

AGENDA ITEM MEMO

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 9, 2021

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator
John T. Dupnik, P.G., Deputy Executive Administrator, Water
Science and Conservation
Ashley Harden, General Counsel

FROM: Josh Sendejar, Conservation Department
John Sutton, Manager, Conservation Department

SUBJECT: Appointments to the Water Conservation Advisory Council

ACTION REQUESTED

Consider appointing members to the Water Conservation Advisory Council.

BACKGROUND

The Texas Legislature created the Water Conservation Advisory Council (Council) in 2007 to provide the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, Texas Legislature, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, political subdivisions, and the public with the resource of a select council with expertise in water conservation. The Council is composed of volunteers representing 23 different interest groups. Texas Water Code, Chapter 10, directs the Board to appoint members of the Council to staggered, six-year terms ending in odd-numbered years.

KEY ISSUES

Six terms expired on August 31, 2021: five representing interest groups defined in statute and one representing the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Additionally, the representative for Higher Education on the Council submitted their resignation, a subsequent nomination period was opened to fill this vacancy. TWDB staff solicited nominations to fill these vacancies via correspondence with interest group representatives, professional organizations, regional water planning groups, and posting notice to the council's website. A total of 12 individuals received nominations (Attachment). The Texas

Our Mission

Leading the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens

Board Members

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

Parks and Wildlife Department will be submitting a letter designating their representation on the Council shortly.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on their individual commitment to, and expertise in water conservation, the Executive Administrator recommends the appointment of the following persons to represent the indicated group with a term to expire August 31, 2027.

Electric Generation

Greg Carter, Southwestern Electric Power Company

Environmental Groups

Jennifer Walker, National Wildlife Federation

Higher Education

Robert Mace, Ph.D., The Meadow's Center for Water and the Environment

Regional Water Planning Groups

Aubrey Spear, City of Lubbock

River Authorities

Valerie Miller, Ph.D., Lower Colorado River Authority

Rural Water Users

Kyle Eppler, Wickson Creek Special Utility District

Attachment:

Summary of Nominations

Attachment: Summary of Nominations

Interest Group	Nominee	With	Nominations Received
Electric Generation	Greg Carter	Southwestern Electric Power Company	2
Environmental Groups Regional Water Planning Groups	Jennifer Walker	National Wildlife Federation	13
Regional Water Planning Groups	Aubrey Spear	City of Lubbock	3
Regional Water Planning Groups	Jesus Reyes	El Paso County Water Improvement District No. 1	3
River Authorities	Scott McWilliams	Upper Colorado River Authority	1
River Authorities	Valerie Miller	Lower Colorado River Authority	1
Rural Water Users	Kyle Eppler	Wickson Creek Special Utility District	1
Higher Education	Meghna Tare	University of Texas - Arlington	1
Higher Education	Allen Berthold, Ph.D.	Texas Water Resources Institute – Texas A&M University	2
Higher Education	Ben Hodges, Ph.D.	University of Texas at Austin	1
Higher Education	Robert Mace, Ph.D.	The Meadows Center for Water and the Environment	1
Higher Education	Walter Den, Ph.D.	Texas A&M University - San Antonio	1