

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING FEBRUARY 12, 2004

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) met in an open meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2004, at 1:30 P.M. The meeting was held at the Central Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Trinity River Authority located at 6500 W. Singleton Boulevard, Grand Prairie, Texas. Notice of the meeting was legally posted.

Chairman Jim Parks called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 P.M. Chairman Parks asked that individuals interested in making comments sign up on the speaker registration sheet.

I. ROLL CALL

Secretary Roy Eaton conducted a roll call. The following members were in attendance:

Brad Barnes	Elaine Petrus
Jerry Chapman	Paul Phillips
Roy Eaton	Marsh Rice
Maebell Brown (Alt. for Dale Fisseler)	Robert Scott
Bob Johnson	George Shannon
Russell Laughlin	Connie Standridge
G. K. Maenius	Danny Vance
Howard Martin	Mary Vogelson
Jim McCarter	Paul Zweacker
Jim Parks	

Kris Martinez of the TWDB, Adam Whisenant of the Texas Parks and Wildlife, Jim Thompson of Region D, and David Brock of Region I were also in attendance. The registration lists signed by guests in attendance are attached.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 8, 2003

On a motion by George Shannon, seconded by Jim McCarter, the minutes of the December 8, 2003, meeting were approved by consensus with one correction. Charlie Stringer attended the meeting as an alternate to Bob Johnson.

III. ACTION ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Report of Executive Committee on Slate of Officers for 2004 and Election of 2004 Officers

Elaine Petrus reported that the Nominating Committee recommended the following slate of officers for 2004:

Jim Parks, Chairman
Bob Johnson, Vice Chairman
Roy Eaton, Secretary

Nominations were opened. No nominations were received. Elaine Petrus made the motion to nominate the slate of officers as recommended by the Executive Committee and to cease nominations. Paul Phillips seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the RCWPG.

B. Supplemental Funding

Tom Gooch discussed the request for supplemental funding, which is due to the TWDB on April 1, 2004. The supplemental funding request will require a 30-day notification period prior to TWDB's consideration in May. Funding is available for addressing changed conditions. Region C's changed conditions include the following:

- Unanticipated changes to the amount of water supply available to meet needs
- Unanticipated changes to the volume or magnitude of water supply needs due to greater than anticipated population growth or water demands
- Development of new technology or availability of new supplies to meet water supply needs that were not recognized when the original scope of work was developed

Potential projects for to be considered for supplemental funding are as follows:

- Reimbursement for costs associates with Anna and Athens amendments
- Reimbursement for supplemental funding notice
- Increased public participation needs due to increased media coverage of potential projects
- Additional reuse studies
- Wright Patman reallocation
- Additional water conservation studies not addressed by the TWDB's water conservation report
- Desalination of Texoma water
- Intensive interaction with Regions D and I

The consultants will provide additional information on the potential projects and seek approval to submit a request for supplemental funding to the TWDB at the March RCWPG meeting.

C. Wholesale Water Providers

Tom Gooch reviewed the definition of a wholesale water provider and reviewed the recommended list of wholesale water providers in Region C. On a motion by Danny Vance, seconded by George Shannon, the RCWPG voted unanimously to approve the recommended list of wholesale water providers.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Introduction to WAM

Tom Gooch gave an introduction to Water Availability Modeling (WAM). He presented information on WAMs including definitions, what WAMs can and cannot tell, how WAMs work, key assumptions, how WAMs differ from reality, and how WAMs are used in water planning. Mr. Gooch discussed Region C's specific concerns with WAMs as follows:

- No return flow assumptions
- Some system operations are difficult to model
- System operation with reservoirs in multiple basins

B. Presentation on Instream Flow Analysis by TWDB

Kris Martinez gave a presentation on "Stream Flow Assessment for Regional and State Water Planning." Mr. Martinez offered assistance to the RCWPG.

C. Inclusion of Return Flows in Water Availability Models

Tom Gooch discussed inclusion of return flows in WAMs. A draft letter to the TWDB has been prepared on this issue. Comments on this issue were requested to be submitted to Tom Gooch by February 26, 2004. Tom will revise the letter and send it to the RCWPG members prior to mailing to TWDB.

D. Update on Task 3 – Current Water Supplies

Tom Gooch updated the group on Task 3.

E. Water Conservation and Reuse Activities

Brian McDonald presented an update on water conservation and reuse activities. Activities include the following:

- Developing a model municipal water conservation plan
- Reviewing and summarizing water conservation plans
- Performing neighborhood conservation study
- Coordinating with statewide SB1094 Water Conservation Implementation Task Force

These activities help establish the basis for evaluation of water conservation management strategies.

F. Process to Screen Water Management Strategies

Tom Gooch presented information on the process of screening water management strategies. Information was previously sent out the RCWPG members and is available on the website. Comments should be sent to Tom Gooch by February 26, 2004. The consultants will seek approval of screening water management strategies at the next RCWPG meeting.

G. Update on Overall Status and Next Steps

The consultants gave an update on the overall status and next steps which included the following:

- Newsletter published end of January; second newsletter will be developed this summer
- Summary of public comments at the December 8, 2003, meeting were e-mailed to the RCWPG and posted on website
- In February, the consultants will:
 - Finalize water availability
 - Continue working on water conservation and reuse activities
 - Finalize analysis regarding impacts of recent droughts
 - Finalize scope and budget for RCWPG approval
 - Mail and post notice for March meeting to discuss and vote on supplemental funding scope and budget
 - Finalize wholesale water provider list and submit to TWDB
 - Finalize letter regarding instream flow analysis
 - Submit recommended control points to TWDB WAM study
- At March meeting, the consultants will:
 - Seek approval for supplemental funding
 - Seek approval of process to screen water management strategies
 - Discuss bay and estuary inflows
 - Discuss possible designation of unique stream segments (This item was moved to April per TPWD request.)

V. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Recommended Control Points for TWDB WAM Analysis

Tom Gooch reviewed the recommended control points per basin in each region. It was suggested that a point be added at Arthur City and Index, Arkansas, on in the Red River Basin. George Shannon made the motion to approve the recommended control points with the two suggested additions. Jim McCarter seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the RCWPG.

B. Surveys on Meeting Future Water Needs

Tom Gooch discussed the sample surveys provided for the water user groups, wholesale water providers and county judges. By consensus, The RCWPG members approved sending out the surveys in late February.

VI. OTHER DISCUSSION

A. Updates from the Chair

1. Update on Statewide Water Conservation Task Force

Chairman Parks updated the RCWPG on the TWDB Water Conservation Task Force.

B. Report from Regional Liaisons

Reports were given by the following liaisons:

- Jerry Chapman, Region B
- Mike Rickman, Region D
- Paul Zweiacker, Region G
- Danny Vance, Region H
- Connie Standridge, Region I

C. Confirm Date and Location of Next Meeting

It was the consensus of the RCWPG to hold the next meeting on Monday, March 22, 2004, at 1:30 P.M. at TRA Central Wastewater Treatment Plant.

D. Other Discussion

Adam Whisenant indicated he would like to participate in the discussion on unique stream segments and would not be available at the March meeting. Therefore, this item will be moved to the April meeting.

E. Acknowledgement of Guests/Comments

The following individuals provided comments to the RCWPG:

1. David Nabors
2. Rita Bevins
3. Beth Johnson

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further action, the meeting of the RCWPG adjourned at approximately 4:30 P.M.

ROY EATON
Secretary