Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting February 10, 2016 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Billy Roeder, Agriculture Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8

### Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10, Alternate Attended Ronald Gertson, Small Business, Alternate Attended

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Dianne Wheeler, Public Interest Alternate Ryan Murdoch, MWH Katy Phillips, City of Sunset Valley Charles Flatten, HCA,, Environmental Alternate David Villarreal, TDA Daniel Berglund, Wharton County Ginger Faught, City of Dripping Springs James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Dan Hunter, Non-voting, TDA Robin Gary, GMA 10 Alternate Neil Hudgins, Small Business Alternate Peggy Travis, Electric Generating Utilities Alternate Brent Batchelor, Agriculture Alternate

Haskell Simon, Agriculture, Alternate Attended Byron Theodosis, Counties

Bill Foulds, City of Dripping Springs Chris Lane, SAMCO Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm Sarah Richards, CGMF Rudi Rosengarten, Sunset Valley Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate Gary Gold, COA

### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 24 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. Approved motion to adopt the November 12, 2015 meeting minutes.
- 2. Approved motion to accept and re-appoint Karen Haschke as a Region K Planning Group voting member representing the Public interest category. (This will be for a 5-year term)
- 3. Approved motion to accept the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee for the Region K Executive Committee.
- 4. By consensus it was decided that the required public meeting to take input on the scope of work for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle would take place as part of the next regular Region K Planning Group meeting scheduled for April 13, 2016.

## **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting and all voting members present introduced themselves.
- 3. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 4. Discuss term expiration for 2 member representatives and take action as needed A motion to accept and re-appoint Karen Haschke as a Region K Planning Group voting member representing the Public interest category was made and approved. This will be for a 5-year term. John Burke indicated that he will contact Byron Theodosis to see if he is interested in being considered for reappointment as a Region K Planning Group voting member.
- 5. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations
  - a. Discuss and take action on election of Executive Committee and Officers

     Ronald Fieseler read the Nominating Committee's slate of recommended candidates for the Region K Executive Committee, as follows:

John Burke, Chair, Bastrop County, Water Utilities Jim Barho, Vice-Chair, Burnet County, Environmental Teresa Lutes, Secretary, Travis County, Municipalities Paul Tybor, At-Large, Gillespie County, GMA 7 Mike Reagor, At-Large, Llano County, Small Municipalities John Hoffman, At-Large, Matagorda County, Electric Generating Utilities

A motion to accept the slate of candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee for the Region K Executive Committee was made and approved.

- 6. Consent Agenda (5 minutes):
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the November 12, 2015 meeting A motion to approve the Minutes from the November 12, 2015 meeting as presented was made and approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock gave the financial/budget report which stated that there is a current balance of \$24,128 in the Grant Account prefunded for planning cycle number 5 and \$3,921 in the Members' Account.
- 7. Weather Outlook Bob Rose provided an update on the weather outlook for the basin that included a summary of weather statistics for 2015, an update on the El Nino forecast, and temperature and precipitation information.
- 8. Texas Water Development Board Update: update on regional water planning activities, schedules and planning group grant funding status and notifications Lann Bookout provided an update on Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) activities regarding the regional water planning process. The update included information on SWIFT applications and crafting of the 2017 State Water Plan. Mr. Bookout mentioned a new methodology for projecting water demand to be considered in the new planning cycle. A TWDB representative will be available to make a presentation for the planning group on the new methodology at a future Region K meeting.
- 9. Administrative Agency update: Discuss close out of cycle 4 planning and contracting for planning cycle 5; update on Region K website David Wheelock mentioned that cycle 4 has been closed out and the final payment is being processed with AECOM. Mr. Wheelock indicated that contracting with AECOM for cycle 5 is underway but not yet complete. Stacey Pandey (LCRA) presented a proposed revised layout to the Region K website, which was generally well-received by planning group members.
- 10. Initial discussion of scope and schedule for cycle 5 planning round Jaime Burke (AECOM) presented the Conceptual 5<sup>th</sup> Planning Cycle Schedule and Initial Scope of Work for the fifth planning cycle. Ms. Burke discussed potential changes in TWDB methodology for developing the next population and municipal water demand projections based upon water provider service areas rather than political boundaries. Planning group members were provided a handout on the new proposed methodology. There was a follow-up discussion about the timeline and funding for developing the scope of work for the fifth planning cycle. Lann Bookout provided clarification on the major tasks and typical schedule for the regional planning process. Jaime Burke presented the Potential Projection Distribution Timeline for the 2021 Regional water Plan provided by TWDB.
- 11. Discuss and Take Action regarding the required public meeting to take input on the scope of work for this 5th planning cycle, to include setting the date for the public meeting There was discussion on scheduling of a required public meeting to take input on the scope of work for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle. By consensus it was decided that the required public meeting to take input on the scope of work for the 5<sup>th</sup>

planning cycle would take place as part of the next regular Region K Planning Group meeting scheduled for April 13, 2016.

- 12. Discuss and take possible action on City of Dripping Springs water project Robert P. Callegari (CMA Engineering) presented information on the City of Dripping Springs "Regional Wastewater Service Planning" project. There was discussion amongst planning group members about the project and the potable reuse component. John Burke instructed the City of Dripping Springs to speak with TWDB and consider the potential timeline for applying for SWIFT funding. No action was taken at this time. Chairman Burke indicated that, if desired by the project's representatives, the project could be revisited by the regional planning group at a later date.
- 13. Bylaws update: Discuss Region K bylaws and determine if any updates are needed and take action as needed – Barbara Johnson discussed her review of the current bylaws and potential updates that may need to be made. If needed, Ms. Johnson will plan to draft language for potential updates to be reviewed by planning group members at the April 13, 2016 planning group meeting.
- 14. Discuss Region K Committee appointments and take action as necessary John Burke went over the appointments for all Region K Committees for the 5th planning cycle.
- 15. Informational item: "Water 101" orientation for Region K members to take place on March 9<sup>th</sup> – Jim Barho discussed the "Water 101" orientation for Region K members that will take place on March 9<sup>th</sup> at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center. Additional information will be sent to planning group members at a later date.
- 16.16. Agenda items for next meeting
  - a. Location of next meeting The next Region K Planning Group meeting will be held on April 13, 2016 at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center.
- 17. New / Other Business None.
- 18. Public Comments None.
- 19. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting April 13, 2016 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:30 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ronald Gertson, Small Business Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Donna Klaeger, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8 Haskell Simon, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties

#### Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9, Alternate Attended Karen Haschke, Public Interest John Hoffman, Electric Generating Utilities, Alternate Attended Barbara Johnson, Industries

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Rev. Carmen Retzlaff, New Life Lutheran in Dripping Springs Leonard Leinfelder, Kingsland WSE Brent Covert, Forestar Group Charlie Flatten, Hill Country Alliance Tommy Koch, C. Thomas Koch, Inc. Dorothy Taylor, Central Texas Water Coalition Jordan Furnans, LRE Water LLC Kevin Critendon, Austin Water Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm Jim McMeans Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB David Villarreal, Non-voting, TDA Paul Babb, GMA 9 Alternate Peggy Travis, Electric Generating Utilities Alternate David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate

Doug Powell, Recreation, Alternate Attended Billy Roeder, Agriculture Jim Totten, GMA 12

Jason Ludwig, South Texas Nuclear Project Linda Raschke, Counties Alternate Reagan Burnham, No Colorado River Dam, Inc. Charles Shell, Central Texas GCD Kevin Kluge, TWDB Daniel Berglund, CBGCD Vicky Kennedy, Travis County Gary Bushell, Island on Lake Travis Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate Gary Gold, COA

### Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 20 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. Approved Judge Byron Theodosis, representing the Counties interest category and San Saba County, continuing for a new term as a planning group voting member.
- 2. Approved a motion to elect Jason Ludwig with STPNOC as representative for the Electric Generation Utilities interest group, Matagorda County, with Peggy Travis as Designated Alternate.
- 3. Approved motion to adopt the February 10, 2016 meeting minutes as presented.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 4. Discuss term expiration for San Saba County member representative and take action as needed – A motion for Judge Byron Theodosis, representing the Counties interest category and San Saba County, continuing for a new term as a planning group voting member was approved.
- 5. Discuss and take action on election of voting member Jason Ludwig with STPNOC as representative for the Electric Generation Utilities interest group and Peggy Travis as alternate A motion to approve Jason Ludwig with STPNOC as representative for the Electric Generation Utilities interest group and Peggy Travis as alternate was approved. The Nominating Committee will recommend a member to replace John Hoffman on the Executive Committee. Ronald Gertson introduced the group to the new alternate for Small Business, Daniel Bergman.
- 6. Consent Agenda (5 minutes):
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the February 10, 2016 meeting A motion to adopt the presented minutes was approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported that there is \$24,128 remaining in the Grant Account and \$3,924 remaining in the Members' Account.
- 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Update update on regional water planning activities Lann Bookout (TWDB) reported on TWDB activities to gather input on revisions to administrative rules governing Regional and State Water planning. Mr. Bookout reported that TWDB is planning to host a technical meeting with consulting engineers working with the Regional Planning groups. Mr. Bookout reported that the State Water Plan was posted for comments on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and TWDB will hold a public meeting on the State Water Plan on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bookout indicated that public comments will be accepted on the State Water Plan through

April 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bookout reported that TWDB received applications for the current round of SWIFT funding and the list of applications is available on the TWDB website.

- 8. Texas Water Development Board Presentation on new "Utility" based planning approach Kevin Kluge (TWDB) gave presentation on the new "Utility" based planning approach. The presentation included information on the development of water use estimates for the 4<sup>th</sup> planning cycle and changes that are planned to be included for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle. These changes include population planning based on permanent resident population served within a utility service area and water demand planning based on volume of water to serve the utility's retail customers (minus large industrial customers). Mr. Kluge discussed benefits and additional considerations associated with this revised planning process. Mr. Kluge discussed the tentative timeline for developing water demand projections.
- 9. Discuss any oral or written public comments received at the April 13, 2016 Public Meeting as requested by planning group members – John Burke gave planning group members the opportunity to discuss any public comments any oral or written public comments received at the April 13, 2016 Public Meeting. There was no additional discussion on comments from the Public Meeting.
- 10. Consider discussion of potential 5th cycle planning items received from public comments during the 4th cycle as requested by planning group members The group will develop a strategic planning list of comprehensive items for the planning group to consider during the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle based on the items submitted by planning group members and both oral and written comments received from the public.
- 11. Bylaws update Discuss Region K bylaws and determine if any updates are needed and take action as needed –This agenda item was postponed until the next Region K Planning group meeting.
- 12. Agenda items for next meeting
  - a. Location of next meeting The next Region K Planning Group meetings are planned to be held on July 13, 2016 and October 12, 2016 at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center.
- 13. New / Other Business Slides from the March 9, 2016 Water Planning 101 meeting will be posted on the Region K website.
- 14. Public Comments None.
- 15. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting July 13, 2016 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

### Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Ronald Gertson, Small Business Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities

#### Voting Members Absent:

Billy Roeder, Agriculture Haskell Simon, Agriculture Byron Theodosis, Counties

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Ricky Anderson, RSAH20, LLC David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate Daniel Berglund, CBGWCD, Alternate Kevin Conlon, SAM, LLC Charlie Flatten, Hill Country Alliance Environmental Alternate Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB

Christianne Castleberry, CE&C, Alternate Marisa Flores Gonzalez, COA Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate Gary Gold, COA

### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

### Formal Actions Taken:

1. Approved a motion to elect Daniel Berglund to replace retiring member Ronald Gertson as representative for Small Business Interest Group, Wharton County.

- 2. Approved a motion to approve minutes from the April 13, 2016 regular and public meetings as presented.
- 3. Approved a motion to approve the "Draft Region K Initial Consideration of Public Input on Planning Process for 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle" document with the additional comments and edits as discussed at the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Region K Regular meeting.
- 4. Approved a motion to refer the list of municipal water user groups (WUGs), as released by the TWDB for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle, to the Population and Demand Committee to develop and send a response to TWDB.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 4. Discuss and take action on election of voting member to replace retiring member Ronald Gertson as representative for the Small Business interest group – A motion to elect Daniel Berglund to replace retiring member Ronald Gertson as representative for Small Business Interest Group, Wharton County, was approved. Ronald will act as Daniel Berglund's alternate. Chairman John Burke introduced Christianne Castleberry as his alternate as a representative of Water Utilities.
- 5. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the April 13, 2016 regular and public meetings A motion to approve minutes from the April 13, 2016 regular and public meetings, as presented, was made and approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported that \$98,900 remains in the budget for the Consultant Scope of Work, of which \$17,156 has been prefunded. Mr. Wheelock reported that there is a current balance of \$3,920 in the Members' Account.
- 6. Texas Water Development Board
  - a. Presentation on the State Water Plan –Director Kathleen Jackson, Board Member of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), presented information on the 2017 State Water Plan. Information presented by Board Member Jackson included projected population growth and water use, an update on SWIFT funding for Program Year 2015, and the recently launched texasflood.org tool. Board Member Jackson also mentioned the 2017 Water for Texas Conference being hosted by TWDB January 23-25, 2017 at the AT&T Conference Center in Austin.
  - b. Update on regional water planning activities Lann Bookout (TWDB) provided an update on regional water planning activities including information regarding the process for proposed revisions to administrative

rules, SWIFT funding cycles and applications, the financial workshops schedule which is posted on the TWDB website, and the methodology to evaluate irrigation, manufacturing, and power projections. The Population and Demand Committee plans to convene to discuss the proposed methodology to evaluate irrigation, manufacturing, and water for steamelectric power projections at a date to be determined and report back to the Region K Planning Group.

