

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP – AREA B

Meeting Minutes Tuesday, April 28, 2015

The Regional Water Planning Group – Area B met in an open public meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at 9:00 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. Wilson Scaling, Vice Chair, Henrietta
- 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
- Dr. Rebecca Dodge, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls
- Mr. Dale Hughes, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
- Mr. Darell Kennon, City of Vernon
- Mr. Bobbie Kidd, Greenbelt Municipal and Industrial Water Authority, Clarendon
- Mr. David Kuehler, North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority, Munday
- Judge Kenneth Liggett, Clay County, Henrietta
- Mr. Monty McMahon, AEP Oklaunion Power Plant, Vernon
- Mr. Tracy Mesler, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Nocona
- Mr. Jerry Payne, Henrietta
- Mr. Russell Schreiber, City of Wichita Falls
- Mayor Gayle Simpson, City of Crowell

RWPG Alternates:

- Mr. Jimmy Banks, Iowa Park
- Mr. Kyle Miller, Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2, Wichita Falls
- Mr. Doug Shaw, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Springtown
- Mr. J. Todd Thomas, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
- Mr. Henry Wied, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls

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. Robert Mauk, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wichita Falls
Mr. Cliff Moore, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Abilene

Registered Guests: Mr. Jason Dane, City of Paducah
Mayor Jim Henson, Lakeside City
Mr. Danny Parker, City of Olney
Ms. Jennifer Smith, Senator Craig Estes’ Office, Wichita Falls
Ms. Risa Tole, W.T. Waggoner Estate Lake Division, Vernon
Mr. Aaron Wendt, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, Temple

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 9:00 a.m. Judge Kenneth Liggett gave the invocation. Following roll call and establishment of a quorum, Mr. Campbell noted the following absences: Judge Mark Christopher and his alternate Judge Greg Tyra, Mr. Mitch Grant, and Mr. Mike McGuire. Introductions followed.

Item Two: Review and Approval of Minutes of the March 25, 2015 RWPG – Area B Meeting

Mr. Campbell presented a draft copy of the March 25, 2015 Public Meeting minutes to the group for approval. With no comments or discussion, Mr. Scaling motioned to approve the minutes as written, and Mr. Brite seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **18 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Three: Presentation on the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board’s Water Supply Enhancement Program

Mr. Campbell introduced Mr. Aaron Wendt with Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) and asked him to share his presentation on the Water Supply Enhancement Program with the group. In opening, Mr. Wendt mentioned that the TSSWCB has some funding available for irrigation water conservation to provide technical assistance and financial incentives for landowners who utilize agricultural irrigation. He stated that the Water Supply Enhancement Program, formerly known as the Texas Brush Control Program, is focused on the control of Mesquite, Juniper and Salt Cedar brush to increase surface and groundwater supplies, as well as additional ecosystem benefits. Mr. Wendt reviewed the changes implemented by the Sunset Commission and the required process to rank projects and allocate funds. He noted that both Lake Arrowhead and Lake Kemp qualified for funding in the Region B Area. Mr. Wendt explained that in past State Water Plans, very few regions included brush control as a recommended water management strategy (WMS), but he foresees the *2017 State Water Plan* will have eight or nine regions incorporate brush control into their plans. Mr. Campbell clarified the fact that brush control needed to be included in the regional water plans to qualify for funding and he questioned what capacity it should represent in the plans. Mr. Wendt replied that the statues are

Item Three: Presentation on the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board’s Water Supply Enhancement Program (continued)

vague, and the groups can list brush control as a WMS with backup data or just note in Chapter 8 that they support brush control as a feasible strategy, and still qualify for future funding. Mr. Mesler questioned the ranking process for funding and Mr. Wendt explained it was based on computer modeling through the soil and water assessment tool (SWAT Model). In closing, Mr. Wendt informed the group that the sum of all feasibility studies statewide indicated 15.75M acres require treatment and would provide a projected annual yield of 2.273M ac-ft of water with a total cost of \$1.169B to treat. With no further discussion, Mr. Campbell thanked Mr. Wendt for his presentation and moved to the next item on the Agenda.

Item Four: Discussion on and Consider Adopting the 2016 Region B Initially Prepared Plan and Authorize the Red River Authority of Texas to Submit the Plan to the Texas Water Development Board Prior to the May 1, 2015 Deadline

The RWPG-B members were provided a hard copy of the Draft *2016 Region B Initially Prepared Plan* (IPP), and Mr. Campbell gave the floor to the consultant team to provide an overview of the IPP utilizing a power point presentation they had prepared. Mr. Maroney gave a brief description of the IPP noting that it contained eleven chapters and appendices A-H. He added that the TWDB will be providing the Infrastructure Financing Survey Report (IFR) for the completion of Chapter 9 and Appendix E therefore, those sections will not be available until the final plan is presented. Following the consultant’s outline of the IPP the floor was opened to discussion.

