

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP – AREA B

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 25, 2015

The Regional Water Planning Group – Area B met in an open public meeting on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of Red River Authority of Texas, 3000 Hammon Road, Wichita Falls, Texas, with the following members and guests present:

- RWPG Members:**
- Mr. Curtis W. Campbell, Chair, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Dean Myers, Secretary, Bowie Industries, Inc., Bowie
 - Ms. Tamela Armstrong, Alliance Power Company, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. J. K. (Rooter) Brite, Agribusiness, Bowie
 - Mr. Jack Campsey, Gateway Groundwater Conservation District, Quanah
 - Mr. N. E. Deweber, Baylor Water Supply Corporation, Seymour
 - Mr. John Holley, American Electric Power, Vernon
 - Mr. Dale Hughes, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
 - Mr. Darell Kennon, City of Vernon
 - Mr. Mike McGuire, Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Munday
 - Mr. Tracy Mesler, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Nocona
 - Mr. Kyle Miller, Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Jerry Payne, Henrietta
 - Mr. Russell Schreiber, City of Wichita Falls
 - Mayor Gayle Simpson, City of Crowell
- RWPG Alternates:**
- Mr. J. Todd Thomas, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
- Consultants and Staff:**
- Mr. Robert Adams, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., Austin
 - Mr. Kerry D. Maroney, Biggs and Mathews, Inc., Wichita Falls
 - Ms. Simone Kiel, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Fort Worth
 - Ms. Stacey Green, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Glen Hite, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Ms. Danna Prichard, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
- Discretionary:**
- Mr. Tom Barnett, Texas Water Development Board, Austin
 - Mr. David Kercheval, Texas Department of Agriculture, Grandview
 - Mr. Robert Mauk, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Cliff Moore, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Abilene

Registered Guests: Mr. Mick Baldys, United States Geological Survey, Fort Worth
Mr. Josh Ford, Electric Actuator Service of Texas, Celeste
Ms. Jennifer Foster, Senator Charles Perry’s Office, Childress
Mayor Howard Raeke, Henrietta
Mayor Joe Rogers, Vernon
Ms. Sandra Ross, Congressman Mac Thornberry’s Office, Wichita Falls
Ms. Jennifer Smith, Senator Craig Estes’ Office, Wichita Falls
Ms. Risa Tole, W.T. Waggoner Estate Lake Division, Vernon
Mr. Dan White, Northside Water Corporation, Vernon
Mr. Joe Dale Wilson, Northside Water Corporation, Vernon

Item One: Public Meeting Call to Order, Invocation, Roll Call and Introductions

Mr. Curtis W. Campbell, Chair of the Regional Water Planning Group - Area B (RWPG – B), called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Jerry Payne gave the invocation. Following roll call and establishment of a quorum, Mr. Campbell noted the following absences: Mr. Bobby Kidd, Judge Mark Christopher and his alternate Judge Greg Tyra, Mr. Mitch Grant, Judge Kenneth Liggett, Mr. Monte McMahon, Mr. Wilson Scaling and his alternate Mr. John Moorehouse, Dr. Rebecca Dodge and her alternate Dr. Jonathan Price. Mr. Campbell noted during roll call that Mr. Darell Kennon will be serving as alternate for Mr. Grant. Introductions followed.

Item Two: Review and Approval of Minutes of the February 11, 2015 RWPG – Area B Meeting

Mr. Campbell presented the minutes of the February 11, 2015 Public Meeting to the group for approval. He informed the group that a typing error had been corrected following notification from Mr. Kyle Miller. With no further comments or discussion, Mr. McGuire motioned to approve the corrected minutes as written, and Mr. Schreiber seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **15 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Three: Discussion on and Consider Approval of Chapter 5

Mr. Campbell gave the floor to Mr. Maroney to discuss Draft Chapter 5 with the Region B members. Mr. Maroney stated that Chapter 5 is set up in five main sections which identify and discuss the various water management strategies (WMS) developed to meet the identified water needs outlined in Chapter 4. He added that this round of planning has recognized 35 water user groups (WUGs) with needs, and reflects a region wide shortage of approximately 40,000 acre-feet starting in 2020, which increases to approximately 56,000 acre-feet by 2070. Mr. Maroney then directed the group to Section 5.1 “Potentially Feasible Strategies”, and asked Ms. Kiel to provide an overview.