- Presentation of plaques honoring members retired from Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group – John Burke presented plaques to honor former members Bill Neve, Ronald Gertson and Sandy Dannhardt who have retired as members from the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group.
- Consultant Status Report - Jamie Burke, AECOM, provided an update on the Consultant status report. The update included information on the status of tasks listed in the Scope of Work, a summary of work conducted since the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, and information on upcoming efforts.
- 9. Presentation and discussion of Region K Water Management Strategies (WMS) Committee efforts to consider public input for the 5th planning cycle. Take action, as needed The Region K Water Management Strategies Committee's efforts to consider public input for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle were presented and discussed. The Region K Planning Group discussed the "Draft Region K Initial Consideration of Public Input on Planning Process for 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle" document provided to planning group members in the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 planning group meeting packet. Planning group members had an opportunity to go through each comment. A motion to approve "Draft Region K Initial Consideration of Public Input on Planning K Initial Consideration of Public Input on Planning K Initial Consideration of Public Input on K Initial Consideration K Initial Consideration K Initial Comments and edits as discussed at the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Region K Regular meeting was approved.
- 10. Discuss list of municipal water user groups (WUGs), as released by the TWDB for the 5th planning cycle. Take action, as needed –The Region K Planning Group discussed the list of municipal water user groups (WUGs), as released by TWDB for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle. The group discussed the "Potential Municipal WUGs from TWDB" document provided to planning group members in the July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 planning group meeting packet. A motion to refer the list of municipal water user groups (WUGs), as released by the TWDB for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle, to the Population and Demand Committee to develop and send a response to TWDB was approved.
- 11. Discuss list of potential municipal water user groups (WUGs), as released by the TWDB for the 5<sup>th</sup> planning cycle. Consider authorizing the Population and Demand Committee, on behalf of Region K, to identify, recommend, and convey to the TWDB by September 30th a list of private utilities, facilities, or CRUs that meet the required criteria and demonstrate interest in participating in the current planning process. This item was taken up with Item 10.
- 12. Committee updates as needed Daniel Berglund was added as a member of Population and Demand Committee.

- 13. Region K website update live demonstration Stacy Pandey, LCRA, presented an update and gave a live demonstration of the newly updated Region K website.
- 14. Agenda items for next meeting
  - a. Location of next meeting The location and date of the next meeting will be determined at a later date.
- 15. New / Other Business (time permitting) None.
- 16. Public Comments limit 3 minutes per person None.
- 17. Adjourn- The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 pm.

Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting October 12, 2016 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 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Karen Haschke, Public Interest Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Mike Reagor, Municipalities Billy Roeder, Agriculture Robin Gary, Alternate to John Dupnik Ann McElroy, Alternate to Jim Barho Charlie Flatten, Alt. to Jennifer Walker

### Voting Members Absent:

Jim Barho, Environmental John Dupnik, GMA 10 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Donna Klaeger, Counties

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Christianne Castleberry, CEC Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Marisa Flores Gonzalez, COA Prachi Patel, COA Dianne Wheeler, Public, Alternate Mike Thuss, Whitman, Requardt & Assoc. Linda Raschke, Alt. Donna Klaeger David Lindsay, Alt. to Doug Powell Paul Sliva, Agriculture (elected this meeting) Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Wheelock, River Authorities David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Russ Robertson, Non-Voting Alternate, TDA

David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Haskell Simon, Agriculture (retiring member)

Brian Lillibridge, City of Buda Richard Varnell, GDS Ricky Anderson, RSAH20, LLC Paul Babb, BPGCD Mitchell Sodek, CTGCD David Villarreal, TDA Wade Wheatley, GDS

### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. Approved a motion to elect Paul Sliva to replace retiring member Haskell Simon as a representative for the Agricultural interest group [Year of Term Expiration: 2021]
- 2. Approved a motion to approve minutes from the July 13, 2016 regular and public meetings as presented.
- 3. Approved a motion to authorize the Region K political subdivision (LCRA) to provide public notice and submit a grant application to the TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding to complete the fifth round of regional water planning, and to negotiate and execute the amendment to the TWDB contract.
- 4. Approved a motion by the Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (CMWSC) to begin a process on the CMWSC's documentation to amend the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Water Plan.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 4. Discuss and take action on election of voting member to replace retiring member Haskell Simon as a representative for the Agricultural interest group – A motion to elect Paul Silva to replace retiring member Haskell Simon as representative for the Agricultural Interest Group was approved.
- 5. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the July 13, 2016 regular and public meetings A motion to approve minutes from the July 13, 2016 regular and public meetings as presented was approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported that about 13% or \$13,655 out of the total budget of \$104,000 has been spent on Consultant services. David reported that the grant account balance is currently \$9,848 and the Members account has a balance of \$3,530.
- 6. Texas Water Development Board
  - a. Update on regional water planning activities Lann Bookout provided an update on regional water planning activities including administrative rule changes to be considered for adoption by TWDB, the schedule for request for applications for additional funding for regional water planning groups, and future plans to provide the revised methodology to evaluate irrigation, manufacturing, and steam-electric water demands.
- 7. Consultant Status Report AECOM Jamie Burke provided an update on Consultant status. The update included information on the status of tasks listed in

the Scope of Work, a Population and Demand Committee Update, and a summary of work conducted since the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- 8. Discussion and possible action to authorize the Region K Political Subdivision (LCRA), to provide public notice and submit a grant application to the TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding to complete the fifth round of regional water planning, and to negotiate and execute the amendment to the TWDB contract A motion to authorize the Region K political subdivision (LCRA) to provide public notice and submit a grant application to the TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding to complete the fifth round of regional water planning, and to negotiate and execute the TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding to complete the fifth round of regional water planning, and to negotiate and execute the amendment to the TWDB contract was approved.
- 9. Discuss and possibly take action on request by Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (CMWSC) to begin process on the CMWSC documentation to amend the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Water Plan Wade Wheatley, GDS & Assoc., presented information on Creedmoor Maha's request to amend the 2016 Region K plan to include the addition of a CMWSC water conservation project. The planning group discussed the request and the process to submit a proposed amendment to TWDB. A motion to approve the request by the Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (CMWSC) to begin a process on the CMWSC's documentation to amend the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan by the addition of a CMWSC conservation project to the 2016 Region K Plan was approved.
- 10. Committee updates Ron Fieseler, John Dupnik, and Barbara Johnson were added as members of the Nominating Committee.
- 11. Agenda items for next meeting to be determined closer to the meeting date
  - a. Location of next meeting The location and date of the next meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on January 11, 2017.
- 12. New / Other Business None.
- 13. Public Comments None.
- 14. Adjourn- The meeting was adjourned at 10:57am.

#### Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting January 11, 2017 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

### Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Donna Klaeger, Counties Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8 Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Russ Robertson, Non-Voting Alternate, TDA

### Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10 Billy Roeder, Agriculture

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Christianne Castleberry Water Utilities Alternate Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Vanessa Benavides, AECOM Stephen Cortes, Averitt and Associates Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm

# Quor<u>um:</u>

Quorum: Yes

David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate Charlie Flatten, Environmental Alternate Michelle Camp, Watersmart Lyda Creus Molanphy, Watersmart Mitchell Sodek, CTGCD, GMA 8 Alternate David Villarreal, TDA Greg Swoboda, Garver Pat Womack, City of Leander

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. All ten planning group members with expiring terms were reconfirmed with term extensions to 2022.
- 2. Approved motion to elect Executive Committee Members and Officers: John Burke, Chair, David Wheelock, Vice Chair, Teresa Lutes, Secretary and at-large members Lauri Gillam, John Dupnik and Ron Fieseler.
- 3. Approved minutes from the October 12, 2016 regular meeting as presented.
- 4. Approved the following:
  - a. Submittal of revised Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation regional water plan amendment request and ask TWDB to review as a minor amendment request.
  - b. Authorize Chair to hold a public meeting to receive comments on amended plan if TWDB concurs that the Creedmoor-Maha request would be a minor amendment.

At the end of the public comment period, comments will be summarized and proposed amended plan will be presented for LCRWPG approval. If necessary, a special called LCRWPG meeting will be held to consider approval of the proposed amended plan. The requesting entity will be responsible for reimbursing for costs associated with this plan amendment request.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Attendance Report The item was not specifically reviewed during the meeting; however, the attendance report information was provided in the meeting packet.
- 4. Discuss term expiration for member representatives All ten planning group members with expiring terms were reconfirmed with term extensions to 2022.
- 5. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations
  - a. Discuss and take action on election of Executive Committee and Officers A motion to elect John Burke for Chair, David Wheelock for Vice Chair, Teresa Lutes for Secretary, and at-large members Lauri Gillam, John Dupnik and Ron Fieseler was approved.
- 6. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the October 12, 2016 regular meeting A motion to approve minutes from the October 12, 2016 regular meeting as presented was approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported that 20% or \$21,209 of the total budget authorization of \$104,356 has been spent on consultant efforts. The Members account has a balance of \$3,538 and the grant account (cash on hand to pay the consultant) has a balance of \$26,187. An application requesting additional funding in the amount of \$800,000 has been submitted to TWDB to fund the next ten task. A final application is planned to be submitted towards the end of the process.

- 7. Discuss resignation of Jim Barho representative of Environmental Interest group Jim Barho was presented a plaque in appreciation of his efforts as a member of the planning group. Jim has served on the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group as an original appointed member since 1998. The vacated Environmental Interest group position will be advertised in the Austin American Statesman and notice will be sent to all County judges.
- 8. Presentation by WaterSmart Michelle Camp, WaterSmart Software, presented information on strategies to provide targeted information to customers to encourage water conservation, including information about how these strategies are being used in the City of Leander.
- 9. Texas Water Development Board Update Update on regional water planning activities, schedules and planning group grant funding status and notifications Lann Bookout, TWDB, provided an update on regional water planning activities including past and future TWDB-held financial workshops (schedule posted online) and the upcoming Water For Texas Conference. Lann provided reminders about upcoming deadlines related to State Revolving Fund and SWIFT applications as well as deadlines for comments on the revised general guidelines for the regional water planning process. Lann also offered updates related to ongoing work on the draft population and demands.
- 10. Update on TWDB Executive Administrator Jeff Walker's determination regarding Creedmoor-Maha WSC initial amendment request; and discuss new request from Creedmoor-Maha WSC for Region K to consider submitting a new amendment request to the TWDB for review. Take action as necessary. James Kowis, AECOM, Wade Wheatley, GDS & Assoc., and Ricky Anderson, RSAH20, LLC, presented an update on TWDB's determination of Creedmoor Maha's initial request, finding that only a portion of the request could be considered for a minor amendment request. James Kowis also provided information on a revised request from Creedmoor-Maha which is being resubmitted as a minor amendment request. The planning group discussed the new request, the process for resubmittal, the process to gather public comment, and the process to conduct a vote to approve the revised request.

A motion to approve submittal of revised Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation regional water plan amendment request and ask TWDB to review as a minor amendment request and authorize the Chair to hold a public meeting to receive comments on amended plan if TWDB concurs that the Creedmoor-Maha request would be a minor amendment was approved. Additionally, at the end of the public comment period, comments will be summarized and proposed amended plan will be presented for LCRWPG approval. If necessary, a special called LCRWPG meeting will be held to consider approval of the proposed amended plan. The requesting entity will be responsible for reimbursing for costs associated with this plan amendment request.

11. Consultant Status Report – Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on the consultant status. The update included information on the status of tasks listed in the Scope of Work, a summary of work conducted since the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, a Population and Demand Committee update, and information on upcoming efforts.

- 12. Summary of draft population, municipal, and mining water demand projections to be included in the 2021 regional water plans and the 2022 state water plan for the planning groups review received from TWDB late December 2016. Discuss process for moving forward Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided a summary of the draft projections based on the consultant's initial review and also provided information on the draft projection review process and schedule, including the process to provide feedback and request changes.
- 13. Committee updates None.
- 14. Agenda items for next meeting to be determined closer to the meeting date
  - a. Location of next meeting The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on April 26, 2017.
- 15. New / Other Business None.
- 16. Public Comments Steven Cortez, Averitt and Associates, provided information on a statewide study to quantify water savings from planned water conservation efforts in the regional plans. David Lindsay provided comments on behalf of the Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC) related to comments provided on water demand projections for irrigation. Mr. Lindsey indicated that CTWC submitted comments to TWDB on changing the basis for the agricultural irrigation methodology aimed at building a stronger baseline for projections.
- 17. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned.

#### Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting April 26, 2017 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

### Members Signing In:

John Burke, Water Utilities John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Donna Klaeger, Counties Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Billy Roeder, Agriculture

### Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Christianne Castleberry, Water Utilities Alternate Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant Jordan Furnans, LRE Water Kimberely Horndeski, Comptrollers Office

### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8 Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Russ Robertson, Non-Voting Alternate, TDA

Tim Birdsong, TPWD David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate Wade Wheatley, GDS Associates Phil Cook David Villarreal, TDA William Alfaro, TWDB

- 1. Meeting minutes from the January 11, 2017 regular meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. Ann McElroy was voted in as a new member to represent the Environmental Interest category.
- A motion to approve Creedmoor-Maha WSC's request for a minor amendment to the 2016 Approved Region K Plan, and to submit the minor amendment to the Texas Water Development Board was approved.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 4. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Approval of Minutes from the January 11, 2017 regular meeting A motion to approve minutes from the regular January 11, 2017 public meeting as presented was approved.
  - b. Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported the Consultant budget is \$104,356, with \$38,531 having been spent and a remaining balance of \$65,824. David reported that the Grant account balance is currently \$4,856 and is in process of being updated. The Members' account has a balance of \$3,548. David noted that the grant application for this planning cycle has been approved and the contract with the Consultant is in the approval process.
- 5. Discuss Executive Committee recommendation for nominee to fill the vacancy of Environmental Interest membership left by the resignation of Jim Barho – Two applicants submitted their recommendations and qualifications information: Ann McElroy and Steve Box. Ms. McElroy spoke to the planning group about her position as Jim Barho's alternate and her past experience and qualifications. Mr. Box had a family emergency out of state and Phil Cook spoke on Steve's behalf. Mr. Cook presented Mr. Box's experience and qualifications working as a steward for the environment as the President of Environmental Stewardship. John Burke presented the Executive Committee's recommendation of Ann McElroy to fill the vacancy and opened the floor for nominations. Ann McElroy was voted in as the new member representing Environmental Interests.
- 6. Texas Water Development Board Update Lann Bookout gave an update on regional water planning activities, including 30 to 40 legislative items in various stages that could affect water planning. SRF (State Revolving Fund) applications are being reviewed and this Friday is the SWIFT application deadline with about 16 entities being evaluated for possible funding approval by the Texas Water Development Board. Demand projections are being reviewed. Finalized 5<sup>th</sup> cycle planning guidelines incorporating comments on process improvements were discussed. Schedules and planning group grant funding status and notifications were explained. The State Water Plan Interactive Database has been updated with additional data now including all the project information. David Wheelock asked about when we may expect demand data. Mr. Bookout indicated the TWDB expects to have that available this June.