Mr. Campbell stated it was his understanding that the consultants were to complete Chapter 9 and Ms. Kiel clarified that the TWDB will provide the IFR Survey, and the consultants will then compile the data. Mr. Campbell also reminded the members that Chapter 8 contained a few new Legislative recommendations which were discussed during the last public meeting, and he said to date he had not received any formal comments. Mr. Mesler then reiterated his concerns on the Legislative recommendation to update the plan every ten years versus every five years. He expressed that updating the plan every five years allows the group to address ever changing weather patterns in the region, retain RWPG-B members for multiple cycles and remain updated on funding opportunities. Following discussion, the group agreed to remove the ten year plan recommendation from the IPP. Mr. Scaling questioned the actual feasibility of Lake Ringgold being constructed in the next twenty years and becoming a viable WMS. Ms. Kiel reviewed the state and federal permitting process for the construction of a reservoir, stating that on average it takes about ten years to complete. The consultants agreed Lake Ringgold could be completed in approximately twenty years and provide a reliable supply source. The conversation continued with Mr. Brite questioning the benefits of silt control and dredging the existing lakes. Mr. Schreiber explained that dredging was not a cost effective strategy and constructing a new reservoir was by far, less costly and produced a much higher yield of water supply. Mr. Adams added that studies have shown implementing a practice to keep sediment out of the lake is much more practical and cost effective than dredging. Additionally, Mr. Campbell noted that dredging could not be included in the 2016 Plan as a WMS due to the lack of a sponsor. Following further discussion, Ms. Kiel concluded that dredging could be added as a “general WMS” in Chapter 5 of the final plan, but the information would not be prepared in time for the IPP. The members

Item Four: Discussion on and Consider Adopting the 2016 Region B Initially Prepared Plan and Authorize the Red River Authority of Texas to Submit the Plan to the Texas Water Development Board Prior to the May 1, 2015 Deadline (continued)

agreed to incorporate the strategy in the final plan in order to qualify for available funding, should dredging become a feasible WMS in the future. Mr. Schreiber then made reference to a terminology issue concerning the reuse project. He asked that either the term “water reuse” or “reuse” be used consistently throughout the plan when referencing the project. The consultant team noted that the verbiage would be changed prior to the submittal of the IPP. Mr. Kennon then requested some clarification on projected irrigation shortages, referenced in Chapter 4, for Wilbarger County in 2020. He inquired how municipal supply could show no shortages for 2020 when the same well field supplied both needs. Ms. Kiel stated that when there are shortages supplies will go to municipal needs first, therefore municipal shortages were not indicated until 2040. Discussion was then held regarding unmonitored irrigation use in Wilbarger County, and Ms. Kiel encouraged Mr. Kennon to share any additional data he may have with her, and if needed, updates can be made in the final plan. Additionally, Mr. Kennon noted that Red River Authority’s Hinds-Wildcat Water System was listed as an emergency interconnect in Chapter 7. He confirmed that the system currently purchases raw water from the City of Vernon, therefore it should be listed as an existing interconnect. Discussion continued with Mr. Mesler informing Mr. Maroney that he could provide some updated water use numbers for North Montague County, which would necessitate some adjustments to Table 1-8 in Chapter 1. With no further comments from the group, the consultant team reviewed the edits for the IPP and the final *2016 Region B Regional Water Plan* with the members noting there would be some minor editorial changes made as well.

Once the group was in agreement with the IPP edits, Mr. Campbell advised the members they would receive the modified replacement pages for their IPP copies by mail. He then called for a motion from the group. Dr. Dodge motioned to adopt the Draft *2016 Region B IPP* with the approved revisions, and authorize the Authority to submit the IPP to the TWDB in accordance with the May 1, 2015 deadline. Mayor Simpson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **18 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Five: Consider Approving June 16, 2015 for a Public Hearing on the 2016 Region B Initially Prepared Plan and Authorize the Red River Authority of Texas to Post a 30 Day Public Notice for the Public Hearing

The date of Tuesday, June 16, 2015, was proposed to the group by Mr. Campbell, for holding a Public Hearing to present the *2016 Region B IPP* to the public for comments. Judge Liggett motioned to approve the date and authorize the Authority to post a 30 day public notice prior to the hearing. Mr. Scaling seconded the motion, and the motioned passed with a vote of **18 For** and **0 Against**.

Item Six: Consider Authorizing the Red River Authority of Texas to Negotiate for and Execute the Contract for the Fifth Round of Regional Water Planning with the Texas Water Development Board

Mr. Campbell informed the members that the TWDB will be issuing contracts for the preparation of the 2021 Regional Water Plans within the next sixty days. He added that the Authority's Board of Directors will then be required to review and approve the contract prior to execution by the Authority on behalf of the Region B Group. With no further discussion, Mr. Schreiber motioned to authorize the Authority to execute a contract with the TWDB for the fifth cycle of planning. Dr. Dodge seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of **18 For** and **0 Against**.

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

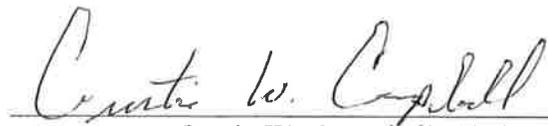
Mr. Tom Barnett provided a brief overview of the process for the submittal of the final 2016 Region B Regional Water Plan on December 1, 2015. He noted that the IPP will be available for viewing on the Authority's website as well as the TWDB website, and copies are to be mailed to County Clerks and libraries in the eleven counties that Region B encompasses. Additionally, Mr. Barnett stated that the Region B Group will need to post a thirty day notice prior to the Public Hearing, which has been scheduled for June 16, 2015. He concluded that following the Public Hearing, the Region B Group will accept comments on the IPP for 60 days from the public, 90 days from agencies and 120 days from the TWDB, and then conduct a public meeting to address any comments received.

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

Mr. Campbell recommended that the next meeting date be determined following the Public Hearing and advised the members to contact him with any subject matter they would like included on the next agenda.

Item Nine: Adjourn

With no further discussion, Mr. Campbell called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Deweber entered a motion to adjourn and Mayor Simpson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.


Curtis W. Campbell, Chair


Dean Myers, Secretary

