

**Meeting Minutes
Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group
Regular Meeting October 24, 2018
LCRA Dalchau
Service Center
3505 Montopolis
Drive Austin, Texas
10:00 a.m.**

Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business
Jim Brasher, GMA 15
John Burke, Water Utilities
Robin Gary, GMA 10, Alternate
Ron Fiesler, GMA 9
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public
Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Ann McElroy, Environmental
David Lindsey, Recreation, Alternate

Mike Reagor, Municipalities
Charles Olfers, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8
Paul Silva, Agriculture
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosis, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD
Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB

Voting Members Absent:

David Caldwell, GMA 10, Alternate Attended
Doug Powell, Recreation, Alternate Attended
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jennifer Walker, Environmental

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Christane Alepuz, CAPCOG
Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm
Rebecca Batchelor, LCRA
Lawrence Brown Jr., TSSWCB

David Villarreal, TDA
Tommy Koch, CTK
Eric Hersh, Stantec

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 22

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Formal Actions Taken:

1. Minutes from August 29, 2018 regular meeting were approved as presented.
2. The group approved motion to: 1) approve the second Task 5A Partial Scope of work with proposed language changes from Teresa Lutes, 2) authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with the second partial Scope of Work for Task 5A, 3) execute the subsequent contract amendments, and 4) to authorize the Technical Consultant to make minor edits to the second partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB.

Regular Meeting:

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
3. **Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items #7-13** – None.
4. **Attendance Report** – Attendance report information was presented and included in the members' packets for review.
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the October 24, 2018 regular meeting – Motion made by Ron Fiesler and seconded by David Van Dresar to adopt minutes from the regular August 29, 2018 meeting as presented. This motion was approved.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported the total consultant budget to be \$723,046. So far, \$238,971 has been spent on consulting services and there is remaining balance of \$484,075. The current account balance for paying the consultant is \$44,815. The members account currently has a balance of \$3,009.
6. **Texas Water Development Board (TWDB):**
 - a. Update on regional water planning activities and schedules – Lann Bookout reminded the group that TWDB continues to hold financial assistance workshops. These are posted on their webpage under the financial assistance tab. The Water for Texas conference will be held in January.
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. **Water Management Strategies Committee** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on the Water Management Strategies Committee meeting held on October 15, 2018. Ms. Burke reported that the meeting focused on discussion of water management strategies that were scoped for evaluation during the 2016 planning cycle. The Committee then decided whether or not to recommend, strategy by strategy, that the Regional Water Planning Group include each strategy in the scope of work for strategy evaluation for this cycle. Additionally, the Committee discussed, for certain strategies, whether to break one strategy out into multiple strategies for clarification purposes. The Committee was only able to address review of the 2016 planning cycle strategies in the time available. New potentially feasible water management strategies that were identified this cycle include: new water purchase, new water purchase requiring infrastructure, water purchase amendment, water purchase amendment requiring infrastructure, and reduced lake evaporation.

The Water Management Strategies Committee plans to meet again on November 30, 2018 to further consider new strategies being requested this cycle, other strategy suggestions by the committee or from public input, and discussion of certain issues that will need to be addressed this cycle. The Water Management Strategies Committee recommendation is to approve the draft amended second Task 5A partial scope of work will be presented today for discussion and consideration.
 - b. **Other committee reports, as needed** – None.
8. **Consultant Status Report** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, made a presentation on the overall consultant progress on the planning process. Recent efforts have focused on the technical memorandum, updating Chapters 1-3 of the 2021 Plan, drought response, and work on the preparation of a draft partial scope of work for Task 5A (evaluation of water management

strategies for Regional Water Planning Group consideration).

9. **Discuss and consider updates to non-Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) availability methodologies. Take action as needed.** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that modeled available groundwater (MAG) volumes are used for the majority of the groundwater sources in the region. Several groundwater sources currently do not have MAG volumes because the Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) identified the sources as non-relevant for joint planning purposes. The Region was required to identify the non-MAG availability methodologies in the Technical Memorandum, but a few updates have occurred since then and the Regional Water Planning Group must approve the changes.

Ms. Burke presented methodologies for the Marble Falls and Hickory Aquifers. For the Marble Falls Aquifer (San Saba County, Colorado Basin), the availability was determined based on the effective recharge listed in the GMA Aquifer Assessment for GMA-7, Marble Falls Aquifer (TWDB, November 1, 2011). Using this method, the total availability was 9,377 AFY (note that it was 11,063 AFY in 2016 plan). For the Hickory Aquifer (Llano County, Colorado Basin), the availability was determined based on the effective recharge listed in the GMA Aquifer Assessment 08-07 MAG for GMA-7 (TWDB, August 31, 2010). Using this method, the total availability was 1,182 AFY (note that it was 2,018 AFY in 2016 plan).

After discussion about Llano groundwater models and next Desired Future Condition determinations, the group decided to table this issue until January allowing the consultant to conduct additional research.

10. **Discuss and consider second draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented slides on the Draft Task 5A Amended (Second) Partial Scope of Work. Ms. Burke described that the allocated budget for this task is \$319,178. The Regional Water Planning Group is required to prepare a scope of work for each strategy evaluation they want to perform. This scope of work must be presented for public input and Regional Water Planning Group approval before being submitted to TWDB for their approval. However, the Regional Water Planning Group does not have to submit the entire scope of work all at once, it can be submitted in pieces. Region K has already submitted a partial scope of work for Drought Management, Conservation, Expand Use of Local Groundwater, and City of Austin Return Flows. Ms. Burke explained that it is recommended to leave a portion of the budget unallocated in case an unexpected strategy needs to be evaluated later in the process. TWDB approval of the scope of work and issuance of a Notice-to-Proceed is required before task work is allowed to begin.

The Regional Water Planning Group discussed multiple strategies in the draft scope of work development. Teresa Lutes provided proposed language changes on several strategies.

11. **Receive public comments on second draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies.** – No public comments were provided at the meeting.
12. **Consider and take action on approval of the second Task 5A Partial Scope of Work and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with the second partial Scope of Work for Task 5A and execute the subsequent contract amendments. Consider and take action on authorizing Technical Consultant to make minor edits to the second partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB.** – David Van Dresser made a motion to approve the second Task 5A scope of work with proposed language changes from Teresa Lutes and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice to Proceed with the second partial Scope of Work for 5A and execute the subsequent contract amendments. The motion included authorizing the

Technical Consultant to make minor edits to the second partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB. David Wheelock seconded this motion, and the Regional Water Planning Group voted to approve.

13. **Agenda items for next meeting:**

a. **Location and date of next meeting** – The next Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group meeting is scheduled for January 9th. The meeting will be held at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center, at 3505 Montopolis Drive in Austin. The Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group meetings in 2019 will likely be held at quarterly intervals with meeting frequency potentially needing to increase towards the end of the year.

b. **Other committee meetings** – None.

14. **New / Other business** – John Burke noted to the group that Donna Klaeger, recently resigned as Counties representative for Burnet County, had nominated her alternate for the vacant Counties interest position, but her alternate is from Llano County. To keep county representation balance, Chairman Burke suggested that the representative should be from Burnet County. Notice for the vacant Burnet County position will be sent and the group can potentially vote on the new member at the January 9, 2019 meeting.

15. **Public Comments** – None.

16. **Adjourn** – The meeting to adjourned at 11:43 am.