- 7. Consider vote to adopt Creedmoor-Maha WSC Minor Amendment to the 2016 Approved Region K Plan, and to submit the Minor Amendment as a water supply project to the Texas Water Development Board Wade Wheatley, consultant for Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (WSC), with GDS and Associates addressed the Region K Regional Plan revision request, which the planning group has reviewed. Funding is being sought to address the significant water losses that Creedmoor-Maha WSC has been experiencing in excess of 18% to 20% losses. Most of their water comes from the Edwards Aquifer. They plan is to replace PVC pipe with more resilient HDPE pipe for 6.8 miles of total replacement and new booster pumps. Creedmoor-Maha WSC is requesting the planning group to vote in favor of the minor amendment and to submit the minor amendment to TWDB for their approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minor amendment to the 2016 Region K Plan and to submit the minor amendment to the TWDB.
- 8. Consultant Status Report Jaime Burke with AECOM gave the consultant report. AECOM has focused on the TWDB's population, municipal, and mining demand projections the past few months. Feedback was received from 30 Water User Groups (WUGs) of 114 or 26% of WUGs. Of the responses 9 WUGs have requested changes that would affect Region K. There was a Population and Demand Committee meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup> hosted by AECOM. TWDB finalized methodologies for the irrigation, manufacturing and steam-electric water demand projections. Steam-Electric and Manufacturing demand methodologies changed from the prior method. Municipal and mining demand update requests are to be sent to TWDB by November along with all the municipal and non-municipal demand requests. Jaime said she expects TWDB will have non-municipal demand projections available soon and anticipates presenting them to the planning group at the July 2017 regular meeting. Donna Klaeger asked about the fact that municipal demands were affected during the recent drought years including 2011 and that conservation measures were in effect at that time and asked whether that will be considered by TWDB. Jaime said Region K will plan to review and use the data and, based on input from WUGs and others, will possibly assist in developing justification requests to submit to TWDB if another baseline year demand seems reasonable. Jennifer Walker asked about draft demands used for irrigation and the fact that surface water use for the recent drought years was so low and asked whether the Board will consider that. Refer to the AECOM handout given to planning group members for further details. Lann Bookout noted that methodologies and planning demand data is posted on the TWDB Regional Planning site under 5<sup>th</sup> Cycle data which was also distributed to the planning group.
- 9. Committee updates as needed:
  - a. Population and Demand Committee update The committee met on April 12 and reviewed the draft population, municipal and mining demand protection information. Jaime presented detailed information which will likely be brought to the planning group for action at the July 2017 regular meeting. Some water users do not meet the TWDB's requirements for a Water User Group (WUG) and may considered as sub-WUGs with a similar planning approach. Lann Bookout explained the benefit to smaller communities that may not meet requirements to be WUGs but may be considered as sub-WUGs. This may help some smaller communities become eligible to apply for project funding as opposed to being absorbed in the County-Other category. Jaime discussed draft population and demand projection information provided by TWDB and entities for consideration as Wholesale Water Providers. The possibility of planning for climate change risk and climate uncertainties was briefly

discussed. The City of Austin may be able to facilitate Climate Consultant, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe speaking to the planning group at some point (possibly through a remote Skype presentation) on work climate consulting work she is doing for the City of Austin. Refer to the handout given to the planning group for detailed data and WUG responses.

- 10. Presentation on bio-assessments on the Colorado River upstream of Lake Buchanan Tim Birdsong with TPWD gave a presentation on bio-assessments taken in the Colorado River upstream of Lake Buchanan. Tim explained the conservation efforts of the department and the many partnerships that benefit both water quality and water quantity. The study focused on biological data upstream of Lake Buchanan for which very little data exists from the past.
- 11. Presentation on potential federal listing of freshwater mussels as endangered or threatened species Kimberly Horndeski with the Economic Growth and Endangered Species Management Division of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts gave a presentation on the federal listing status of Central Texas freshwater mussels and the ongoing stakeholder process. Refer to the Region K website for a copy of Kimberly's presentation.
- 12. Agenda items for next meeting to be determined closer to the meeting date
  - a. Location of next meeting The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on July 12, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
- 13. New / Other Business None.
- 14. Public Comments Jordan Furnans with LRE Water discussed the ongoing research funded by TWDB on subsidence risk statewide being performed by LRE Water and requested if any of the members were aware of any subsidence evidence or features to please let him know. The project is a year-long study.
- 15. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 pm

#### Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting July 12, 2017 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

### Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation

### Voting Members Absent:

Billy Roeder, Agriculture Jennifer Walker, Environ., Alt. Attended David Van Dresar, Water Districts

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Christianne Castleberry, Water Utilities Alternate Jaime Burke, AECOM, Reg. K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Helen Gerlach, Austin Water Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA Mike Reagor, Municipalities Charlie Flatten, Environmental, Alternate Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8, Alternate Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Wheelock, River Authorities David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Carol Faulkenberry, Non-Voting Alt., TDA

James Sultemeier, Counties Daniel Berglund, Small Business Charles Shell, GMA 8, Alternate Attended

Jordan Furnans, LRE Water , & EQO Dianne Wheeler, Public Interest Alternate Tommy Koch Greg Perrin Martha Herden, City of Blanco Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC David Villarreal, TDA Clifton Ladd, Blanton and Associates Kendra Garrett, COA Austin Water

### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. Meeting minutes from the April 26, 2017 regular meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. Approved motion to include Aqua Texas in Rivercrest as a sub-Water User Group (WUG) in 2021 Region K plan.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at approximately 10:04 am.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 8, 9, and 10 None on items 8,9 or 10 - Jordan Furnans spoke to the group about zebra mussels in the Highland Lakes, and how a company called Environmental Quality and Operations (EQO) is working with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to help support efforts to limit the spread of zebra mussels. Dr. Furnans offered to speak to any organizations about how EQO can help in efforts combating zebra mussels.
- 4. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 5. Consent Agenda:
  - Approval of Minutes from the April 26, 2017 regular meeting A motion to approve minutes from the regular April 26, 2017 public meeting as presented was approved.
  - Financial/Budget Report David Wheelock reported the Consultant budget is \$104,356, with \$49,836 having been spent and a remaining balance of \$54,520. David reported that the grant account balance is currently \$11,963, and Amendment #1 has been approved be TWDB. It will increase the grant account by \$313,845 for a total grant account balance of \$423,201. The non-grant-funded Region K account, comprised of various basin contributions, has a balance of \$3,557.
- 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Update:
  - Update on TWDB and regional planning activities Texas Water Development Board Member Kathleen Jackson gave an update on TWDB and regional planning activities and thanked the Region K group for their efforts in this planning cycle. The State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) has commitments of \$4.5 billion so far. Board Member Jackson encouraged the group to continue to be proactive and to consider funding options other than SWIFT, such as the Texas Water Development Fund (DFund), which was the TWDB fund accessed for the Lower Colorado River Authority's (LCRA's) Lane City off-channel reservoir project. Also noted was the increasing trend of using water conservation and reuse as a water supply, citing an uptick in SWIFT funding for new water meters and communities looking to upgrade aging infrastructure. Board Member Jackson indicated that as the planning process moves forward, there should

be a focus on investing in infrastructure, conservation, diversification, and in identifying the benefits associated with those kind of investments.

 Update on Region K water planning and schedules – Lann Bookout gave an update on regional water planning activities. The Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (WSC) minor amendment to the 2016 Approved Region K Plan is scheduled to appear before the TWDB for consideration on July 20<sup>th</sup>, and if approved an amendment will be made to the 2017 State Water Plan (SWP).

All sub-Water User Groups (sub-WUGs) proposed for the 2021 Region K Plan are due to TWDB by September 1<sup>st</sup>. The planning group would need to approve any proposed sub-WUGs requests before sending the requests to TWDB. All comments on the WUG list are due back by November. The planning group will review and approve water use projections by January 12, 2018 (although the projections can be amended after that date), and the group's Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) is due March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.

- Discussion of any bills passed in the 85<sup>th</sup> Session that affect regional water planning

   Lann Bookout gave an update on several water-related bills that passed in the most recent legislative session, including
  - S.B. 347 (Sen. Watson, effective September 1, 2017), which states that all regional planning committee and subcommittee meetings are subject to the Open Meetings Act and the Public Information Act and will therefore have to post an agenda.
  - S.B. 1511 (Sen. Perry, effective September 1, 2017) includes additional requirements for projects given high priority for SWIFT funding. These requirements include an assessment of projects that were or were not implemented, added a non-voting member from the State Soil and Water Conservation Board to the Regional Planning Group, holding certain meetings at a location in the planning area that is readily accessible to the public, amending regional water plans (RWPs) to exclude projects that have become "infeasible" and consider replacing them with feasible strategies, and allowing Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) to implement simplified planning every other planning cycle.
  - H.B. 2215 (Rep. Price, effective immediately) synchronizes the schedule of the State Water Plan and Groundwater Conservation District decisions on determining desired future conditions.

Mr. Bookout asked the group to send any comments or concerns regarding these new bills to him for compilation and review by TWDB. Regarding S.B. 347, which makes all subcommittee meetings public, Barbara Johnson suggested that any new rules for public comment be set ahead of time. John Dupnik asked if H.B. 2215 required assessment and replacement of infeasible strategies in the planning cycle, and if TWDB would provide guidance. Mr. Bookout asked Mr. Dupnik to send an email with these concerns so it could be compiled with other concerns and comments for review by the TWDB.

- 8. Consultant Status Report Jamie Burke with AECOM gave the status report. AECOM is 60% of the way through the municipal demands review task, 20% through non-municipal demands review task, and 20% through the public participation task. Since the last meeting, AECOM has followed up with WUGs that didn't submit responses by the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline to collect feedback on projected population and municipal demands. AECOM has also coordinated with TWDB on potential additional WUGs and questions from WUGs about population and demand projections, and has begun to review the historical population, demands, and GPCD data TWDB sent on June 30<sup>th</sup>. AECOM received draft non-municipal demands projections on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and presented those projections later in the meeting. Important upcoming dates include September 1<sup>st</sup>: requests for sub-WUGs due; January 12, 2018: deadline for projection revision requests (pushed back from November); late 2017: will be amending contract to work on subsequent tasks; September 2018: technical memorandum due; March 2020: IPP due. Refer to the AECOM handout given to planning group members for further details.
- 9. Update on Draft Population and Demand Projections. Take Action as Needed Jamie Burke from AECOM presented the update on draft population and demand projections. So far, 54% of the WUGs have provided feedback on the draft projections and 15 of those Water User Groups (WUGs) are requesting changes that could affect Region K. The addition of two collective reporting units (CRUs) and one sub-WUG for the 2021 regional water plan development process was discussed.

Jamie presented TWDB population projections for the Rough Hollow CRU and the Sweetwater CRU (both located in Travis County). When creating the projections for Sweetwater CRU, TWBD used conservation plan data because Sweetwater CRU has no Public Water System (PWS) ID and therefore reports no water use data. Mike Reagor pointed out that the Sweetwater CRU had a much higher GPCD than Rough Hollow CRU, and wanted to know if they have a plan for lowering that usage number. David Wheelock said they have a conservation plan in place.

John Dupnik expressed concern about including the CRUs in the plan if the planning group would then be obligated to plan projects for their high water use. Jamie responded that the CRUs would be included in the County-other category if not recognized, which would make their use appear lower. If included in the plan as CRUs, the higher use of those systems could be identified and demand management strategies planned. Jamie noted that the CRUs met the CRU definition outlined by TWDB.

Jamie then presented population and demand projections for Aqua Texas in Rivercrest, which was being considered for inclusion as a sub-WUG. Donna Klaeger asked whether Aqua Texas in Rivercrest requested to be a sub-WUG and Jamie explained that AECOM reached out to Aqua Texas since they met sub-WUG requirements. Jamie noted that there is already some information about population and demand available for Aqua Texas in Rivercrest, so projections should not be difficult to generate. After some discussion about whether it made sense to include small systems like Aqua Texas in Rivercrest as a sub-WUGs and how including another sub-WUG could affect the population allocation, Ron Fiesler made a motion

to include Aqua Texas in Rivercrest as a sub-WUG. David Wheelock seconded, and the motion was approved.

The planning group opted to take more time to consider CRU inclusion and to discuss it further at the next planning meeting. Jamie reiterated that revision requests to municipal projections are due to TWDB by January 12, 2018; Teresa Lutes stated that the City of Austin had begun preliminary review and plans on seeking a revision request to increase the population projections.

10. Presentation of Draft Non-Municipal Demand Projection – Jamie Burke from AECOM gave a presentation of the draft non-municipal demand projections from TWDB. There were no action items for this agenda item. Jamie presented projections for irrigation, manufacturing, steam-electric, livestock, and mining water use. Regarding the irrigation projections, Donna Klaeger asked how TWDB chose the five-year interval used, because the irrigation values in the 2010-2014 period are anomalous due to the drought. After discussion, the group concluded that the methodology is a five-year average of the most recent five years for which verified data is available, and while this method may take into account anomalous years, it is a state-wide methodology and revision requests to TWDB are allowed.

