Bart Bohn, Laura Mulhern, Shannon Harris, Logan Dunning, Natalie Houston, Sarah Rountree Schlessinger, Tim Loftus, Jonathan Kleinman, Heather Dalrymple, Michael Vollmar, and Jennifer Nations.

- Approval of Minutes from August 3, 2015 meeting

The Council took up minutes from the previous meeting. Minutes were approved.

- Public Comment

There was no public comment.

- Texas Water Development Board Update from Director Kathleen Jackson

Director Jackson provided a brief update on the Texas Water Development Board and on water conservation in Texas.

- Update on status of expiring terms and filling of vacancies

Almost fifty nomination letters were received by the Texas Water Development Board regarding expiring terms on the Council. TWDB staff plans to take the Executive Administrator's recommendations to the Board in late October.

- Presentation on "The 811 Role in Protecting Underground Utilities, Preventing Damage, and Minimizing Water Loss" by JimBob Sims of Texas811

Presentation slides posted to www.savetexaswater.org/.

- Presentation on "Meeting Water Planning Goals with New Data on Urban Conservation Programs" by Katie Anderson and Matthew Berg, Ph.D., of Save Water Co

Presentation slides posted to www.savetexaswater.org/.

- Presentation on "Expanding PACE Financing for Water Conservation Across Texas" by Jonathon Blackburn of the Texas PACE Authority

Presentation slides posted to www.savetexaswater.org/.

- Reports from Workgroups

Agriculture - During a recent conference call, the workgroup discussed the status of the Brush Control Best Management Practice document and the possibility of developing two new best management practices for agricultural water conservation.

Commercial & Institutional - The Commercial and Institutional also met via a conference call recently. Utilities with case studies related to commercial and institutional water use efficiency are encouraged to submit those to wcac@twdb.texas.gov.

Industrial - The workgroup hopes to finalize the preliminary draft "Refining Water Best Practices" and will investigate a similar document from the American Petroleum Institute.

Municipal - The workgroup suggested that the Council invite a speaker to present on the Goldwater Project which tracks the progress of municipal conservation. The workgroup plans to host a conference call soon to discuss several items.

Public Awareness - The workgroup provided an update on the public awareness efforts of the North Texas Municipal Water District including the *Water 4 Otter* campaign and the *Water My Yard* tool.

Wholesale - The workgroup had nothing to report.

- Discussion on upcoming Council activities and scheduling

The Council had preliminary discussions on the organization of the report to the legislature, the process related to including recommendations in the report, and the timeline to complete the report by December of 2016. The Council discussed including at least six weeks near the end of the report writing process to allow time for all members to review the Council's recommendations with their respective interest groups. No formal action was taken.

- Announcements of conferences and events

The following events were announced:

October 2, 2015 - 2nd Annual Eagle Ford Safety & Equipment Rodeo Roundup;

October 6, 2015 - Screening of the winning entries for *Water, Texas* Film Contest;

October 14-16, 2015 - Texas Water Conservation Association Fall Meeting;

October 16, 2015 - Deadline for Texas Water 2016 abstract submission; and

March of 2016 - Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium is soliciting presentation topics and speakers for their meeting to be held next spring.

- Discussion and selection of dates and locations of future meetings

The next meeting of the Water Conservation Advisory Council is scheduled for Tuesday, December 8, 2015, at 1:00pm at the Texas Parks and Wildlife - Austin Field Office.

- Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.