

Region K Public Meeting

January 15, 2020

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group
(Region K)



January 15, 2020

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Nominating Committee Recommendations
 - John Burke, Chair
 - David Wheelock, Vice Chair
 - Teresa Lutes, Secretary
 - Ron Fieseler, Member-at-Large
 - Jason Ludwig, Member-at-Large
 - Byron Theodosius, Member-at-Large

Agenda

4. Receive Public Comments
5. Attendance Report
6. Approval of Minutes from November 13, 2019 meeting
7. TWDB Update
8. Committee Reports – Legislative/Policy, possible others

Agenda Item 8

COMMITTEE REPORTS

8a. Legislative and Policy Committee Report

▼ Committee meeting on December 11th

- Committee met to discuss proposed edits:
 - Inflows to Highland Lakes (8.1.10)
 - Management of Surface Water Resources: Inter-Basin Transfers and Model Linking (8.1.1)
 - Municipal/Industrial Conservation (8.1.7)
 - Reuse (8.1.8)
 - Recommended Improvements to the Regional Planning Process (8.1.12)
 - Radionuclides in the Hickory and Marble Falls Aquifers (8.1.13)
 - Planning for Droughts Worse than the Drought of Record (New)
- Already presented to RWPG: Groundwater (8.1.4), Potential Impacts to Agricultural and Rural Water Supplies (8.1.5), Agricultural Water Conservation (8.1.6), Brush Management (8.1.9)

Agenda Item 9

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF DRAFT LEGISLATIVE/POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

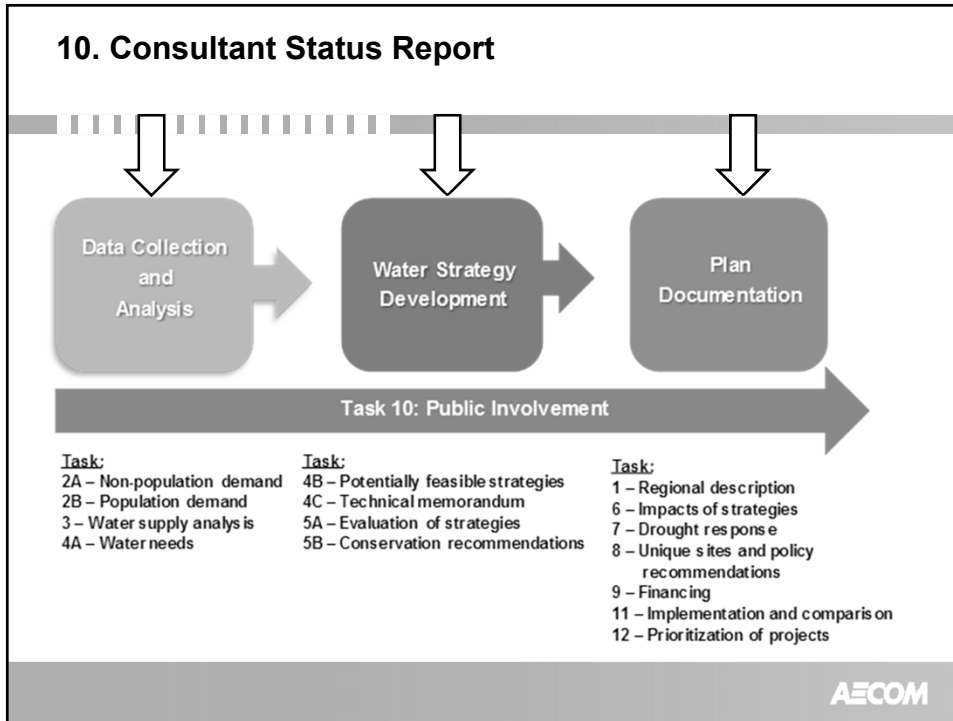
9. Draft Legislative/Policy Recommendations

- ▼ Inflows to Highland Lakes (8.1.10)
 - Policy reviewed and updated by David Lindsay and Rebecca Batchelder. Policy requests a hydrologic study of the watershed providing inflows to the Highland Lakes. Updates include a new discussion on rainfall-runoff trends. Major revision: no track changes.
- ▼ Municipal/Industrial Conservation (8.1.7)
 - Austin provided minor language changes to policy and updated information since last RWP cycle.
- ▼ Reuse (8.1.8)
 - Austin provided minor language changes to policy.