The plan will be for the Population and Water Demand Committee to meet to work through the process of identifying potential revision requests for any of the TWDB draft projections. The Committee will plan to bring potential revision requests to the full planning group for consideration of approval for submittal to TWDB. Any members of the planning group can come to committee meetings. When looking at the steam-electric demands, David Wheelock noted that TWDB methodology had been changed to project for peak demand rather than average demand, and that there is a new LCRA facility in Llano that will require a steam-electric revision request.

- 11. Agenda items for next meeting:
  - Location of next meeting The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on October 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
- 12. New / Other Business None.
- 13. Public Comments None.
- 14. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:09 am.

Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting October 11, 2017 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 John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Jason Ludwig, Electric Gen. Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate

### **Voting Members Absent:**

Doug Powell, Alternate Attended Billy Roeder, Agriculture

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Christianne Castleberry, Water Utilities Alternate Jaime Burke, AECOM, Reg. K consultant Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Helen Gerlach, Austin Water Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water Tommy Koch Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8, Alternate Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Russ Robertson, Non-Voting TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB

GMA 8 Member, Alternate Attended Jim Totten, GMA 12

Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC David Villarreal, TDA Stefan Schuster, SWCA Charlie Flatten, Environmental, Alternate Linda Raschke, Counties, Alternate Neil Hudgins, Coastal Bend GCD Ken Cunningham, STP Nuclear Op. Co. Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Micah Grau, City of Buda

### Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

1. Meeting minutes from the July 12, 2017 regular meeting were approved as presented.

# **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at about 10:03 am.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda item #8 None
- 4. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 5. Consent Agenda:
  - <u>Approval of Minutes from the July 12, 2017 regular meeting</u> A motion to approve minutes from the regular July 12, 2017 meeting as presented was approved.
  - b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the Consultant budget is now authorized for \$418,201, with \$63,427 having been spent and a remaining balance of \$354,774. Mr. Wheelock also reported that the grant account balance is currently \$83,144 and the Members account has a balance of \$3,568.

# 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

a. Update on Region K water planning and schedules – Lann Bookout gave an update on regional water planning activities. The Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation (WSC) minor amendment was approved by the TWDB and will be added to the 2017 State Water Plan (SWP). Open Meetings Act training must be completed by all members of the RWPG by the end of November. New rules from TWDB rulemaking process will be published by approximately Dec. 2017/Jan. 2018, at which point the official comment period will open. However, if people have comments they would like to submit now, they can email Temple McKinnon with TWDB.

Regarding schedules, the updated water user group (WUG) list is due to TWDB in November. Population and water demand revision requests are due to the board January 12, 2018, but the sooner they can be submitted, the better. The next phase of the process will be water supply analysis. Some things to consider as that process is started are that new rules require identification of potentially feasible projects in a public meeting, a list of major water providers will need to be identified, and that hydrologic variance requests need to be submitted if the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) is using any modeling variances or changing anything from the standard required water supply analysis; those requests need to be completed and approved before the Group can move forward with analysis (approval may take up to 60 days).

Barbara Johnson asked if members who have not completed the Open Meetings Training were aware that they still need to complete it, and asked what the consequences were for failing to complete the training. Jeff Fox responded that the members who still need to take the training have all been notified, and John Burke said that if the training is not completed by the deadline, the person can no longer be a member of the RWPG. Lann mentioned that there is an Open Meetings Act book that can answer many questions members have about the new rule.

Ms. Johnson also asked if TWDB had discussed declaring the recent drought a new drought of record (DOR), or if that was up to the RWPG. Mr. Bookout responded that decisions of that nature would be made by the planning group, and that other regions have done so. Ms. Johnson followed up by asking if a declaration of a new DOR would trigger an adjustment of the firm yield of the Highland Lakes system; Mr. Bookout replied that a new DOR would require the modeling to be adjusted to incorporate that, which would be a hydrologic methods variance which the RWPG would have to submit to TWDB. Teresa Lutes suggested holding a Water Modeling committee meeting to provide additional time to delve into these aspects further, and it was decided that one should be held soon.

John Dupnik then asked Mr. Bookout if TWDB would be providing the RWPG with any more detail about the new rules put in place by the legislature, such as S.B.1511, which requires identification of whether or not water supply strategies were implemented and evaluation of infeasible projects. Mr. Bookout mentioned that TWDB is just finishing up their guidance documents on the Open Meetings Act, but if any guidance documents on the other new rules are produced, the RWPG members would receive an email.

7. **Consultant Status Report** – Jamie Burke with AECOM gave the status report. Ms. Burke began by informing the RWPG that all tasks are at least partially funded now, so AECOM can begin work on all aspects of the project. Since the last planning meeting, AECOM has been focused on population and demand projections; they have been keeping track of revision requests and prepared materials for the Population and Water Demand Committee meeting. In addition to their work on the projections, AECOM submitted the AquaTexas-Rivercrest sub-Water User Group (WUG) request to TWDB. Jaime informed the group that the Sweetwater Collective Reporting Unit (CRU), which was discussed at the last meeting, now has a public water system ID and more documentation. AECOM also presented a Region K status update to the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) Exploratory Water Committee. Additionally, AECOM asked West Travis County Public Utility Agency (PUA) whether they would be interested in being considered for inclusion in the regional plan process as a wholesale water provider, to which they responded yes. AECOM also had a conference call with TWDB and reported that Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation's (WSC's) minor amendment request was approved by TWDB.

AECOM's upcoming tasks will include additional work with Population and Water Demand Committee to finalize any revision requests for the RWPG to consider for approval, work on hydrologic analyses, and identifying potentially feasible water supply strategy projects.

8. **Population and Water Demand Committee Report** – Jaime Burke of AECOM stated that the goal for this item is to go over all the requested revisions and Population and

Water Demand Committee recommendations, but not necessarily vote on items during this meeting unless the RWPG felt it would be appropriate at this time. Any revision requests must be considered by the RWPG at the January 10th Region K meeting in order for them to be submitted to TWDB before the deadline. So, there is another opportunity at the January 10, 2018 meeting for the RWPG to vote on all of the items to be considered then. Ms. Burke invited all members to share their thoughts on the requested revisions by sending an email or participating in the Committee meetings.

- a. <u>Summary of committee meeting held September 14, 2017</u> Lauri Gillam gave a summary of the Population and Water Demand Committee meeting that was held last month. Eight members were in attendance, and there were representatives from LCRA, TWDB, and Texas Department of Agriculture present. She thanked David Wheelock and Daniel Berglund for their work on preparing a new irrigation demand methodology for review and consideration, and stated that the Committee would be meeting again in mid-to-late October to continue working on the draft projections. Jaime added that the TWDB staff present were able to answer many of the Committee's questions, and that the Committee was able to come to a consensus on several items to bring forward to the RWPG.
- b. Presentation of Population and Municipal Demand project requested revisions and the Committee's recommendations for changes to submit to TWDB. <u>RWPG to consider and take action, as needed</u> – Jaime Burke from AECOM presented this information. Thus far, 66 out of 114 WUGs (58%) have provided feedback on the draft population and municipal demand projections. Thirty seven WUGs are not requesting any changes, 4 have changes that affect another region, 6 have made contact but have not provided feedback, and 19 are requesting changes that affect Region K. A packet with the summarized feedback from the WUGs was provided to RWPG members. Jaime then went through the requested changes county-by-county. Bastrop, Blanco, Colorado, Gillespie, Llano, Matagorda, and Mills Counties did not have any requests regarding the draft population and municipal demand projections.

In Burnet County, Granite Shoals, Meadowlakes Municipal Utility District (MUD), and Bertram requested changes resulting in a net decrease in the population of Burnet County. In Fayette County, Fayette County water Control and Improvement District (WCID) Monument Hill requested an increase in population so that projections match water use reports submitted to the Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District. Fayette County WCID Monument Hill also requested a slight increase in 2020 population and an increase in the base water use in gallons per capita per day (GPCD) to reflect 2011 water use. The Population and Water Demand Committee recommended these requests for approval by the RWPG.

In Hays County, the City of Austin, Dripping Springs Water Supply Corporation (WSC), and West Travis PUA all requested changes. The WUGs will be providing additional information before a final recommendation will be made by the Committee. In San Saba County, North San Saba WSC requested a small

increase in population based on the expectation that some second homes will become permanent retirement homes. The Committee is recommending this North San Saba WSC revision request for RWPG consideration even though was a lack of documentation associated with the request, which the TWDB will be aware of in its consideration of the request if the planning group approves submittal of this WSC's request.

In Travis County, 14 WUGS requested changes; all need to provide additional information before the Committee can make a recommendation to the Group. The City of Austin provided a draft revision request document with supporting information for their request. In Wharton County, the City of Wharton requested a significant increase in population. However, the Committee does not recommend requesting revision of Wharton's projections due to the lack of supporting documentation. In Williamson County, the City of Austin and Wells Branch MUD requested changes; AECOM will also coordinate associated Travis County component recommendations, as appropriate, since these two WUGs are located in two counties.

During the presentation of requests by County, Donna Klaeger asked if an increase in mining demand may be appropriate in Burnet County to balance potential decreases in municipal demand. Jaime responded that typically the process does not allow for such balancing across water use categories. Jennifer Walker asked if we can move population from one County to another; Jaime responded that this can be considered as long as the total Region K population projection totals stay the same. Teresa Lutes mentioned a proposed 1.5% increase to the population of Travis County discussed at the Committee meeting and pointed out that it would not meet all the requested revisions for Travis County. Lann Bookout mentioned that all TWDB projections would be updated in the next planning cycle because there would be new census data to work with, and Teresa mentioned that Austin Water is working on their own Integrated Water Resources Plan in parallel with the Region K planning process that also addresses planning for future water supplies.

Next, Jaime presented the new utility-based GPCD numbers. These were different than the ones sent out with the draft projections, which were county-based (as in the last planning cycle). Jaime pointed out that the change from county to utility boundaries produced new GPCD values for several WUGs, and suggested that wherever the GPCD values were different the RWPG consider using the utility-based values. There were several questions about how the new utility-based GPCDs were calculated, so Jaime explained using Horseshoe Bay as an example. There was additional discussion about whether or not to use these new GPCD values and whether or not 2011 was a representative water use year for all WUGs; the group decided to revisit the issue in January when the full set of Population and Water Demand Committee recommendations are planned to be presented.

c. <u>Presentation of non-Municipal Demand projection requested revisions and the</u> <u>Committee's recommendations for changes to submit to TWDB. RWPG to</u> <u>consider and take action, as needed</u> – Jaime Burke of AECOM first presented the livestock demands. Ron Fieseler had submitted comments about the livestock demand in Blanco County. TWDB staff and the Committee currently lacks supporting documentation for livestock demand revisions in any county.

The steam-electric demands were presented next. In Llano County, a mistake was made in the original projections so that they were based on consumptive use rather than on diversions from the river; the RWPG will need to submit a request to TWDB to get the values corrected. A request also needs to be submitted to revise Wharton County's steam-electric demands, as one of the Region K facilities there was being counted in Region P. Jennifer Walker asked about the dramatic increase in the Hays County steam-electric demand in 2013; that growth will be discussed in the next Population and Water Demand Committee meeting.

The initial TWDB mining demand projections presented were identical to projections from the 2017 State Water Plan (SWP). The Burnet County Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) submitted comments that the projected demands were reasonable. TWDB staff have acknowledged there were incorrect Water User Survey (WUS) data entries for 2014 and 2015 demands in Matagorda County; the RWPG will need to request a revision to correct that error. Based on discussion, the Committee thinking was that it would be unlikely that there would be increased water use for mining in Bastrop over the next 50 years, so the Region K consulting team indicated that they would work together to develop revised projections for consideration by the RWPG.

The methodology for calculating projected manufacturing demands has changed since the last cycle; the new methodology looks at peak use from the last five years with complete data, applies a growth rate based on Texas Workforce Commission employment projects from 2020 to 2030, and then holds projections constant from 2030 to 2070. Jaime suggested that revision requests to these projected demands might be appropriate, because since the last Region K meeting TWDB has provided a dataset of "potential unaccounted manufacturing water use" which would change the peak manufacturing demand for some WUGs. Additionally, the City of Austin has requested a revision that takes into account their projections of manufacturing growth throughout the planning horizon rather than just between 2020 and 2030. No action was taken; the Population and Water Demand Committee will discuss the matter further when they meet.

Irrigation projections were presented next. At the last Committee meeting, there was discussion about the increasing trend in Travis County irrigation demands; TWDB has since discovered an error in the historical data used for the projections that accounts for the trend. The RWPG would need to request a downward revision of the irrigation demand to correct the error. The Committee also discussed the drastically variable historical surface water use which was used as the basis for the irrigation projections. The Committee came to consensus that the average of 2010-2014 surface water irrigation demands was not representative of a high-use year due to curtailment in years 2012-

2015, which included drought years. At the direction of the Committee, David Wheelock and Daniel Berglund developed proposed revised irrigation projections using a new methodology which looked at the planted acreage, irrigation rates, and canal losses. A packet provided to the members summarized the proposed new methodology and projections. Mr. Berglund cautioned that Region K could see an increase in planted acreage (and therefore higher water use) if proposed rules affecting farm subsidies are put into effect. Ann McElroy asked what water saving conservation measures were considered in this analysis; Mr. Berglund mentioned laser land leveling, new planting tools like no-till drills, and greater accountability due to LCRA metering and surcharging, are examples. David Lindsay complimented Mr. Wheelock and Mr. Berglund on their work and asked for confirmation that these proposed new projections would be taken back to the Committee for discussion. This was affirmed. Donna Klaeger asked if LCRA had a plan to reduce canal losses; David Wheelock said there were no specific plans in place for canal loss reduction because of the expense, but the Gulf Coast irrigation division is using gated structures which will allow better accounting to see where most of the loss occurs. Mr. Berglund pointed out that some of the biggest canal losses occur during rain events and are uncontrollable; David Wheelock mentioned that LCRA has proposed a small balancing reservoir to help mitigate some of those losses. Mr. Wheelock also pointed out that the new projections are based on LCRA irrigation divisions, and still need to be divided into County-level amounts through the Population and Water Demand Committee process.

