

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

REGION C

Water Planning for North Texas

Summer 2008 Newsletter



5525 N MacArthur Blvd.
Suite 530
Irving, TX 75038

Planning Group Elects New Member and Officer

With the resignation of former Region C Water Planning Group member and Secretary Paul Zweiacker, who has been a member of the RCWPG since its inception in 1997, the planning group recently elected a new member and a new secretary.



Russell Laughlin, a member of the planning group representing industry and a senior vice president with Hillwood Properties, has been elected to serve as secretary of the RCWPG.



Jerry Johnson, generation environmental manager with Luminant Power, has been elected as a member of the RCWPG to fill Paul Zweiacker's vacant position representing electric generating utilities.

We salute these individuals, as well as all members of the RCWPG, for their commitment to the regional water planning effort and for their dedication of a significant amount of time and attention to regional water issues.

Region C Water Planning Group Invites Public to Attend Public Meetings

Public attendance is welcome at all Region C Water Planning Group Meetings, and attending members of the public have an opportunity for comment on the Planning Group's activities during each meeting.

Next Meeting:

Monday, September 22, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

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

*Please Note: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend the Region C Water Planning Group meeting – and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as mobility assistance, interpreters for deaf or hearing-impaired persons, readers, large print, or Braille – are requested to contact Lee Shaffer in the TRA Central Wastewater Treatment Plant at (972) 263-2251 at least (5) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

For more information about the Region C Water Planning Group, contact:

James (Jim) M. Parks, RCWPG Chair
North Texas Municipal Water District
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To be added to the RCWPG newsletter mailing list, send your name and mailing address to Colby Walton via e-mail to colby@cookseypr.com, or via fax to (972) 580-0852.

Visit www.regioncwater.org for the latest updates on RCWPG activities, meetings and other water planning news, or contact Stephanie Griffin with Freese & Nichols at swg@freese.com.

A Decade of Regional Water Planning

Since the regional water planning process first got underway in 1997, the North Texas region comprising Region C has made significant progress in planning for a long-term water supply and in implementing high-priority water management strategies to address the region's critical needs.

To date, two five-year rounds of regional water planning have been completed, and we are now in the midst of the third five-year planning cycle to update and improve the Regional Water Plan.

Most critically, the RCWPG has contributed over the last decade to the implementation of the following major water management strategies by wholesale water suppliers, municipalities and other entities, facilitating the addition of nearly **2 million acre-feet per year** of new supply:

1. Reuse projects

- Total reuse of more than 730,000 acre-feet/year.
- Completed supplies include Garland/Forney reuse for power plant, North Texas Municipal Wilson Creek reuse expansion, Grapevine/Dallas County Park Cities Municipal Utility District (MUD), Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) reuse of Lake Chapman water.
- Under-construction supplies include NTMWD East Fork Raw Water Supply Project, Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) wetlands (phased).
- In-progress supplies include Dallas' contract for return flows.
- Other supplies now permitted include Athens MWA, Trinity

River Authority, Dallas' Lake Ray Hubbard & Lake Lewisville, Irving.

2. Connection to existing supplies

- Several entities (including TRWD, NTMWD and UTRWD) are currently seeking Oklahoma water.
- Many completed projects and under-construction projects.
- Total from connection to existing supplies is more than 1,070,000 acre-feet/year.

3. New reservoirs/supply sources

- Muenster Lake completed, at 500 acre-feet/year.
- Permit applications have been submitted for Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir and Lake Ralph Hall (totaling 168,000 acre feet/year).

4. Large-scale conservation initiatives

Conservation programs to reduce water consumption and increase public awareness about conservation strategies have been undertaken by the following entities:

- Dallas
- NTMWD
- Arlington
- Fort Worth
- TRWD
- Many other cities and suppliers throughout the region.

5. Significant amount of regional cooperation

Where previous water planning efforts often were fragmented and lacked coordination, today the major water suppliers and Water User Groups (WUGs) in Region C work more closely together to coordinate water management strategies that will address the region's needs.

6. Significant amount of public participation

Throughout the five-year planning cycles, the RCWPG has invited members of the public to attend regular public meetings, to provide frequent input on water planning activities, and in particular to attend public hearings and offer feedback on the Planning Group's Initially Prepared Plans at the conclusion of each cycle. Additionally, the Planning Group has published frequent newsletters, provided updated information through the Region C website (www.regioncwater.org), and worked consistently with the media to ensure maximum awareness of the planning process and opportunities for public participation.

The RCWPG is pleased to be proactive in addressing the region's long-term water supply needs, and we welcome the public's continued input and involvement in this vital effort. With this careful planning, we will ensure an abundant water supply to fuel the continued growth, prosperity, and quality of life that are all so important to the region.

TRWD Continues to Pursue Oklahoma Water in Federal Lawsuit

A federal judge ruled late last year that the Tarrant Regional Water District's (TRWD) lawsuit challenging an Oklahoma moratorium on out-of-state water sales should be heard in federal court, and the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is expected to weigh in soon on this ruling. Most recently, the Oklahoma Legislature passed a resolution asking Congress to intercede in the matter.