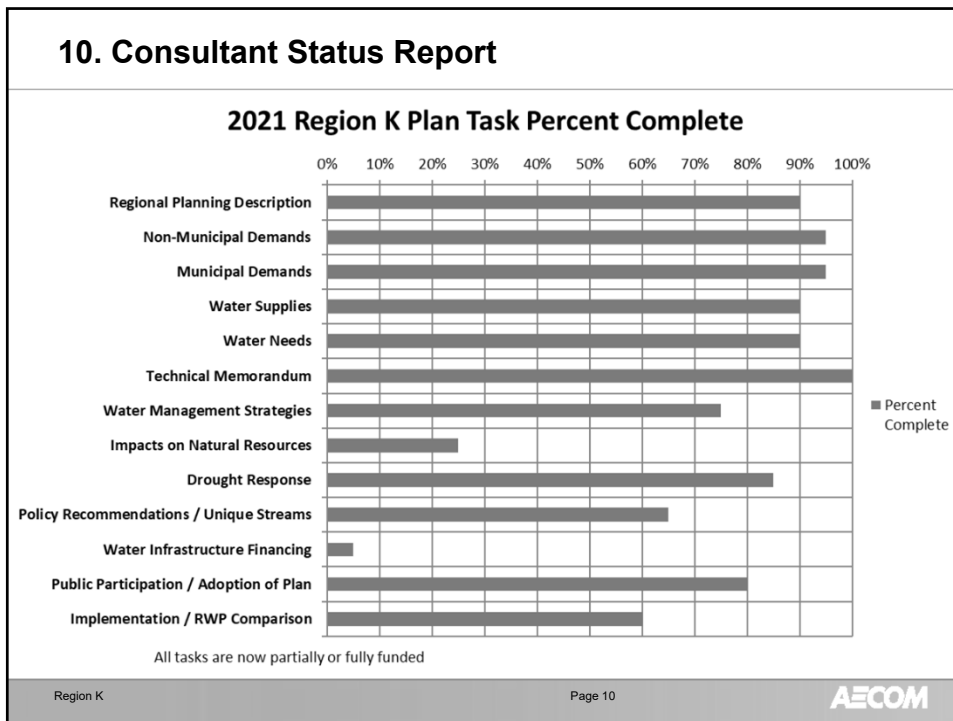
Agenda Item 10

CONSULTANT STATUS REPORT

10. Consultant Status Report



10. Consultant Status Report



10. Consultant Status Report Effort since last meeting (November 13, 2019)

- ▼ Appendix 1B – The Highland Lakes Region: History, Social Development and Economic Importance (provided by Dave Lindsay)
 - Sent draft appendix to RWPG (no comments received yet)
 - Updated version sent yesterday
- ▼ Chapter 3 of 2021 Plan – Water Availability and Supplies
 - Addressed LCRA and Dave Lindsay comments and sent draft chapter to RWPG (no additional comments received yet)
- ▼ Chapter 4 of 2021 Plan – Identification of Water Needs
 - Sent draft chapter to RWPG
 - Received comments/suggested edits from LCRA and Dave Lindsay
- ▼ Chapter 9 of 2021 Plan – Water Infrastructure Financing
 - Sent draft chapter to RWPG yesterday (most work in this chapter happens after the draft plan is submitted)
- ▼ Chapter 7 of 2021 Plan – Drought Response
 - Sent draft chapter to RWPG yesterday

10. Consultant Status Report Effort since last meeting (November 13, 2019)

- ▼ Water Management Strategies
 - All scoped strategy write-ups have been completely drafted. Addressing comments and incorporating into Chapter 5 of Plan (see Agenda Item 11.)
- ▼ Implementation and Comparison
 - Implementation spreadsheet provided by TWDB. Surveys sent to WUGs [31 TAC 357.45(a)] .
 - Received 17 responses so far. Implementation survey template can continue to be updated between draft and final plans.

10. Consultant Status Report Upcoming Efforts

- ▼ Finish updating and formatting Chapter 5 (Water Management Strategies) and send out to RWPG for review.
- ▼ Finish Draft Chapter 6 (Impacts of Regional Water Plan); include cumulative impacts modeling. Send to RWPG for review.
- ▼ Finish Draft Chapter 10 (Public Involvement) and send out to RWPG for review.
 - Have any RWPG members made presentations this cycle to civic or special interest groups?
- ▼ Work with Policy Committee to finalize updating of policies that are included in Draft Chapter 8 (Unique Stream Segments and Reservoir Site and Legislative/Policy Recommendations). Send to RWPG for review.
- ▼ Incorporate Implementation survey results into Draft Chapter 11 (Implementation and Comparison to the Previous Regional Water Plan). Send to RWPG for review.
- ▼ Incorporate received comments into chapters. Develop Executive Summary.
- ▼ Database entry (DB22) of Water Management Strategies.

