

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
REGION F WATER PLANNING GROUP  
10:30 A.M. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2007  
AT HOWARD COLLEGE  
1001 BIRDWELL LANE – BIG SPRING, TEXAS**

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The Region F Water Planning Group (WPG) met at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, February 26, 2007 at Howard College, 1001 Birdwell Lane, Big Spring, Texas. Voting members present were: Len Wilson, Wendell Moody, Buddy Sipes, Terry Scott, Steve Hofer, Caroline Runge, Stuart Coleman, John Grant, Scott Holland, Richard Gist, Robert Moore, David Sanders, Dennis Clark and Joe David Ross was present as a designated alternate for voting member Kenneth Dierschke. Voting members Kenneth Dierschke, Stephen Brown, Will Wilde and Tim Warren were absent. Non-voting members present were Winton Milliff, Gordon Hooper, Rick Harston, Charles Hagood, Billy Hopper, Ken Carver, Sue Young, Don Daniel and John Shepard. Other non-voting members and interested parties present were: Kevin Kluge, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB); Jon Albright and Simone Kiel, Freese & Nichols (FNI); Reuben Cantu, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; John Ashworth and James Beach, LBG-Guyton; Dennis; Allen Lange, Lipan-Kickapoo Water Conservation District; R. Nan Owen, Upton County Water District; Chris Wingert and Michelle Rhodes (recorder of the minutes) from Colorado River Municipal Water District.

**Call to Order**

Chairman John Grant called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Introductions and Opening Remarks**

Voting and non-voting members and audience attendees introduced themselves.

**Consider Approval of Minutes for the Region F WPG Meeting August 28, 2006**

Motion was made by Richard Gist, seconded by Buddy Sipes that the minutes of the August 28, 2006 Region F WPG meeting be accepted. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consider Ratification of Payments/Financial Report**

Mr. Grant presented the list of payments and financial report. Steve Hofer made a motion, seconded by Stuart Coleman, that the group approve the financial report and ratify the payments as noted in the printed report. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consider Nominations for Voting Membership – Irrigated Agriculture**

Mr. Grant asked that the four nominees tell the planning group about themselves and why they would like to serve the group. He then read the criteria of a voting member from the group's by-laws.

Woody Anderson told the group that his family has been in cotton farming for the past 100 years in Mitchell County with approximately 13% of their crop being irrigated, he is also a board member of the Lone Wolf Groundwater Water District.

Nominee John Evridge did not attend the meeting in time to introduce himself but did arrive later.

Lynn Halfmann told the group that he is an irrigated farmer in Upton, Glasscock, and Reeves Counties. Mr. Halfmann believes irrigated farming is a large part of what makes up farming in America.

Michael McCulloch told the group that he is a surface water irrigator and groundwater irrigator in Midland County. He believes in educating the public in the importance the watershed and how it effects the environment and is involved in the Pecos River Restoration Project.

Ballots were handed out to the voting members; selections were made and handed back to the Chair to be tallied. The voting members elected Woody Anderson as irrigated agriculture representative and invited the other candidates to continue to participate with the planning group in the planning process.

#### **Designated Alternates for Voting Members**

Mr. Grant asked that all planning group members, if they desired, to recommend someone to serve as their designate alternate by filling out a nomination form. The designated alternate must represent the same interest group and meet the same qualifications as the voting member. The recommendations for designated alternate will be brought before the group at the next meeting for the group to act on.

#### **Discuss Non-voting Members**

It has been quite some time since the planning group has reaffirmed non-voting members. There are certain non-voting members that the group is required to have by guidelines put forth from TWDB. The group decided back in 1999 that non-voting members should be included from counties that did not currently have a voting member. Mr. Grant asked the group if they would like to discuss and expand non-voting members.

Steve Hofer suggested that the group should designate a person from counties that choose to not participate and not penalize the counties citizens. Wendell Moody also suggested that counties with voting members be allowed to have non-voting membership in counties with diversified circumstances.

Motion was made by Caroline Runge and seconded by Buddy Sipes that the planning group ask counties to reaffirm non-voting members to the group. The motion passed unanimously.

Nominations for additional non-voting members will be considered throughout the planning process.

#### **Discuss Standing Committees**

Mr. Grant asked the group if they would like to continue and leave the committees in place, as they have not been utilized since the inception of the planning group. If the group would like to continue with the committees, the Chair will poll the group and find out what committee they would like to serve on.

### **Regional Water Planning Process**

Kevin Kluge, TWDB, provided members with an overview of the planning process. The planning process is very unique. Not all states do a water plan. The amount of water information is amazing as well. TWDB has been collecting water information for the last 20 years. The projections in the plan are "dry year" projections that are done in drought of record conditions. It is the responsibility of the planning group to consider local plans, develop and adopt regional water plans, provide region-specific analysis. San Antonio still does not have a regional water plan. We are beginning the first biennium of the third round of planning. This round will have an increased focus on implementation. The group will look at special projects instead of full revision to the regional plan. Full revision to the regional plan will only be done after every census.

Jon Albright then continued the presentation providing an overview of the region and discussed water supply and demand in the planning process. Mr. Albright reviewed the four major aquifers and the seven minor aquifers in the region as well as the seventeen major surface water reservoirs. He also discussed Region F population and how it has affected regional water demands and sources of water supply. He identified the major issues from the 2006 Plan as being the WAM for the Colorado basin, water conservation, new groundwater supplies, desalination and reuse, the bottled water program for the Hickory aquifer users and growth in the steam-electric power generation demands.

### **Region F Projects Considered by the TWDB**

Simone Kiel reviewed projects for the first biennium. There are six proposed projects to be funded. They are the groundwater study, irrigation study, economics of rural water systems and integrated water supply study, Pecan Bayou Watershed Study, Municipal Conservation and inter-regional coordination with Region K. Ms. Kiel reviewed each project and the issues that face Region F as related to that project.

Simone Kiel then explained the proposed Region F meeting schedule and how work groups would be utilized to allow more member involvement and avoid possible meeting conflicts.

### **LBG-Guyton Presentation – Groundwater Recharge Study**

James Beach provided the group with a brief overview of the Groundwater Recharge Study conducted by LBG-Guyton.

### **TWDB Presentation – Groundwater Management Areas**

Rima Petrossin provided the group with a brief overview of the Groundwater Management Areas in the state and the importance of the data collected in these areas for determining desired future conditions.

### **TWDB Report**

Kevin Kluge informed the group that the TWDB was conducting a work session today to review tasks in the proposed scope of work for the various Regional Water Planning Groups. TWDB is hopeful that their Board will give authority to execute contracts after their meeting tomorrow.

All voting members should have received a copy of the State Water Plan for their review, any non-voting members that would like to receive a copy of the State Water Plan simply need to request a copy.

### **Other Discussion**

Mr. Grant asked if anyone had any type of presentation that anyone would like to see. He mentioned the salt cedar control project in the upper Colorado River basin and the CRMWD Water Reclamation Project in Big Spring.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting was scheduled for April 23, 2007.

### **Adjourn**

There was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.



Will Wilde, Secretary  
Region F Water Planning Group



John Grant, Chair  
Region F Water Planning Group