As of the time of publication of this newsletter, the Appeals Court's ruling had not yet been issued, and no action had been taken by Congress.

The TRWD is pursuing surplus, Gulf-bound water that would be used to meet future water supply needs in North Texas.

The TRWD has filed permit applications with Oklahoma to secure water from the Beaver, Cache, and Kiamichi Rivers just before it flows into the Red River, where it becomes less suitable for municipal water supply due to salinity and requires expensive treatment. The District hopes to obtain approximately seven percent of the water destined for the Gulf, and would not seek any water from Oklahoma reservoirs.

Oklahoma water is included as a recommended strategy in the 2006 Region C Water Plan and was anticipated at the time of the Plan's completion to supply 115,000 acre-feet of water per year to the North Texas region – although TRWD, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), and the Upper Trinity Regional Water District (UTRWD) are seeking additional amounts of Oklahoma water currently.

The 2006 Plan also includes Oklahoma water as an alternative strategy for Dallas Water Utilities and the City of Irving.

If a successful, collaborative resolution of this dispute can be reached, North Texas residents and Oklahoma residents will both be the beneficiaries. Due to explosive population growth and unforeseen issues that may arise with implementation of other water management strategies, the North Texas region needs to plan on obtaining future water supplies from as many available sources as possible.

Oklahoma water offers a potentially significant supply of water to meet these critical needs, and this water also offers a potential benefit to Oklahoma residents through the revenues that future sales would generate.

Water Conservation Corner: Water Less While Preserving Outdoor Aesthetics

As summertime approaches and as our regional water supply becomes stressed, it is even more imperative that North Texans consider adopting water-efficient methods to keep their landscaping attractive. Conservation and reuse are a big part of the Region C Water Plan, and we all need to do our part to adopt these strategies where feasible.

Many Texas resources offer helpful information about easy-to-adopt, water-efficient landscaping practices, including the following landscaping principles that can lead to significant water savings:

- Planning and design
- Soil analysis
- Practical turf areas
- Appropriate plant selection
- Efficient irrigation
- Use of mulches
- Appropriate maintenance

For more information about the best water-efficient landscaping strategies for your home or business, see the Earth Kind website at EarthKind.tamu.edu, or visit one of the following informative sites:

- www.txsmartscape.com
- <http://urbanlandscapeguide.tamu.edu/waterwise.html>
- www.watერიq.org

About the Region C Water Planning Group

Region C is made up of all or part of 16 counties in North Texas: Collin, Cooke, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fannin, Freestone, Grayson, Henderson, Jack, Kaufman, Navarro, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise.

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) is one of 16 regional water planning groups selected by the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to help develop and revise a comprehensive state water plan for Texas through 2060. Each water planning group is responsible for preparing and adopting a regional water plan for its area. The RCWPG is made up of 19 members representing 11 different interest groups.

Name	Title	Representing
<i>Jim Parks</i>	Chair	Water Districts
<i>Jody Puckett</i>	Vice Chair	Municipalities
<i>Russell Laughlin</i>	Secretary	Industry
<i>Steve Berry</i>	Member	Environment
<i>Jerry Chapman</i>	Member	Water Districts
<i>Frank Crumb</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Jerry Johnson</i>	Member	Electric Generating Utilities
<i>Bill Lewis</i>	Member	Small Business
<i>G. K. Maenius</i>	Member	Counties
<i>Howard Martin</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Jim McCarter</i>	Member	Water Utilities
<i>Paul Phillips</i>	Member	Municipalities
<i>Marsh Rice</i>	Member	Public
<i>Bob Scott</i>	Member	Environment
<i>Connie Standridge</i>	Member	Water Utilities
<i>Jack Stevens</i>	Member	Water Districts
<i>Danny Vance</i>	Member	River Authority
<i>Mary Vogelson</i>	Member	Public
<i>Dr. Tom Woodward</i>	Member	Agriculture
<i>David Brock</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region I
<i>Curtis Campbell</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region B
<i>Terry Kelley</i>	Non-Voting Member	Brazos G RWPG
<i>Angela Masloff</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Water Development Board
<i>David Weidman</i>	Non-Voting Member	Region D
<i>E.W. Wesley</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Dept. of Agriculture
<i>Adam Whisenant</i>	Non-Voting Member	Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

Study Commission on Region C Water Supply Kicks Off Efforts

The 80th Texas Legislature's SB 3 authorized the creation of a Study Commission on Region C Water Supply to review water supply alternatives for the region and to help resolve differences between the Region C and Region D (Northeast Texas) Water Planning Groups.

The commission, consisting of three representatives each from Region C and Region D, held its first meeting at The University of Texas at Dallas on February 13, 2008, and commission representatives subsequently reported on their progress at a recent hearing of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. As of the publication of this newsletter, the Study Commission was still defining its proposed scope of work to address the tasks laid out in SB 3, and it had not yet set a date or a specific location for its next meeting.

The commission's efforts are expected to conclude with the delivery of a report to the Texas Water Development Board by December 1, 2010.