

Collin
Cooke
Dallas
Denton
Ellis
Fannin
Freestone
Grayson
Henderson
Jack
Kaufman
Navarro
Parker
Rockwall
Tarrant
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REGION C

Water Planning for North Texas

2004 First Quarter Newsletter

RCWPG elects members to represent nine interest groups

Members will serve five-year terms on the planning group

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) elected nine members at its Dec. 8, 2003 public meeting to serve five-year terms on the 19-member planning group.

Among the members elected, two were newly elected to serve on the board and seven were re-elected to their previously held positions.

Russell Laughlin, senior vice president of Hillwood Properties — developer of Alliance Texas, a 15,000-acre mixed-use, master-planned community — was elected to represent industries on the RCWPG. Laughlin has been instrumental in leading the North Fort Worth and Tarrant County areas in long-term regional planning initiatives. In addition, he serves on the Board of the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business Advisory Council.

The planning group elected **G.K. Maenius** to represent counties on the RCWPG. Maenius is currently the county administrator for Tarrant

County. In this position, he is responsible for overseeing community development, county facilities, human resources, transportation services, public health and human services, policy formation, budget and risk management and federal/state grant programs countywide.

The planning group also re-elected seven members of the RCWPG to continue serving on the board:

- Municipalities** – Howard Martin
- Public** – Irvin (Marsh) Rice
- Environmental** – Robert Scott
- Water Districts** – George W. Shannon
- Water Utilities** – Connie Standridge
- River Authorities** – Danny Vance
- Electric Generating Utilities** – Paul Zweacker

In addition, the RCWPG selected representatives of the group to serve as liaisons to surrounding regions. The Region B liaison is Jerry Chapman, Region D is Mike Rickman, Region G is Paul Zweacker, Region H is Danny Vance and Region I is Connie Standridge.

Participate in Region C Water Planning

Public attendance is welcome at Region C Water Planning Meetings.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, Feb. 12, 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

Trinity River Authority
Central Wastewater Treatment Plant
6500 W. Singleton Blvd.
Grand Prairie, TX 75212
(972) 263-2251

For more information, contact:

James (Jim) M. Parks, RCWPG Chair

At:

North Texas Municipal
Water District
P.O. Box 2408
Wylie, TX 75098
Phone: 972.442.5405
E-mail: jparks@ntmwd.com

To be added to the mailing list to receive the quarterly RCWPG newsletter, send your name and mailing address to Amanda Pendegrass at Cooksey Communications via e-mail at Amanda@cookseypr.com or via fax at 972.580.0852.

Visit www.regioncwater.org for the most up-to-date news, water planning information, water conservation tips and RCWPG meeting information.



Region C Water Planning Group Members

Chair

James (Jim) M. Parks

Agricultural

Brad Barnes

Counties

G.K. Maenius

Electric Generating Utilities

Paul Zweacker

Environmental

Elaine J. Petrus
Robert O. Scott

Industries

Russell Laughlin

Municipalities

Robert Johnson
Howard Martin
Dale Fisseler
Paul Phillips

Public

Irvin M. Rice
Mary E. Vogelson

River Authorities

Danny Vance

Small Business

Roy J. Eaton

Water Districts

Jerry W. Chapman
James (Jim) M. Parks
George Shannon

Water Utilities

Jim McCarter
Connie Standridge

Region C water planners keep all options open

Water – and where our water is going to come from over the next 50 years – are topics that lead to sometimes-heated discussions among Texas residents, water providers, water planners and elected officials.

During the past few weeks, there has been a lot of focus on the proposed Marvin Nichols Reservoir, and whether or not it is a feasible and necessary water supply for North Texas.

The continuing large population increases in Region C make it critical for regional water planners to develop additional water resources to meet growing demands.

The Region C Water Planning Group remains dedicated to its task of planning for the future of water in North Texas. Region C has been charged by the Texas Legislature and the Texas Water Development Board with planning to meet the needs of all North Texans over the next five decades. That means that it is the *duty* of the planning group to research multiple possible water supply options, including Marvin Nichols, so North Texas cities do not run out of water now or in the future.

At this point, the Marvin Nichols Reservoir project remains a proposed water management strategy for Region C, and it is currently the subject of extensive research and evaluation by teams of water planners.

However, it is also important to remember that the Region C Water Plan is much more than just the Marvin Nichols Reservoir. The planning group continues to investigate viable water supply options to meet the needs of North Texas, including water conservation, water reuse, the construction of other reservoirs and the transmission of water from existing reservoirs.

