

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

## Summary of Minutes

### Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2018  
 Time: 10:30 a.m.  
 Location: 3505 Montopolis Dr., 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>	Eddy Trevino
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	-----	<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Carole Baker
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Alternate Lynne Hamlin	<i>Higher Education</i>	Tim Loftus
<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Alternate Steven Bednarz	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Jay Bragg
<i>Texas Water Development Board</i>	Kevin Kluge	<i>Refining and Chemical Manufacturing</i>	Alternate Justin Newton
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	-----	<i>Electric Generation</i>	-----
<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Maria Martinez	<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	-----
<i>Municipalities</i>	Karen Guz	<i>Landscape Irrigation and Horticulture</i>	Anai Padilla
<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	-----	<i>Water Control and Improvement Districts</i>	Alternate Dustan Compton
<i>River Authorities</i>	-----	<i>Rural Water Users</i>	Celia Eaves
<i>Environmental Groups</i>	Ken Kramer	<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>	Alternate Mark Froehlich
<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	-----		

Also present: (Alternates) Denise Hickey, Jennifer Walker, and Karen Magid; and (Interested Parties) Valerie Miller, Mark Warden, Ruthie Redmond, Jonathan Kleinman, Meghan Bock, Jim Turner, Michelle Camp, Ann Ardis, Cameron Turner, Shae Luther, Sam Hermitte, John Sutton, Kathleen Ligon and Veronica Osegueda.

\*\* Documents for agenda items 2,3,5,6, and 10 can be found at:  
<http://www.savetexaswater.org/meeting/council-meetings.asp>\*\*

1. Introduction  
 The Meeting was called to order at 10:28 a.m.
2. Presentation – Steve Cavanaugh: Improving Water Loss Audit Reports
3. Approval of minutes from the March 20, 2018 meeting  
 Minutes were approved with completed revisions.
4. Public Comment  
 There was no public comment
5. Update from Texas Water Development Board  
 Data from the Water Loss Audit and the Conservation Plan Annual Report will be available for public access in the coming weeks. Tabular Data will be available by GPCD (total and residential), Number and Gallons Metered by Category, Water Use (and Loss), and Targets & Goals. In addition, TWDB is developing a new Water Service Boundary Tool which will allow the public to view the boundaries of Public Water Systems. The

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tool will also eventually tie in data from the Water Loss Audit and Water Conservation Annual Reports.

6. Review and possible action on revision of bylaws

Discussion of the bylaws focused on the need to clarify some of the language proposed by the new edits. Of the three paragraphs added under Decisions of the Council section on the third page, it appears that the second and third paragraph state much the same thing, but in different ways. In order to make the language more concise, it was suggested that the third paragraph be removed and 'consensus' be changed to 'unified consent'.

7. Reports from Workgroups

- a. Agriculture: BMP Updates Pending.
- b. Commercial & Institutional: BMP Guide Update, Executive Summary and Appendices added. (See Agenda Item 8 for further discussion).
- c. Industrial: Nothing to Report.
- d. Municipal: See Municipal BMP Item below.
- e. Public Awareness: Nothing to Report.
- f. Water Loss: Nothing to Report
- g. Wholesale & Regional Water Authorities: Conference Call Held on April 11. Follow-Up Call to be scheduled.

8. Discussion regarding the current BMP Process

K. Guz began discussion on the current BMP process which begins with a Workgroup developing a draft and sending it to the full WCAC Council. The Council then has 30 days to review the document and then the document undergoes a 30-day public comment period. Karen proposed shortening the overall process to 30 days.

K. Kramer noted that the 30-day timeline seems too short for public comment and suggested 45 days. There was no dispute to this.

However, due to the fast-approaching Water Conservation Plan updates in 2019, K. Guz suggested the BMPs discussed at this meeting (see agenda item 9 below) as well as the CI BMP Guide be posted for 30 days so action could potentially be taken on them at the next meeting, Council agrees. As soon as the BMPs are posted on their respective parts of the WCAC website the 30-day period will begin.