- d. <u>Identification of remaining potential revisions that the Committee will need to consider before bringing recommendations to the RWPG in January</u> Jaime mentioned several revisions that will need to be reviewed by the Committee before the January meeting, including the City of Bertram requests in Burnet County, the City of Austin requests, and the other non-municipal demands projections.
- Other Committee Reports as needed John Burke announced that Barbara Johnson had volunteered to chair the Nominating Committee, and asked four other members to serve on the Committee. Jennifer Walker, Karen Haschke, Jim Brasher, and Ann McElroy volunteered.

### 10. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. <u>Location of next meeting</u> The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on January 10, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
- b. <u>Committee Meetings</u> Population and Water Demand Committee and Water Modeling Committee to meet before full RWPG meeting in January
- 11. New / Other Business None.
- 12. Public Comments None.
- 13. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 pm.

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

### Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business John Burke, Water Utilities John Dupnik, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Dianne Wheeler, Public Interest, Alternate Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate

### Voting Members Absent:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Karen Haschke, Alternate Attended Doug Powell, Alternate Attended Billy Roeder, Agriculture

### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Jordan Furnans, LRE Water LLC Ken Cunningham, STP Nuclear Op. Co. Alicia Smiley, AECOM Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC Heather Cooke, COA-Austin Water Walter Couger, TNRIS-ACC Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm Kodi Sawin, Sawin Group Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8, Alternate Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Russ Robertson, Non-Voting TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB

GMA 8 Member, Alternate Attended Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties

Matt Nelson, TWDB Temple McKinnon, TWDB Helen Gerlach, COA-Austin Water Stefan Schuster, HDH Linda Raschke, Counties, Alternate Christianne Castleberry, Water Utility Alt. Charlie Flatten, Environmental, Alternate David Dehal David Villarreal, TDA Vicky Kennedy, Travis County

### Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

- 1. Meeting minutes from the October 11, 2017 regular meeting were approved as amended.
- 2. Population and water demand revision request was approved for consultant to submit to TWDB.
- 3. Additional upward revision request from the City of Austin approved to submit to TWDB.
- 4. Hydrologic variance requests approved for submittal to TWDB.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at about 10:09 am.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. **Discuss term expiration for several member representatives and take action as needed** – Several members' terms are expiring soon. John Burke stated that members whose terms have expired and would like to serve another term should notify him by email and in writing, and the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) will vote on the matter at the next meeting.
- 4. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations Barbara Johnson provided a brief summary of the nominating committee meetings, stating that the committee worked to nominate people from all areas of the basin representing a broad range of interests. The committee produced a slate of officers for the Executive Committee, as follows: Chairman: John Burke (representing Water Utilities); Vice Chair: David Wheelock (representing River Authorities); Secretary: Teresa Lutes (representing Municipalities). The three at-large seats are David Van Dresar (representing Groundwater Districts), Mike Reagor (representing Small Municipalities), and Paul Sliva (representing Agriculture). John Burke then asked the Group if there were any other nominations. Barbara Johnson made a motion to accept the composition of the Executive Committee as described, and the motion was seconded and passed.
- 5. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items #10-17 Jordan Furnans made a comment related to water modeling done by the RWPG. He stated that he has performed studies on modeling sedimentation and environmental flows, and both their effects on the firm water available in the WAM are minimal compared to modeling interruptible water. He encouraged the Group to keep in mind the impact of modeling interruptible water on the firm water available.
- 6. **Attendance Report** Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the members' packets.
- 7. Consent Agenda:
  - a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the October 11, 2017 regular meeting</u> David Wheelock asked to add a clarification about irrigation at the bottom of page6/top of page 7. The change was made, and a motion to approve minutes from the regular October 11, 2017 meeting as amended was approved.
  - b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the Consultant budget is now authorized for \$418,201, with \$97,546 having been spent and a remaining

balance of \$320,655. David also reported that the grant account balance is currently \$57,130 and the Members account has a balance of \$3,564.

# 8. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

- a. Update on regional water planning activities and schedules Lann Bookout said that the rulemaking process at TWDB has opened up and the comment period closes at the end of January. Revision requests for the population and water demand projections are due January 12, 2018. TWDB will consider those requests in April. Lann also stated that there will be a contract amendment in March that the group needs to consider for approval, so it should be added to the agenda. In the near future, the RWPG will also need to choose a process for identifying potentially infeasible projects to comply with the new TWDB rules.
- 9. Consultant Status Report Jaime Burke from AECOM presented the consultant status report. Since the last meeting, AECOM worked with the Population and Water Demand Committee to present final the population and water demand revision requests to the Group for consideration. Pending Group approval, AECOM plans to submit the requests to TWDB before the January 12<sup>th</sup> deadline. AECOM has also worked with the Water Modeling Committee and prepared hydrologic variance requests to submit to TWDB pending Group approval. In addition to the submittal of revision and variance requests to TWDB, upcoming effort for AECOM includes updating water availability and supply numbers for Water User Groups (WUGs), working with the Water Management Strategies Committee to identify any needed changes in process and discuss a method for determining potentially feasible projects, beginning data entry to TWDB's DB22 database, and preparing relevant chapter text updates.

# 10. Population and Water Demand Committee Report -

a. <u>Summary of committee meetings held October 31 and December 7, 2017</u> – At the October committee meeting, the committee discussed municipal revisions, irrigation demands, steam-electric demands, manufacturing demands, mining demands, and livestock demands. The committee made change suggestions for all demand categories except Livestock Demands (no changes), and there was significant discussion of the irrigation demand projections.

At the December 7<sup>th</sup> committee meeting, the group finalized all revision recommendations to bring to the RWPG for today's meeting. A large portion of the discussion was about determining irrigation demand projections.

During the presentation at the December 7<sup>th</sup> committee meeting summary, John Dupnik asked about the use of a 5.25-ft/acre limit for irrigation that was discussed at the meeting. David Wheelock explained that although the 5.25-ft/acre is an important number from the adjudication, it was not what he and Daniel Berglund had developed as a recommendation, and explained that they used actual reported irrigation use from recent years to develop their recommended values. Donna Klaeger asked if the 5.25-ft/acre was being used by irrigators currently as a guideline for water use. David Wheelock and Daniel Berglund explained that the actual water use changes every year, but the goal

is to reach an average use of 5.25-ft/acre. Ms. Klaeger followed up by asking if the 5.25-ft/acre value would be used as a water management strategy; Lauri Gillam responded that it had been discussed at the Population and Water Demand Committee meeting and they determined that the 5.25-ft/acre is appropriate for water management strategy analysis. Some additional brief discussion of irrigation demands followed.

- b. <u>Approval by Population and Water Demand Committee of Committee meeting</u> <u>minutes from December 7, 2017</u> – A motion was approved to table the approval of the minutes from the December 7, 2017 Committee meeting until the next RWPG meeting due to the submission of additional edits to the minutes that had not been completely reviewed.
- c. <u>Presentation of Committee recommendations for population and water demand revisions for RWPG consideration</u> Jaime Burke of AECOM presented the recommendations for population and water demand revisions to the RWPG. The revision requests are separated into two memorandums, one for municipal and one for non-municipal. A packet with the summarized feedback from the WUGs was provided to RWPG members. Jaime began by going through the recommended population and GPCD changes county-by-county. Gillespie County and Mills County had no proposed population or GPCD revisions.

In Bastrop and Blanco counties, the proposed revision was to switch the GPCD from the city-based GPCD to the utility boundary-based GPCD. No population revisions were recommended for those counties.

In Burnet County, the Committee proposed a population decrease for Granite Shoals and Meadowlakes Municipal Utility District (MUD) based on requested changes. To balance the decrease in population, Burnet County-Other population was increased. The revised GPCD was proposed for the City of Burnet, Cottonwood Shores, and Horseshoe Bay. Additionally, the WUG name for Chisolm Trail SUD was recommended to be changed to Georgetown. Donna Klaegar asked if representatives from Horseshoe Bay had been contacted regarding the proposed GPCD revision; Jaime responded that they had green-lighted the revision.

In Colorado County, no population revisions were proposed, but it was recommended that the RWPG request use of the revised utility-based GPCD.

In Fayette County, a population and GPCD revision for Fayette County Water Control and Improvement District (WCID) Monument Hill was recommended. The proposal is to increase 2020 population and increase base water use in gallons per capita per day (GPCD) to reflect 2011 water use. The Fayette County-Other population was decreased to balance the population increase. A recommendation was also made to use the revised GPCD values for Fayette County-Other, Fayette Water Supply Corporation WSC, and La Grange.

In Hays County, population revisions are proposed for the City of Austin, Dripping Springs WSC and West Travis Public Utility Agency (PUA), and Hays County-Other all requested changes. City of Austin and Dripping Springs WSC would increase their population, while Hays County-Other and West Travis PUA populations would decrease. A recommendation to use revised GPCDs is also proposed for Austin and West Travis County PUA.

In Llano County, no population revisions are proposed, but revised GPCDs are recommended for Horseshoe Bay and the City of Llano. Mike Reagor suggested using a higher GPCD than the one recommended based on how early in the year Llano imposed drought restrictions. Similarly, in Matagorda County, no population revisions are recommended but use of the revised GPCD is proposed for Markham MUD and Palacios. In San Saba County, there are also no population revision recommendations, but there is a recommendation to use the revised GPCD for Richland SUD.

In Travis County, the Committee recommends requesting an amount equal to 1.5% of the overall Region K population be added to the total Travis County population. Increases in population are recommended for Austin, Leander, Oak Shores Water System, Travis County WCID 17, Travis County WCID Point Venture, Wells Branch MUD, and West Travis County PUA. Decreases in population are recommended for Lakeway MUD, Manville WSC, Pflugerville, and Sunset Valley. Travis County-Other was used to balance the various requests. A GPCD revision is recommended for Austin, Barton Creek West WSC, Barton Creek WSC, Cottonwood Creek MUD, Hurst Creek MUD, Jonestown WSC, Lakeway MUD, Shady Hollow MUD, Sunset Valley, Travis County MUD 10, Travis County MUD 2, and Travis County MUD 4. The Committee also recommends including Aqua Texas-Rivercrest as a sub-WUG to Travis County-Other. Austin is planning on submitting a separate request asking TWDB to increase the overall population of Region K.

In Wharton County, no population revisions were recommended; a revision to Wharton County-Other is recommended for consistency with Region P.

In Williamson County, a population increase for Austin and population decrease for Williamson County-Other is recommended. GPCD revisions are recommended for Austin and Wells Branch MUD.

Jaime then went on to discuss non-municipal demands. There were several minor revisions recommended for mining and steam-electric demands. Manufacturing demands for Bastrop, Fayette, Gillespie, Hays, Travis, and Williamson are recommended to for an upward adjustment to reflect potentially unaccounted for manufacturing water use. Travis County is recommended for an additional upward revision based on City of Austin requested increases.

Irrigation demands for Travis County are recommended for revision to correct data error in historical water use. Revised irrigation demands in Colorado, Matagorda, and Wharton Counties are based on historical usage data and incorporate a 2.69% decrease in total demand each decade.

d. <u>Presentation of minor additional base GPCD revisions that were received after</u> <u>the Committee last met (December 7, 2017), for RWPG consideration</u> – An adjustment to Leander's GPCD, Matagorda County WCID 6's GPCD, and Sunrise Beach Village's GPCD was presented for consideration by the RWPG for inclusion in requested revisions to TWDB (see Agenda Item #11, below).

- 11. Discuss and take action to approve population, municipal demand, and nonmunicipal demand projection revisions to TWDB draft projections, and to authorize consultant to submit revision request to TWDB. Consider authorizing consultant to continue any needed discussions with TWDB regarding the revisions, on behalf of the RWPG. – Lauri Gillam made a motion to adopt the proposed revisions as edited and revised; the motion was seconded and approved. Lauri also made a motion to allow the consultant to make minor changes and submit the Region K revision requests on behalf of the RWPG; the motion was seconded and approved.
- 12. COA Upward Revision Request Discuss and take action on COA request to incorporate COA forecast for additional population growth for recommendation from the Region K planning group for the COA to submit to TWDB. Teresa Lutes from the City of Austin (COA) presented Austin's upward revision request. COA projects significantly higher population growth out to 2070 than TWDB does. The proposal is for the RWPG to consider approval of the COA submitting independently a revision request to TWDB for a population increase to the overall Region K population. After discussion, the motion made by Teresa to submit a separate COA upward population revision request made, seconded, and was approved.