Ms. Kiel reiterated to the group that each identified WUG with a WMS in the Region B Plan will be contacted to assure they are in agreement with the proposed strategy to meet their needs. She stated that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) requires the group to examine all potential and feasible strategies, and WUGs with identified needs must consider conservation and drought management as potential strategies. Ms. Kiel explained to the group that Region B does embrace conservation as a recommended strategy, but historically has not included drought

Item Three: Discussion on and Consider Approval of Chapter 5 (continued)

management as a potential strategy to meet long-term growth in demands. Therefore, she said drought management, along with water rights cancellation and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) will not be included in Chapter 5 as feasible WMS. As Ms. Kiel reviewed the feasible strategies listed in Chapter 5, she mentioned that although brush control is considered a feasible WMS, it has not been included as a recommended strategy due to the lack of a specific sponsor. She then referred to Section 5.2 “Strategy Development and Evaluation” and explained that the TWDB requires the group to evaluate each recommended strategy using the criteria listed on page 5-11 in Item 5.2.1. Ms. Kiel said the evaluations will be compiled into a summary matrix and included in Appendix 5-1C of the plan at a later date. With no discussion, Ms. Kiel gave the floor to Mr. Adams to discuss Section 5.3 “Water Conservation”.

Mr. Adams initiated his conversation on page 5-14 and pointed out various conservation requirements for WUGs and wholesale water providers (WWP). He then moved to Table 5-2 on page 5-15, which provides a summary of entities required to submit a water conservation plan (WCP) to the Region B Planning Group. Mr. Campbell commented that Table 5-2 lists Red River Authority as a WWP, and that needs to be corrected to municipal provider. Mr. Adams noted the change and continued his discussion with the various WCP requirements for each type of water supply entity. He said one common factor in all the WCPs is to have identifiable five and ten year conservation goals. In his review of municipal conservation, Mr. Adams explained differences between municipal basic conservation (water conservation included in the demand projections) and municipal advanced conservation (savings associated with active conservation) and how gallons per capita daily (GPCD) values were utilized in the methodology to identify an incremental implementation of total water savings by provider and an annual cost by decade for advanced conservation on Tables 5-5 and 5-6. He talked about agricultural and mining conservation strategies and referred to Table 5-7 and Table 5-8, which illustrate conservation results by decade for these WUGs. In closing, Mr. Adams mentioned that Table 5-9 provides a summary of conservation savings by water use (ac-ft/yr) from 2020 through 2070.

Ms. Kiel continued discussion with Section 5.4 “Wholesale Water Providers”. She stated that Region B has two wholesale water providers, the City of Wichita Falls and Wichita County Water Improvement District No.2 (WCWID #2). She informed the group that the City of Wichita Falls had recently developed a Long-Range Water Supply Plan that identified 22 potential strategies. Ms. Kiel explained that these strategies were evaluated and five were identified as recommended strategies for the City of Wichita Falls; water conservation, indirect reuse, local Seymour Aquifer, Wichita River supply, and Lake Ringgold. As Mr. Adams had already reviewed conservation, Ms. Kiel discussed the remaining four strategies with the group. She confirmed that the City of Wichita Falls was moving forward with the Indirect Reuse Project and they plan to produce an additional 10 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated wastewater. There was some discussion about the quality of water in the Seymour Aquifer and the effects of constructing wells in the aquifer. Ms. Kiel then mentioned that the Wichita River strategy could produce an estimated reliable supply of 2 MGD, which would be pumped directly from the river and treated at the Cypress Water Treatment Plant. She concluded with the construction of the Lake Ringgold reservoir and stated that for an estimated cost of \$289 million dollars, the reservoir could supply approximately 16.6 MGD in drought conditions and up 30 MGD if the drought ended. Mr. Campbell asked if the estimated \$289 million dollars included the pump stations and the transmission line to the treatment facilities, and Ms. Kiel replied that she would

Item Three: Discussion on and Consider Approval of Chapter 5 (continued)

verify the numbers prior to submittal of the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Mr. Barnett inquired about the permitting process for Lake Ringgold. Ms. Kiel discussed the state and federal permitting requirements for constructing a reservoir, adding that permitting for this project could take 10-12 years. She then asked Mr. Adams to review the single recommended strategy for the WCWID #2. He stated to the members that the following study, *Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2 Water Conservation Implementation Plan*, which was completed in 2009, and indicated that nine of the canal segments with the greatest water loss could be replaced with pipe for a total cost of \$8,538,000. Mr. Adams referred to Table 5-12 “Cost and Water Savings for Conversion of Canals to Pipelines” and reviewed the water saved per ac-ft/yr, as well as the unit \$/ac-ft. He explained that the conversion of canals to pipes equates to a savings of about 14% of the total irrigation district demand and 75% of the irrigation demand for Wichita Falls, which is a significant quantity of water. There was no discussion and Mr. Maroney took over to give a county by county overview of the proposed WMS to meet the identified needs.