Although teams of analysts and engineers provide invaluable expertise in their evaluation of proposed water management strategies, public input and participation remain critical components of the regional and state water planning process. The availability of water in North Texas affects all residents – those living here now, and those who will live here in the future – and has tremendous implications for our economy and our daily lives.

Since this issue is so vital, members of the public are strongly encouraged to attend Region C's public meetings. Background information and details about Region C and its planning initiatives can be found at www.regioncwater.org. Information about water planning for the entire state can be found on the Texas Water Development Board's Web site at www.twdb.state.tx.us.



Update: TWDB approves two Region C amendments for inclusion in 2002 State Water Plan

Two amendments adopted by the RCWPG have been approved by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for inclusion in the 2002 State Water Plan. The decision was made at a November 2003 TWDB board meeting.

The Athens amendment increases the city's water demand projections and includes reuse of the City of Athen's wastewater as a recommended water management strategy. The Anna amendment increases the City of Anna population and water demand projections and includes the Greater Texoma Utility Authority's (GTUA's) Grayson-Collin County Surface Water Supply System from Lake Texoma as a recommended water management strategy for Anna.

RCWPG's Parks, Oliver selected to be members of new water conservation implementation task force

In September 2003, RCWPG Chair James (Jim) Parks and Jim Oliver-RCWPG designated alternate for member George Shannon – were chosen to serve on a special water conservation implementation task force led by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB).

The TWDB, as mandated by Senate Bill 1094, has created this new 32-person task force to evaluate matters regarding water conservation. As water conservation becomes an increasingly important water management strategy, the task force will be charged with reviewing, evaluating and recommending optimum levels of water use efficiency and conservation for the state by:

- identifying, evaluating and selecting best management practices for municipal, industrial and agricultural water uses and evaluating the costs and benefits for those practices;
- evaluating the implementation of water conservation strategies recommended in regional and state water plans;
- considering the need to establish and maintain a statewide public awareness program for water conservation;
- evaluating the proper role, if any, for state funding of incentive programs that may facilitate the implementation of best management practices and water conservation strategies;
- advising the TWDB and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) on a standardized methodology for reporting and using per capita water use data, establishing per capita water use

targets and goals, accounting for such local effects as climate and demographics and other possible uses as appropriate; and

- evaluating the appropriate state oversight and support of any conservation initiatives adopted by the Legislature.

Senate Bill 1094, which took effect in September 2003, requires that the task force develop a best management practices guide for use by regional water planning groups and political subdivisions responsible for water delivery service by no later than Nov. 1, 2004. For more information, visit the TWDB's Web site at www.twdb.state.texas.us.

RCWPG to survey water user groups to garner preliminary input on water management strategies

In mid to late February, the RCWPG will send out surveys to all water user groups in Region C, soliciting input on the planning group's initial strategies for meeting water needs in each city.

Each water user group will receive a customized survey that provides details on that city's population projections, water needs projections, currently available supply, as well as initial thoughts on water management strategies being considered for the city by the consultants.

In addition, water user groups will have the chance to provide vital feedback to the planning group about their future plans, so the planning group can make recommendations to the state that accurately reflect the needs and goals of each city.

The surveys will be the planning group's first real look at water management strategies for each water user group.

For more information, contact Region C consultant Tom Gooch with Freese & Nichols at 817-735-7314.

RCWPG to discuss process for screening water management strategies at Feb. 12 meeting

At its next meeting, RCWPG consultants will discuss a draft process that will be used to determine which water management strategies are considered and studied by the region's consultants and the planning group. The TWDB requires that all regional water planning groups develop a protocol for deciding which water management strategies to evaluate in detail. Public attendance at the February 12th meeting and comments on RCWPG proposals are welcome.

TWDB approves Region C water needs projections

In November 2003, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) approved Region C's water needs projections. The next step in the planning process for Region C is to determine the currently available water supply for the region and begin comparing each water user group's needs with its available supply, to determine where and when water shortages will occur. The planning group is trying to have the currently available water supply figures compiled by late January 2004.

A look ahead at 2004 regional water planning in Region C

- Currently available water supplies will be finalized
- Surveys will be sent to water user groups to garner preliminary input on water management strategies
- Water shortages and strategies to meet those needs will be analyzed
- Impacts of water management strategies on water quality will be evaluated
- Potential unique stream segments will be studied
- Texas Water Development Board policy topics will be discussed
- Water conservation and drought management recommendations will be evaluated
- Surveys will be sent to water user groups regarding financing for recommended projects to develop an Infrastructure Financing Report