# 13. Water Modeling Committee Report -

- a. <u>Summary of Committee meeting held December 13, 2017</u> The Water Modeling Committee met for the first time this planning cycle at the December 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. At the meeting, the Committee discussed the purpose of the committee, reviewed TWDB guidelines, reviewed key features and assumptions included in the water availability model (WAM) used in the last cycle, identified WAM assumptions that should be updated this cycle, and discussed planning timeline. The Committee decided to hold another Water Modeling Committee meeting immediately before the Region K meeting on January 10<sup>th</sup> to watch a presentation on the WAM (an overview of the WAM) and make final recommendations to bring to the RWPG.
- b. Informational presentation on surface water modeling and Region K Cutoff <u>Model</u> – Joe Trungale presented several slides on water availability modeling and how the WAM works. Jaime Burke of AECOM then presented on the Region K cutoff model, and explained how it works and why it is used. Both Joe and Jaime answered questions from the group.
- c. Presentation of Committee recommendations for updates to the assumptions incorporated into the Region K Cutoff Model for 2021 Plan development and the associated hydrologic variance request to TWDB, for RWPG consideration

   The updated hydrologic variance request to TWDB recommended by the Water Modeling Committee was presented to the group.
- 14. Discuss and take action to approve updates to the assumptions incorporated into the Region K Cutoff Model for 2021 Plan development and the associated hydrologic variance request to TWDB, and authorize consultant to submit hydrologic variance request to TWDB. Consider authorizing consultant to

continue any needed discussions with TWDB regarding the request, on behalf of the RWPG – Teresa Lutes made a motion to approve the Water Modeling Committee recommendation of submitting to TWDB the draft variance request letter and the attachment containing the table of variances presented. The motion was seconded and approved. Teresa also made a motion to authorize the consultant to submit the variance requests to TWDB on the RWPG's behalf. This motion was also seconded and approved.

15. Discussion of water suppliers, other than LCRA, in Region K that are not included as Water User Groups, but should potentially be included in the 2021 Region K Water Plan as Wholesale Water Providers only. Take action, as needed. – Jaime Burke gave an overview on the topic. Currently, LCRA is the only wholesale provider in the basin that is not also a Water User Group (WUG). TWDB is asking for the RWPG to identify any other wholesale suppliers in the basin who are not WUGs for inclusion in the 2021 plan. After discussion, the group agreed to have AECOM collect more data and ask for more guidance from TWDB before taking action.

# 16. Other Committee Reports as needed - None

17.

- a. <u>Discuss and take action on requesting written opinion from TWDB or the Texas</u> <u>Attorney General on Regional Planning Group members attending committee</u> <u>meetings by conference call.</u> – The RWPG approved Anne McElroy and John Burke composing a letter to send to the Texas Attorney General requesting an opinion on RWPG members attending committee meetings by conference call.
- b. <u>Discuss and take action on videotaping committee meetings.</u> The RWPG determined that videotaping committee meetings is allowed, but that Region K does not currently have money in the budget for that service.

# 18. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. <u>Location of next meeting</u> The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on April 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
- b. <u>Committee Meetings</u> A Water Modeling Committee meeting will be scheduled for some time in February.
- 19. New / Other Business None.
- 20. Public Comments None.
- 21. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:26 pm.

#### Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting April 11, 2018 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### **Members Signing In:**

John Burke, Water Utilities Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Robin Gary, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Teresa Lutes. Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities

#### **Voting Members Absent:**

Daniel Berglund, Small Business John Dupnik, GMA 10 Jim Totten, GMA 12

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities, Alternate Jordan Furnans, LRE Water LLC Alicia Smiley, AECOM Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate Karen Bondy, River Authorities, Alternate Christianne Castleberry, Water Utility Alt. Vicky Kennedy, Travis County

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

Billy Roeder, Agriculture Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8, Alternate Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar. Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Russ Robertson, Non-Voting TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB

Byron Theodosis, Counties GMA 8 Member. Alternate Attended

Elizabeth McCoy, TWDB Helen Gerlach, COA-Austin Water Linda Raschke, Counties, Alternate Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Charlie Flatten, Environmental, Alternate Andy Hines Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA

# Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. Three voting member representative's terms were approved for renewal: Lauri Gillam, David Wheelock, and Mike Reagor. The terms were renewed for five years (from 2018 to 2023).
- 2. Meeting minutes from the January 10, 2018 regular meeting approved as amended.
- 3. LCRA was approved to execute a TWDB contract amendment to add funding to the RWPG budget.
- 4. Minutes from the December 7, 2018 Population and Water Demand Committee meeting were approved as amended.
- 5. RWPG approved inclusion of Arbuckle Reservoir (currently under construction) in the Region K Cutoff Model as an existing supply.
- 6. Regional Water Planning Group approved a process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies for this cycle, as outlined in the meeting.

# **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at about 10:02 am.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items #8-20 None.
- 4. **Attendance Report** Attendance report information was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Discuss and take action on renewal of voting member representative's terms Chairman Burke led the discussion explaining that voting members Lauri Gillam, David Wheelock, and Mike Reagor have expiring terms and each would like to renew their term. Teresa Lutes motioned to approve renewal of the voting members' terms. The terms will be renewed for five years (from 2018 to 2023). The motion was seconded and approved by the group.

# 6. Consent Agenda:

- a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the January 10, 2018 regular meeting</u> Barbara Johnson noted several minor edits to make to the minutes. A motion to approve minutes from the regular January 10, 2018 meeting as amended was approved.
- b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the Consultant budget is now authorized for \$418,201, with \$133,446 having been spent and a remaining balance of \$284,755. David also reported that the grant account balance is currently \$49,716 and the Members account has a balance of \$3,123.

# 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

- <u>TWDB Comments</u> TWDB Director Brooke Paup provided comments to the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) representing the Texas Water Development Board.
- b. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> Lann Bookout said that the new rule changes (i.e. new rules on open meetings, public

information, and simplified planning) for Regional Water Planning are effective today. Funding has become available to TWDB to allocate to the Region K contract, so more funding is planned to be added to the existing contract with no other changes. TWDB has reviewed and approved Region K's hydrologic variance request. A required Technical Memorandum is due to TWDB in September 2018.

- 8. Discuss Open Meetings Issues and Committee Meetings As previously discussed, on Region K's behalf, Chairman Burke sent a letter to the Attorney General asking for an opinion on some specifics on how to best address questions that had arisen about the Open Meetings Act in the context of regional water planning group and committee meetings. The Attorney General responded and directed Region K to submit a request for an opinion through a governmental body, for example, LCRA, as the planning group's administrative body. After additional discussion, the RWPG decided not to further pursue seeking an AG option at this time and to continue not allowing participation in planning group and committee meeting via conference call based on information provided by TWDB.
- 9. **Discuss and Take Action on Committee Assignments** Chairman Burke led the RWPG in a discussion of Committee roles and membership. The committee list updated in the meeting is as follows:

Executive Committee	Nominating Committee
John Burke – Chairman	Ann McElroy – Chair
David Wheelock – Vice Chair	Jennifer Walker
Teresa Lutes – Secretary	Karen Haschke
David Van Dresar – At Large	Jim Brasher
Mike Reagor – At Large	Barbara Johnson
Paul Sliva – At Large	
Legislation & Policy Committee	Drought Committee
Barbara Johnson-Chair	David Wheelock – Chair
Donna Klaeger	Barbara Johnson
Jim Brasher	Donna Klaeger
Teresa Lutes	Lauri Gillam
John Burke	Teresa Lutes
David Van Dresar	Mike Reagor
Jennifer Walker	Jennifer Walker
David Wheelock	Karen Haschke
Lauri Gillam	Doug Powell
	David Van Dresar

Water Management Strategies	Water Modeling Committee
Lauri Gillam - Chair	Teresa Lutes-Chair
Donna Klaeger	Mike Reagor
John Burke	Jim Brasher
Teresa Lutes	David Wheelock
David Van Dresar	John Burke
Doug Powell	Jason Ludwig
Barbara Johnson	Ron Fieseler
Jennifer Walker	Jennifer Walker
Karen Haschke	Ann McElroy
David Wheelock	Doug Powell / David Lindsay
Ann McElroy	NV - David Bradsby
Mike Reagor	NV - Lann Bookout
NV- David Bradsby	
NV - Lann Bookout	
Population and Water Demand Committee	Public Involvement and Participation
Lauri Gillam -Chair	Committee
Donna Klaeger	Karen Haschke - Chair
Barbara Johnson	Teresa Lutes
Teresa Lutes	NV - Lann Bookout
John Burke	By-Laws Committee
David Van Dresar	Donna Klaeger - Chair
Jennifer Walker	Doug Powell
David Wheelock	Barbara Johnson
NV - Lann Bookout	Robert Ruggiero
	Teresa Lutes
	Paul Tybor

- 10. Discuss and take action on whether or not to request LCRA or TWDB to request on Region K's behalf a written request from the Attorney General's Office regarding the issue of committee or subcommittee meetings of the RPG being attended by conferences call – Chairman Burke stated that the RWPG had covered this in the discussion for agenda item #8; there was no action taken for LCRA or TWDB to submit a request to the Attorney General.
- 11. **Discussion item on process for determination of a new drought of record** Jaime Burke from AECOM presented information on how the regional water planning process addresses a possible new drought of record. It is expected that modeling preformed for Region K supply availability analysis will show that the approximately 2008-2016 drought was worse than the prior drought of record from the 1950's and become the new critical period for water availability determination. Jaime

recommended that interested parties read Chapter 7 from the 2016 Lower Colorado RWPG Water Plan for more related information.

- 12. Discuss and take action on approval by the RWPG for the political subdivision (LCRA) to execute a TWDB contract amendment Motion was made for LCRA to be approved to execute a TWDB contract amendment to add money to the RWPG budget. Motion was seconded and approved by the planning group.
- 13. **Consultant Status Report** Jaime Burke from AECOM presented the consultant status report. Since the last meeting, AECOM has been finishing up the Population and Water Demand items and has been making updates to the appropriate chapters to reflect the new projections. AECOM has also begun work on gathering existing water supply and potential water management strategies information by sending surveys to Water User Groups (WUGs). AECOM also assisted with Water Modeling and Water Management Strategies Committee meetings since the last RWPG meeting. AECOM coordinated with TWDB regarding Region K's hydrologic variance request and will begin water availability modeling. Other upcoming work includes updating existing water supply availability amounts, beginning TWDB database entry of Region K numbers, determination of water needs, identification of potentially feasible water management strategies, and updating chapter texts for the report as able.
- 14. **Population and Water Demand Committee** Lauri Gillam stated that the population and water demand projection process is nearly complete.
  - a. <u>Approval by Population and Water Demand Committee of Committee meeting</u> <u>minutes from December 7, 2017</u> – Teresa Lutes requested minor edits to the minutes from the December 7, 2017 Committee meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as amended was seconded and approved.

# 15. Water Modeling Committee -

a. <u>Summary of Committee meetings held January 10, and April 5, 2018</u> – Teresa Lutes provided a brief summary of the two Water Modeling Committee meetings. The January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was held immediately before a full RWPG meeting. At that Committee meeting, the members approved minutes from the December 13, 2018 Committee meeting, viewed an informational presentation about surface water modeling and the Region K cut-off model, and voted to recommend the TWDB hydrologic variance request to the full RWPG for consideration for approval.

At the April 5, 2018 Committee meeting, the group approved the January 10, 2018 meeting minutes, got an update on the status of the hydrologic variance request submitted to TWDB, discussed the Region K cut-off model, and reviewed an update on groundwater availability.

b. <u>Request RWPG take action to approve recommendation from Water Modeling</u> <u>Committee to include the Arbuckle Reservoir in the Region K Cutoff Model as</u> <u>an existing supply</u> – A motion to include LCRA's Arbuckle Reservoir in the Region K Cutoff Model as an existing supply was seconded and approved. The Arbuckle Reservoir (formerly referred to as the Lane City Reservoir project) is a new off-channel reservoir project nearing completion in Wharton County

# 16. Water Management Strategies Committee -

- a. <u>Summary of Committee meeting held April 5, 2018</u> Lauri Gillam presented a summary of the April 5, 2018 Water Management Strategies Committee meeting. At the meeting, members reviewed the purpose and role of the Committee, received some background information on water management strategies in regional planning, reviewed outreach to WUGs for data, reviewed the last cycle's process and recommended for approval at today's meeting, and reviewed public comments from the last planning cycle.
- 17. Present Region K process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies for comment by planning group Jaime Burke from AECOM presented the process used in the last planning cycle for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies. The RWPG discussed the process and possible adjustments that could be made for this planning cycle.
- 18. Take public comments on the Region K process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies Jordan Furnans from LRE Water made a comment that the Region K group should take land subsidence into account when considering groundwater water management strategies related to groundwater pumping, as he recently provided TWDB with a report on the relationship of groundwater pumping and subsidence.

Written comment provided by Jordan Furnans: To inform group of TWDB Subsidence Study Results and Availably of report/information.

- 19. RWPG to consider planning group and public comments to revise process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies, as needed, and take action to approve process A motion was made, seconded, and approved by the RWPG to approve the process discussed for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies for this cycle.
- 20. Other Committee Reports as needed None
- 21. Agenda items for next meeting
  - a. <u>Location of next meeting</u> The location and date of the next regular meeting will be at LCRA's Dalchau Service Center in Austin on July 11, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Further regular RWPG meetings will be held August 29, 2018 and October 10, 2018.
  - b. <u>Committee Meetings</u> A Water Modeling Committee meeting will be scheduled for some time in late June, before the next RWPG meeting.
- 22. New / Other Business None.
- 23. Public Comments None.
- 24. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:18 pm.

Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting July 11, 2018 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

John Burke, Water Utilities Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Robin Gary, GMA 10, Alternate Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Karen Haschke, Public Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Barbara Johnson, Industries Donna Klaeger, Counties Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities

#### Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jennifer Walker, Environmental Teresa Lutes, Munic., Alternate Attended Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jordan Furnans, LRE Water LLC Alicia Smiley, AECOM Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate Christianne Castleberry, Water Utility Alt. Paul King, Rancher Joe Trungale, Consultant Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting PLLC Diane Wheeler, Alternate Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Prachi Patel, Austin Water Helen Gerlach, Municipalities, Alternate Paul Babb, GMA 8, Alternate Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties David Van Dresar, Water Districts David Wheelock, River Authorities David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB

Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8, Alternate Attended David Caldwell, GMA 10, Alternate Attended

James Kowis, Consultant Troy Wenzel, TCESD #8 Charles Olfers, County Comm. Gillespie Co Kylie Beard, LCRA Danielle Noor, Sunset Commission Mikayla Garrison, Sunset Commission Erick Fajardo, Sunset Commission Rusty Ray, TSSWCB James Babb Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Jaime Burke, AECOM

## 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 April 11, 2018 regular meeting were approved, as amended.
- 2. Charles Olfers, Gillespie County, elected as voting member for Agricultural Interest category.
- 3. Initial surface water availability modeling results, as presented, were approved for inclusion in the Technical Memo to be submitted to TWDB in September 2018.
- 4. LCRA, Austin, and West Travis County Public Utilities Agency approved to be submitted as major water providers in Region K.