Mr. Maroney proceeded to give a county by county summary of the recommended WMS and associated cost, for the 35 WUGS with identified needs. He noted that King and Cottle counties had no projected water needs through this planning cycle. During his discussion, Mr. Maroney stated that Archer, Baylor, Hardeman, Montague, Wichita and Wilbarger counties all have projected shortages that cannot be met through an economically viable project. Ms. Kiel interjected to speak about Wilbarger County in more depth because they have projected unmet needs in several categories, and with limited water supplies available, the recommended WMS are very costly. Mr. Maroney and Ms. Kiel concluded their review of Draft Chapter 5 and Mr. Maroney opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Schreiber questioned how municipalities’ supplies from reservoirs were figured into the plan and Ms. Kiel explained that allocation of current supply was utilized in addressing the needs. During discussion, Ms. Kiel informed the group she had received an updated number from her office of \$305 million for the Lake Ringgold project with pump stations and transmission lines included, therefore she will update the numbers in Chapter 5. Mr. Hughes asked for a little more clarification on the topic of “sponsors” for brush control and expressed his concern for the availability of future funding if brush control is not included in this plan as a strategy. Ms. Kiel informed the group that the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) has funding available for brush control, which is now referred to as the Water Supply Enhancement Program, but they require a sponsor, for example the City of Wichita Falls, Waggoner Ranch or Red River Authority, to apply for the funding. She added that, the TSSWCB also requires brush control to be listed as a specific strategy in the plan with the necessary criteria recorded. There was further discussion pertaining to other available state funding for brush control and Mr. Barnett was asked to confirm the funding procedures with the TWDB. Following the discussion, Ms. Kiel felt it would be beneficiary to include water supply enhancement as a strategy for Wichita County irrigation, and list “individual” as the sponsor until further information is received. Mr. Thomas questioned why steam electric demands had increased in Wilbarger County, and Ms. Kiel answered that it was mainly due to decreased supply.

With no further discussion, Mr. Campbell suggested the group continue to examine Draft Chapter 5 and contact him within the next ten days with any further comments. He then called for approval of Draft Chapter 5 with the discussed changes to date. Mr. Mesler motioned to approve

Item Three: Discussion on and Consider Approval of Chapter 5 (continued)

Chapter 5 as discussed. Mr. McGuire seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of **15 For and 0 Against**.

Item Four: Discussion on Chapter 8

Mr. Campbell confirmed that the members had received a copy of Draft Chapter 8 by mail and asked Mr. Maroney to provide an overview with the group. Mr. Maroney explained that Chapter 8 allows the members to address any regional issues or water management concepts not mentioned in Chapter 5 and make recommendations to the State Legislature. He said most of the information in Draft Chapter 8 was adopted in the 2010 plan with the exception of some additions on page 8-7 Section 8.5 “Summary of Regional Recommendations”. Mr. Maroney pointed out four new recommendations highlighted in red for this cycle of planning:

- Update the Regional Water Plans every 10 years instead of every 5 years
- Funding be provided for the update of the Water Availability Models (WAMS)
- Update the Economic Model and reevaluate the irrigation demands
- Funding for studies to determine the effectiveness of evaporation suppression

Mr. McGuire discussed ASR and said he would like to see funding for Precipitation Enhancement (cloud seeding) included in the recommendations to the Legislature. Mr. Mesler expressed concern with updating the Regional Water Plan every ten years based on the past weather patterns for this region. Ms. Kiel mentioned that other regional planning groups were suggesting special studies be performed between the ten year planning cycles. Following discussion, Mr. Campbell suggested the group take the ten day comment period to review the Legislative recommendations and contact him with any questions or comments. In addition, Ms. Kiel reminded them that the IPP can be changed until the final plan is submitted in December of 2015.

Item Five: Update from the Texas Water Development Board Project Manager

Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Barnett to provide an update from the TWDB. Mr. Barnett acknowledged that the Red River Authority staff had submitted the completed application for the 5th cycle of planning prior to the deadline of March 3, 2015, and the TWDB is planning to execute the contracts in early May of 2015. He reiterated the IPP submittal date of May 1, 2015, and had no further comments.

Item Six: Public Input and Comments to the Planning Group

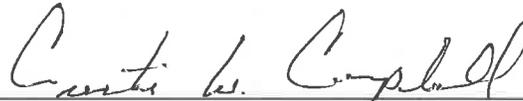
Mr. Campbell opened the floor to comments and suggestions from the planning group and guests. There were no comments presented.

Item Seven: Consider Date and Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

The next meeting date had tentatively been set for April 22, 2015, but Mr. Campbell stated that Monday, April 27, 2015 or Tuesday April 28, 2015 were being considered at this time to allow the consultants time to finalize the IPP for approval before the May 1, 2015 submittal deadline. Mr. Maroney added that he intends to have a copy of the IPP available on the Authority's website prior to the April meeting, and Mr. Campbell informed the group that they will be notified by email of the IPP availability and the scheduled meeting date.

Item Eight: Adjourn

With no further discussion, Mr. Campbell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Schreiber entered a motion to adjourn and Mr. McGuire seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.



Curtis W. Campbell, Chair



Dean Myers, Secretary