9. Discussion and potential action regarding Municipal BMPs

K. Guz introduced 8 BMPs the Municipal Workgroup has been working on. While time did not allow for a full discussion on the individual BMPs, Karen invited all WCAC members to read the BMPs and provide feedback on them.

Karen also discussed the Municipal Workgroup sought it necessary to label some BMPs as 'Strategic BMPs'. These BMPs may not have a direct water savings attributed to them but are instrumental in carrying out other water conservation programs.

K. Kluge brought up that this change in BMP organization will affect the other BMP areas in time.

A. Padilla asked if we should mention the restructuring of BMPs in this iteration of the Legislative Report. K. Guz stated that if the Council believes it is a significant issue, then yes it should be mentioned.

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BMPs introduced include:

- Conservation Coordinator [REVISION]
- Customer Characterization: Analysis to Prioritize BMP Selection [NEW]
- Custom Conservation Rebates [NEW]
- Enforcement of Texas Irrigation License Standards [NEW]
- Outdoor Watering Schedule [NEW]
- Plumbing Assistance Program for Economically Disadvantaged Customers [NEW]
- Public Education and Outreach [REVISION]
- Water Audit and Water Loss [REVISION]

BMPs will be posted by end of day on May 11<sup>th</sup> to:

<http://www.savetexaswater.org/bmp/municipal/index.asp>

#### 10. Discussion regarding the 2018 Legislative Report

Few members submitted feedback in time for the meeting. An updated working draft was printed for the meeting. K. Guz began discussion by going through the charges as presented in the report. She noted that she had a discussion with an AWE representative and it was discussed that their website structure will soon change. This change will reserve some content to AWE Members only and may no longer suit our needs in regards to a water resource library. This may mean that the WCAC website will become our primary mechanism for facilitating a public resource library and the Council may need to decide how best to organize the website to suit that need.

Given the update by K. Kluge (see above agenda item 5), K. Guz suggests adding a reference to the public access to report data in the Municipal Conservation section.

Discussion was also brought up regarding using paragraph headings to allow a better reading experience for diverse audiences. K. Guz asked members/alternates to consider using paragraph headings when making updates/revisions to the report. Council made no objections to including paragraph headings throughout the report.

K. Guz asked all members/alternates to read Charge 7 (Monitor target and goal guidelines for water conservation to be considered by the TCEQ and TWDB).

- Should other metrics be proposed rather than GPCD only?
- Discuss Total GPCD and Residential GPCD?

Legislative Recommendations were briefly discussed. K. Guz suggested that if you have a legislative recommendation, please draft something and **submit to Josh by June 11<sup>th</sup>**, so it can be sent out to Council prior to the meeting and be discussed as needed during the meeting.

#### 11. Announcement of conferences and events

- May 17<sup>th</sup>: One Water Webinar (<https://onewaterfortexas.eventbrite.com>); previous webinars can be found at (<https://texaslivingwaters.org/conference-materials-and-presentations/one-water-webinars/>)

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- June 19<sup>th</sup>: Water, Texas Film Contest Kickoff.  
<http://www.watertexasfilms.org/>
- October 2<sup>nd</sup>: Water Smart Innovations. <https://watersmartinnovations.com/>
- November 8<sup>th</sup>: North Texas Water Symposium; Sheraton Hotel - Arlington, TX
- February 28<sup>th</sup>: Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium – Houston, TX

#### 12. Future Meeting Dates and Locations

- June 12<sup>th</sup>: Municipal Workgroup Meeting (Location TBD) – 10:00 a.m.
- June 20<sup>th</sup>: Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Commission Hearing Room  
4200 Smith School Rd. Austin, TX 78744 – 10:30 a.m.
- July 18<sup>th</sup>: LCRA Dalchau Service Center  
3505 Montopolis Dr., Austin, TX 78744 – 10:30 a.m.

#### 13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.