# **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at about 10:29 am.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items #5-13 Troy Wenzel, Assistant Fire Chief at Pedernales Fire Department, Travis County, communicated his concern that their fire department relies on water from the Highland Lakes and that the lakes levels are falling. Low levels in the lakes mean their pumps cannot access water to fight fires. He would like the Region K group to take this into consideration in their decisions throughout the process.
- 4. **Attendance Report** Attendance report information was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Discuss and take action as necessary to fill voting member vacancy for Agricultural Interest category – Chairman Burke led the discussion. Both Paul King and Charles Olfers were under consideration to fill the voting member vacancy for the Agricultural Interest category. The Executive Committee recommended Charles Olfers for approval. Discussion included concerns about being able to equally represent all the counties in Region K if Paul King was chosen as the voting member. Paul Tybor motioned to approve Charles Olfers as the voting member to fill the vacancy for Agricultural Interest category. The motion was seconded by James Sultemeier and approved by the group.

# 6. Consent Agenda:

- a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the April 11, 2018 regular meeting</u> Barbara Johnson noted several edits to make to the minutes. Robin Gary noted an edit on the location and date of the next meeting. A motion was made and approved to adopt the minutes from the regular April 11, 2018 meeting as amended.
- b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the total consultant budget was being revised to \$723,046 for the study period. So far the consultant has spent \$197,468 and there is remaining balance of \$525,577. Account balance for paying the consultant, which is reimbursed by the TWDB, is \$44,747. The members account has a balance of \$3,004.

# 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> – Lann Bookout reminded the group that TWDB continues to hold financial assistance workshops. These are posted on their webpage on the financial assistance tab. It was noted that we are about halfway through the planning cycle. Technical memos are due to TWDB in September.

# 8. Committee Reports

a. Water Modeling Committee – Mike Reagor explained that the water availability model being run by the consultant uses new evaporation rates provided by TCEQ.

Additionally, the model uses a multi-use pattern for downstream water demands, as in the last planning cycle.

Later in the meeting there is going to be a presentation on the surface water availability modeling results recommended by the Water Modeling Committee to include in a Technical Memo due to TWDB in September. At5 its July 11<sup>th</sup> committee meeting, the Water Modeling Committee voted to recommend the modeling results to the group for the full groups' consideration for approval for this Technical Memo.

Jaime Burke, from AECOM, provided additional information on the Water Modeling Committee meeting that was held on June 27<sup>th</sup>. In this committee meeting, the initial modeling results were reviewed, there was discussion of the different options for determining the new drought of record period (e.g. full-to-full, full-to-empty, etc.), and consultants were asked to perform additional analysis on using a multiuse demand pattern for certain downstream water rights rather than an industrial use pattern.

9. Consultant Status Report – Jaime Burke, from AECOM, presented overall consultant progress in the planning process. Progress has been made on the chapter one text, water supplies and water availability numbers, water needs determination, identification of feasible water management strategies, and assessment of the new drought of record period. Ann McElroy requested more detail on various aspects of the progress report. Jaime Burke acknowledged this request.

Jaime provided information on water management strategy survey results and next steps for identifying feasible water management strategies. For the upcoming technical memo, the consultant will update water supply numbers, finish database entry, complete the draft technical memo, post the technical memo for public comment, and design the scope of work for evaluating water management strategies. Ann McElroy asked for clarification on the posting and due dates for the technical memo; Jaime Burke clarified that the meeting to approve the technical memo would be August 29<sup>th</sup>, the technical memo would be posted on August 15<sup>th</sup>. After the regular meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup>, the public will have 14 days to make comments, all of which need to be submitted to TWDB. The technical memo is due to TWDB on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

10. Discuss and take action on initial surface water modeling results – Joe Trungale, from Trungale Engineering & Science, presented initial surface water availability modeling results. Since the last regular meeting, two changes were made to the model: the evaporation and precipitation inputs were updated to the most recent dataset and a multi-use pattern was used for all downstream irrigation demands except for Garwood (where an irrigation demands except for Garwood during the last planning cycle.

Modeling assumptions that are the same as presented at the last regular meeting but differ from the last planning cycle are: hydrology was updated through 2016, the Arbuckle offchannel reservoir has been added to the model, sedimentation rates have been updated, the Gulf Coast water right was split into two, routine water rights updates from TCEQ's WAM were made, a new City of Austin monthly demand pattern was used, and there was an update to the balancing of Lakes Travis and Buchanan in the model. The modeling results show that the new critical period for drought in the basin is October 2007-December 2016.

Jaime Burke requested that the group consider approval of the initial surface water availability numbers for use in the technical memo, which will be used in TWDB's database. Ms. Burke reiterated that the group would only be approving initial numbers and that there will be opportunities for discussion and changes of the numbers. if necessary. Ron Fieseler motioned to approve the presented initial surface water availability numbers for use in the technical memo, which will be used in TWDB's database, Paul Tybor seconded, and the group approved the motion.

11. Discussion of water supply/ potentially feasible strategies survey responses – Jaime Burke, from AECOM, explained that information on identified potentially feasible strategies is to be included as part of the technical memo to be submitted to TWDB in September. The Region K Potentially Feasible Strategies Survey was sent out to municipal Water User Groups (WUGs) to gather information for this purpose, including requesting feedback on existing water supplies and potentially feasible strategies. For WUGs included in the last plan, the survey included information on supplies and strategies from the 2016 plan was included as a starting point. The survey also included space to provide planned strategies that the WUGs would like to include in the 2021 plan. There was a 65% response rate. Of the unresponsive WUGs, there were 13 new WUGs. For most of the unresponsive WUGs, the consultant can work to find information on strategy options, and for the others additional outreach will be undertaken.

Several WUGs share sources with entities in other regional planning groups and need to coordinate regionally. Donna Klaeger asked if there was a deadline to respond to the survey; Jaime Burke responded that there is no official deadline, but it would be helpful to know all strategies to be evaluated by the end of the year to inform the scope of work. Next steps include listing the strategies in the technical memo and working with the Water Management Strategies Committee to add strategies, as needed. Robin Gary requested the survey results be presented in map form; Jaime Burke agreed.

12. Discuss and take action on Region K Major Water Providers – Jaime Burke, from AECOM, explained that a major water provider in this planning cycle is defined as a WUG or wholesale water provider that is of significance to the region's water supply as determined by the water planning group. A list of Region K major water providers should be submitted at the same time as the technical memo. The group discussed which entities would be considered as major water providers for Region K. David Van Dresar made a motion to approve LCRA, Austin, and West Travis County Public Utilities Agency as the major water providers for Region K. The motion was seconded by Ron Fieseler and approved by the group.

## 13. Discuss Technical Memorandum -

- a. Data to be included Jaime Burke, from AECOM, explained that the following items need to be included in the technical memorandum: reports generated by TWDB related to population, demand projections, source water availability, existing water supplies, identified needs and surpluses, water balances for the sources, and comparison of these data to the 2016 water plan. The consultant team will add supply and water availability data into the TWDB database, TWDB has already entered population and demand information, and information for inclusion in the reports is generated based on the supply and demand data. The consultant will need to include documentation of the process for identifying water management strategies by using a template provided by TWDB. Information regarding the surface water availability models (WAMs) and groundwater availability models (GAMs) used in the process will also be included.
- b. Posting /comment period for technical memo Submittal of the technical memo will need to be considered for approval at a regular planning group meeting. The agenda for the regular planning group meeting will need to be posted 14 days before the day of the meeting and it is recommended that the technical memo be available for review one week prior to meeting date. Public comments are accepted for 14 days following the meeting. The technical memo is due on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Public comments received after September 10<sup>th</sup> but within the 14 days following the meeting are to be submitted separately. August 29<sup>th</sup> is the scheduled meeting date for planning group consideration of the technical memo approval.

c. **Other items** – None.

# 14. Agenda items for next meeting -

- a. David Wheelock to present information on sedimentation rates
- b. Richard Hoffpauir to make presentation on climate change modeling in the City of Austin's Water Forward integrated water resource plan effort as he did in a recent Water Modeling Committee meeting.
- c. Donna Klaeger, Bylaws Committee Chair, to convene a Bylaws Committee meeting on August 29<sup>th</sup> prior to the regular group meeting.
- 15. New/ Other Business None
- 16. Public Comments None.
- 17. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:57 am.

Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting August 29, 2018 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

## Members Signing In:

John Burke, Water Utilities Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Scott Edmonson, Municipalities Alternate Robin Gary, GMA 10, Alternate Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Barbara Johnson, Industries Charles Olfers, Agriculture

## Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Paul Tybor, GMA 7 Mike Reagor, Municipalities, Alternate Attended Paul Sliva, Agriculture Ron Fiesler, GMA 9

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jordan Furnans, LRE Water LLC Alicia Smiley, AECOM Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm Christianne Castleberry, Water Utility Alt. Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting PLLC Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA David Villarrial, TDA

#### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 17 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Byron Theodosis, Counties David Wheelock, River Authorities Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB Doug Powell, Recreation

Donna Klaeger, Counties Ann McElroy, Environmental Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8 David Caldwell, GMA 10, Alternate Attended David Van Dresar, Water Districts

James Kowis, Consultant Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Jaime Burke, AECOM Laurence Brown, Jr., TSSWCB David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate

# Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. Minutes from July 11, 2018 regular meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. The group approved a motion that Region K will not pursue a simplified planning option this planning cycle.
- 3. The group approved a motion to:
  - Approve the Region K Technical Memorandum with the three edits noted by the planning group to be made by the Technical Consultant, and
  - Authorize submittal of the Region K Technical Memorandum to the TWDB by September 10, 2018.
- 4. The group approved a motion to authorize the Technical Consultant to submit public comments by September 12, 2018 to TWDB.
- 5. The group approved motions to:
  - Approve the Task 5A Partial Scope of work with edit as discussed,
  - Authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with partial Scope of Work for Task 5A and execute the subsequent contract amendments, and
  - Authorize the Technical Consultant to make minor edits to the 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 10:02 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 #7-16 None.
- Attendance Report Attendance report information was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Consent Agenda:
  - a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the July 11, 2018 regular meeting</u> Motion to approve the minutes from the regular July 11, 2018 meeting as presented was approved.
  - b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the total consultant budget was being revised to \$723,046 for the study period. So far, \$238,971 has been spent on consulting services and there is remaining balance of \$484,075. The account balance for paying the consultant, which is reimbursed by the TWDB, is \$44,815. The members account has a balance of \$3,009.

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> – Lann Bookout reminded the group that TWDB continues to hold financial assistance workshops. These are posted on their webpage under the financial assistance tab. Mr. Bookout noted that the planning cycle is about halfway through, and that the group is on track. Technical memos are due to TWDB in September. The Water for Texas conference will be held in January.

## 7. Committee Reports

- a. Bylaws Committee None.
- **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 water availability and supply, water needs, work on the technical memorandum, drought response, and work on preparation of a draft partial scope of work for Task 5A (evaluation of water management strategies for Regional Water Planning Group consideration).

## 9. Consultant presentation of draft Region K Technical Memorandum – AECOM

- a. Discussion of draft Region K Technical Memorandum Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that the Technical Memorandum is the first deliverable due to TWDB for this planning cycle. Jaime explained what needs to be included in the Technical Memorandum and went over methodologies for groundwater and surface water. Ms. Burke highlighted that the process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies is documented in the draft Technical Memorandum. After discussion of the draft Technical Memorandum, three relatively minor-scale edits were noted from the planning group discussion.
- b. Discussion of simplified planning option with respect to Region K. Take action as needed. Information was presented regarding a simplified planning approach option that planning groups can take if there are no significant changes to a number of key water planning parameters within a region. It was discussed that in Region K there have been some significant changes since last planning cycle on a number of the key parameters. Jennifer Walker motioned that Region K not pursue simplified planning this cycle. David Wheelock seconded. The planning group unanimously voted to approve this motion. Thus far, no regions have chosen the simplified planning process.
- Receive oral and written public comments on the draft Technical Memorandum (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker). Written comments may be submitted through September 12, 2018, to Mr. John Burke, Region K Chairman, by mail: c/o LCRA (Administrative Agent), P.O. Box 220, Austin TX 78767; or by email administrative@regionk.org – No public comments were provided at the meeting.

#### 11. Take action regarding the draft Region K Technical Memorandum

- a. Consider approval to authorize the Technical Consultant to address the Planning Group changes to the draft Region K Technical Memorandum.
- b. Consider approval to authorize the Technical Consultant to submit the Region K Technical Memorandum to TWDB by September 10, 2018.

Teresa Lutes made a motion to: a) approve the Region K Technical Memorandum with the three edits noted by the planning group to be made by the Technical Consultant, and b) authorize submittal of the Region K Technical Memorandum to the TWDB by September 10, 2018. Karen Haschke seconded this motion and the planning group approved.

c. Consider approval to authorize the Technical Consultant to submit public comments that are received by September 12, 2018, to TWDB.

James Sultemeier made a motion to authorize the Technical Consultant to submit public comments by September 12, 2018 to TWDB. David Wheelock seconded the

motion and the planning group approved the motion.

