Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Tuesday-October 19, 2010

Time: 10:05 am – 1:30pm

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

Council Members in attendance are listed below:

Institutional Water Users	Bill Hoffman	Refining & Chemical Manufacturing	
Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation	Carole Baker	Landscape Irrigation & Horticulture	Kelly Hall
Regional Water Planning Groups	C.E. Williams	Environmental Groups	Ken Kramer
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Cindy Loeffler	Groundwater Conservation Districts	
Municipal Utility Districts	Donna Howe	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	Richard Egg
Electric Generation	Gary Spicer	TWDB	Robert Mace
Texas Department of Agriculture	Gary Walker	TCEQ	Scott Swanson
Mining and Recovery of Minerals		Federal Agencies	Steven Bednarz
Rural Water Users	Janet Adams	Higher Education	
Water Control & Improvement Districts		Irrigation Districts	Wayne Halbert
River Authorities	Jim Parks	Agricultural Groups	Wilson Scaling
Municipalities	Karen Guz		

At 10:05 am the 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 presiding chair asked for status updates on workgroup activities or other activities outside the workgroup. Carole Baker gave an update on the upcoming Agricultural Irrigation Expo 2010 in Harlingen. Cindy Loeffler gave an update on and upcoming Texas Parks and Wildlife event that celebrates the release of the *Texas State of Water* video series.

The Council then moved into discussion on the draft report. The format of the discussion focused primarily on minor editorial changes and final revisions of the report. After some detailed discussion, the Council formally voted to approve the final version of the report and prepare it for print.

There was brief discussion on the future objectives and activities of the Council during 2011-2012, focusing on the charges set out in the enabling legislation as well as improvements to the Council's website.

After council business was completed, Council Member Wilson Scaling introduced two speakers to present on an issue concerning agricultural irrigation estimates. David Strada with Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District and Doug Caroom, Legal Counsel for Cliff Skiles, both spoke on the issue. The speakers spoke about the Texas Water Development Board's methodology of irrigation estimates. They brought up concerns about inaccurate estimates

being used for future planning needs as well as the impacts of estimates on land values. They stated that this is a potential issue that impacts agricultural irrigators statewide. The speakers closed by requesting that the Council consider making recommendations to the Texas Water Development Board for improvements to the irrigation estimate methodology.

The next meeting date was set for January 18, 2011 at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Field Office in Austin. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.