Agenda Item 11

DISCUSSION OF DRAFT 2021 PLAN CHAPTERS OUT FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

11. Draft 2021 Plan Chapters out for Review and Comments Received

▼ Chapter 1 – Regional Water Planning Area Description

- Out for RWPG Review, including Appendix 1B (electronic documents emailed)
- Appendix 1B updated with ABOR information and sent out yesterday
- Comments received from LCRA. Will send out comment document to RWPG and work on addressing

▼ Chapter 2 – Population and Water Demands

- Out for RWPG Review (electronic documents emailed)
- Discussed comments received from LCRA and Dave Lindsay at July meeting; No additional comments have been received yet
- Working on addressing comments

▼ Chapter 3 – Water Availability and Supplies

- Addressed committee comments; sent out to RWPG

11. Draft 2021 Plan Chapters out for Review and Comments Received

▼ Chapter 4 – Identification of Water Needs

- Sent out for RWPG review; LCRA and Dave Lindsay comments received and addressed
- See handout
 - Made edits in track changes to address comments, or provided a response in the space right of the document.

Agenda Item 12

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF UPDATES TO WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

12. Strategy Updates

▼ LCRA requested strategy removal (moved to considered):

- Alternative Groundwater Importation from Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer
- All Fayette Power Project strategies (recommended and alternative)

▼ Bertram Source

- After more discussion, changing Bertram's reservoir source back to Ellenburger-San Saba.
- Revised Water Supply Infrastructure Development WMS to remove Bertram.
- Expand Local Use of Groundwater: Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer. Increased Bertram's allocation.

▼ Llano Shortage

- Drought Management. Updated reduction to reduce to a demand of 448 ac-ft/yr after conservation is applied.
- Water purchase strategy volume would be reduced to 177 ac-ft/yr.
- Working on other strategy options for 2030-2070 decades.

12. Strategy Updates

▼ Austin

- Added O&M costs to strategies with \$0 cost (Austin Blackwater and Greywater Reuse, Austin Onsite Rainwater and Storm Water Harvesting, Austin Community-Scale Stormwater Harvesting).
- Revised Water Supply Infrastructure Development/Expansion strategy
 - Added Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements (2016 Plan recommended strategy)
 - Strategy makes improvements to Longhorn Dam which will increase the dam's efficiency.
 - Yield = 3,000 AFY, beginning in 2030.
 - Facilities cost = \$11 million; Project cost = \$15.2 million; Unit cost = \$393/ac-ft
 - No environmental or agricultural impacts anticipated.

12. Strategy Updates

▼ Brush Management

- Took initial lake inflow numbers and kept them as a potential benefit to the area's water supply.
- Located research showing impacts of brush management on deep drainage.
 - The research indicated an increase in the deep drainage infiltration from 0 inches at 36% juniper to 0.3 inches at 18% juniper, and up to 3.7 inches for complete juniper removal with 100% grass. 3.7 inches of deep drainage/yr is equal to 100,500 gallons/acre/yr.
 - If 40 percent of the brush removal acres contain juniper in quantities that can increase deep drainage by 0.3 inches per year, the additional benefit to local groundwater could be up to **2,000 acre-feet** of water. Based on this projection, this yield has been allocated proportionally by geographic area to four counties (County-Other) in the Region K area. Costs were applied to County-Other. Unit costs increased to \$1,190, based on reduced yield.
- Unit costs for various types of brush removal measures were updated based on information provided by TSSWCB.

12. Strategy Updates

▼ Rainwater Harvesting

- Clarified catchment and household savings and added actual cost of large-scale, single-family rainwater harvesting systems

▼ Drip Irrigation for Non-Rice Crops

- Updated to include San Saba; could not locate planted acres of grapes for Gillespie

▼ In progress:

- Groundwater Importation: Hays County Pipeline. Contacted Region L for additional information on the costs for developing the source of water. Waiting to hear back.
- Groundwater Importation: Alliance Regional Water Authority Pipeline. Ask Region L for availability of groundwater (so that we know the extent of the socioeconomic impact)

Agenda Item 13

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF CUMULATIVE IMPACTS MODELING

Agenda

14. Agenda items for next meeting
15. New / Other Business
16. Public Comments
17. Adjourn