- 12. Discuss and consider draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation water management strategies Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented a brief summary on the Water Management Strategies Evaluation task. Ms. Burke presented a partial scope of work for four strategies: drought management, basic and advanced water conservation strategies, expand use of local groundwater, and City of Austin return flows. The Regional Water Planning Group discussed the various strategies and suggested edits to the wording of the scope of work. Jennifer Walker asked about the current timeline and schedule. Jamie Burke noted that it can take up to 60 days for TWDB to approve the scope of work but will probably be complete in early 2019. David Wheelock requested a minor text change regarding peak modeled available groundwater factors. David Wheelock also suggested that it would be good for the Water Management Strategies Committee to plan to meet soon. Jennifer Walker asked about the process for other strategies to be evaluated with the budget remaining after the tasks in the draft Scope of work are complete. Jamie noted that there were about 40 strategies in the last plan survey so there will likely be quite a number of additional strategies to add to the scope of work for water management strategy evaluation.
- 13. Receive public comments on draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies None.
- 14. Consider and take action on approval of the Task 5A Partial Scope of work and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with 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 partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB. –

After discussion (see item #12, above), the planning group approved the following motions:

- Approve the Task 5A Partial Scope of work with edit as discussed,
- Authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with partial Scope of Work for Task 5A and execute the subsequent contract amendments,
- Authorize the Technical Consultant to make minor edits to the partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB.
- 15. Presentation on hydrographic survey of lakes Travis and Buchanan and resulting sedimentation estimates David Wheelock, LCRA, gave a brief introduction on the hydrographic survey of lakes Travis and Buchanan. Nathan Leber, TWDB, gave a presentation on the process, data, and deliverables associated with the hydrographic surveys and sedimentation estimates. David Wheelock then discussed the various factors that may affect sedimentation at the lakes.

Jordan Furnans provided comments on the apparent increase in volume of the lakes compared to past surveys, the time required to perform the surveys, sedimentation's effects on water availability, and suggested that TWDB should allow a competitive bidding process for conducting hydrographic surveys.

16. Presentation on City of Austin analysis of basin-wide hydrologic conditions incorporating impacts of climate change projections and identification of drought conditions worse than the Drought of Record for planning purposes. – Richard Hoffpauir, consulting hydrologist, provided a presentation on the City of Austin's water availability model (WAM) climate-change and drought worse than the drought of record analysis. Teresa Lutes, Austin Water, invited discussion of how climate change could be

included as part of the Region K process. Concern was expressed about maintaining consistency with TWDB approved methods and other potential uncertainties. Based on the discussion, the group may look at the possibly adding a policy recommendation about planning for climate change and droughts worse than the drought of record in the policy chapter of the plan. This possibility can be discussed in future at the Policy Committee for consideration by the Policy Committee and full group.

# 17. Update and discussion on current very low inflows into the Highland Lakes to include but not limited to:

- a. Update from LCRA David Wheelock, LCRA, discussed that the Highland Lakes inflows from January-July 2018 are the 3<sup>rd</sup> worst on record. However, Mr. Wheelock noted that the lakes are still in relatively good shape. Mr. Wheelock added that LCRA is in the process of updating their Water Management Plan.
- b. Update on upcoming TWDB Study of watershed to better understand low inflows Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on the status of a follow-up report to the study titled "Evaluation of Rainfall/Runoff Patterns in the Colorado River Basin". That study showed that over time the rainfall-runoff relationship has decreased. A request for qualifications (RFQ) for an update to the study has been released and the new study is anticipated to be finished sometime in 2019.
- c. Discussion on potential impacts/ramifications David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate, discussed how eight of the lowest annual inflows in period of record have been recorded in the last twelve years. Mr. Lindsay stated his concerns regarding planning using only historical data. Jim Brasher voiced his support for investigating potential factors that may be affecting stream flows, but cautioned against the risk of misinterpreting the cause of low streamflow when it occurs during droughts. Jennifer Walker added that the "Evaluation of Rainfall/Runoff Patterns in the Colorado River Basin" report did not make strong conclusions, but recommended a follow-up study.

## 18. Agenda Items for next meeting

- a. Location and date of next meeting October 24<sup>th</sup> Regional Water Planning Group meeting. Plan is to have a Water Management Strategies Committee meeting sometime before then.
- b. Other committee meetings None.

## 19. New / Other Business (time permitting) - None.

- 20. **Agenda items for next meeting** Jaime Burke, AECOM, mentioned that possible agenda items for the next meeting may include water management strategies or upcoming chapters.
- 21. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 pm.

# 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, Šmall 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

#### 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.

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

# 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. <u>Approval of Minutes from the October 24, 2018 regular meeting</u> 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.
- <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> 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. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> – 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 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 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 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 Counites 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.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting January 9, 2019 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Paul Babb, GMA 9, Alternate for Ron Fiesler Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Joe Don Dockery, Burnet County (elected) Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Charles Olfers, Agriculture Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Alicia Reinmund Martinez, GMA10

#### Voting Members Absent:

Ron Fieseler, GMA 9, alternate attended

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Linda Raschke, Counties Alternate Emil Ray Uecker, Counties Alternate Jim Barho, Burnet County Con Mims, Region L David Lindsey, Recreational Alternate Charlie Flatten, HCA Christianne Castleberry, Water Utilities Alternate Patrick J. Lopez, TWDB Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda

#### Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 25 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Silva, Agriculture Mitchell Sodek, GMA 8 James Slutemeier, Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, TWDB, Non-Voting Member David Bradsby, TPWD, Non-Voting Member Larry McManus, TDA, Non-Voting Member Lawrence Brown, Jr., TSSWCB, Alternate for Rusty Ray, Non-Voting Member

## Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The LCRWPG approved a motion to re-appoint John Burke, Doug Powell, Robert Ruggiero, Paul Tybor, and David Van Dresar to the LCRWPG as voting members for another 5-year term.
- 2. The LCRWPG approved election of Joe Don Dockery as the new voting member for the Counties interest category.
- 3. The LCRWPG voted to approve John Burke (Chair), David Wheelock (Vice Chair), Teresa Lutes (Secretary), Daniel Berglund (Member-At-Large), James Sultemeier (Member-At-Large), and Paul Tybor (Member-At-Large) as the Region K Executive Committee.
- 4. The minutes from the October 24, 2018 regular Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group meeting were approved as presented.
- 5. The minutes from the November 30, 2018 Nominating Committee meeting were approved by members of that Committee.
- 6. The LCRWPG approved motions to: 1) approve the third Task 5A Partial Scope of Work, as edited, 2) authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with the third 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 third partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB.
- 7. The LCRWPG approved a motion to request that TWDB conduct a socioeconomic impact analysis of not meeting identified water needs for Region K for inclusion in the 2021 Region K Water Plan.

#### Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Discuss term expiration John Burke explained which members had a term expiration approaching. All members who were nearing a term expiration (John Burke, Doug Powell, Robert Ruggiero, Paul Tybor, and David Van Dresar) expressed interest in continuing to serve on the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) for another term. The LCRWPG approved a motion re-appointing these members for another 5-year term.
- 4. **Discuss and take action on vacant counties position from Burnet County** After discussion, the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group approved a motion to elect Joe Don Dockery as the new voting member for the Counties interest position. This is a replacement in the position previously held by Donna Kleager who stepped down from the planning group in 2018.
- 5. Discuss voting member county representation for Hays and Mills Counties John Burke led a discussion on voting member county representation for Hays and Mills Counties. Teresa Lutes commented that the LCRWPG already had members representing these counties within the Region K area. It was noted that portions of the Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) represented in Region K cover parts of Hays and Mills Counties. It was discussed to provide information and to reiterate that all are welcome to the planning group's various meetings and interested individuals can reach out to members on the planning group who represent those areas. There was no action taken.
- 6. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations Ann McElroy

- a. <u>Discuss and take action on election of Executive Committee and Officers</u> Anne McElroy provided an update on the Nominating Committee meeting, noting that nominating Executive Committee members was challenging since, among other constraints, no two members of the Executive Committee can represent the same interest category. The LCRWPG voted to approve John Burke (Chair), David Wheelock (Vice Chair), Teresa Lutes (Secretary), Daniel Berglund (Member-At-Large), James Sultemeier (Member-At-Large), and Paul Tybor (Member-At-Large) as the Region K Executive Committee.
- 7. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 10 through 18 (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) None.
- 8. **Attendance Report** Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review.
- 9. Consent Agenda:
  - a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the October 24, 2018 regular meeting</u> A motion was made by David Wheelock to approve the minutes from the regular October 24, 2018 meeting as presented. The motion seconded by David Van Dresar and the minutes were approved.
  - b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u> David Wheelock reported the total consultant budget was being revised to \$723,046 for the study period. So far, \$316,046 has been spent on consulting services and there is a remaining balance of \$407,000. The account balance for paying the consultant, which is reimbursed by TWDB, is \$102,154. The members account currently has a balance of \$2,974.

#### 10. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> – Lann Bookout reminded the group that TWDB will be holding a financial assistance conference in February, with details posted on the TWDB webpage under the financial assistance tab. Additionally, the Water for Texas Conference will be held on January 23-25, 2019 in Austin at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center on the University of Texas campus and will cover topics such as floods, conservation, and innovative water strategies, among other things.

#### 11. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- <u>Nominating Committee approval of minutes from the November 30, 2018 Committee</u> <u>meeting</u> – The Nominating Committee prepared a recommended slate of candidates for the Region K Executive Committee. Minutes were approved by the members of the Nominating Committee.
- b. <u>Water Management Strategies (WMS) Committee</u> The WMS Committee met on November 30<sup>th</sup> and held discussions of water management strategies that are being newly requested this cycle, though some fell under already scoped items. The WMS Committee worked through the lists strategy by strategy as to whether or not to recommend that the LCRWPG include the strategy in the scope of work for the strategy evaluation for this cycle. There was also further discussion of Water User Groups (WUGs) with water needs in the 2020 decade. According to TWDB guidance, strategies recommended to meet these needs should be limited to projects that can be constructed and online by January 2023.

The WMS Committee also began discussion of strategies to meet irrigation needs and if any additional strategies (that were not already included in the scope) should be

considered. The WMS Committee recommended a draft of the third partial amended Task 5A partial scope of work that will be presented for discussion and consideration during this meeting. New potentially feasible water management strategies that were identified that had not been specifically discussed at a Region K meeting this cycle include:

- Reservoir Capacity Expansion (for Llano and possibly others)
- Rainwater Harvesting (for WUG's other than City of Austin)

David Wheelock is working to update information on irrigation areas including water use and water use efficiency information. Mr. Wheelock is currently working to draft a memo with this updated information and plans to submit it to Lauri Gillam, WMS Committee Chair, who will distribute the memo to WMS Committee for review.

- c. <u>Other committee reports, as needed</u> None.
- 12. **Consultant Status Report** Alicia Smiley, AECOM, made a presentation on the overall consultant progress on the planning process. Joe Don Dockery posed a question related to the population projection information being incorporated into the planning process. John Burke noted that this is an item that should be added to the next meeting's agenda (in April). The consultant report included an overview of recent activities on number of tasks being worked on since the last planning group meeting (see presentation materials for additional information). Upcoming efforts include continuing to update draft Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 7 for the 2021 Plan to prepare them soon for LCRWPG review and starting evaluations of water management strategies including working with the Water Management Strategies Committee.
- 13. Discuss and consider updates to non-Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) availability methodologies. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on updates to non-Modeled Available Groundwater availabilities. Modeled Available Groundwater volumes are used for the majority of the groundwater sources in the region. However, several groundwater sources do not have MAG volumes because the GMA's identified the sources as non-relevant for joint planning purposes. At the last Region K meeting, the LCRWPG discussed some potential methodology updates for the Marble Falls Aquifer in San Saba County and the Hickory Aquifer in Llano County. There was discussion about what non-relevant aquifers are and how they could be used in the planning process. Jaime indicated that there would be more information in the future since TWDB is planning to provide the numbers for these non-relevant aquifers towards the end of January. No action was taken.
- 14. Discuss and consider third draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented the third draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work. The LCRWPG is required to prepare a scope of work for each strategy evaluation they want performed. This scope of work must be presented for public input and LCRWPG approval before submitting to TWDB for approval. The LCRWPG does not have to submit the entire scope of work at once; it can be submitted in pieces. The LCRWPG has already submitted two partial scopes of work of work for 48 strategies, thus far. It is recommended by TWDB to leave a portion of the budget unallocated in case an unexpected strategy needs to be evaluated later in the process. Anne McElroy asked how much of the Region K budget will remain unallocated to follow this recommendation. Jaime answered that it is not a requirement, but the WMS Committee made a recommendation that about \$20,000 remain unallocated for this purpose.

TWDB must approve the scope of work and issue a notice-to-proceed before work on the task is allowed to begin. Five new strategies were added to the Scope of Work for consideration by the LCRWPG:

- City of Austin Off-Channel Reservoir: New strategy evaluation of an off-channel reservoir for the City of Austin, incorporating strategy information from the City of Austin's Water Forward Plan.
- Bertram Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR): New strategy evaluation of an off-channel reservoir for the City of Bertram. The reservoir site is an old, unused quarry which has water supplied by a spring. Treatment and transport of water to an existing ground storage tank will be included in the evaluation.
- Oceanwater Desalination: New strategy evaluation requested for consideration by the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), for LCRA and potentially other WUGs in Region K. Strategy evaluation will include description of treatment for removing dissolved solids from ocean water (Gulf of Mexico), and transmission to potential end users.
- Reservoir Capacity Expansion: New strategy evaluation to expand the existing surface water capacity of the Llano Reservoir and potentially other reservoirs to increase storage capacity to provide supplies during time of drought.
- Rainwater Harvesting: Update to rainwater harvesting strategy from last cycle; will evaluate potential for WUGs other than City of Austin (which includes rainwater harvesting in a separate strategy from last planning round). Will consider for new developments at community scale.

There is an additional \$26,000 budgeted for total to date of \$299,000. Approximately \$20,000 remains unallocated. Jaime requested input from the LCRWPG and the public on the partial scope. Mitchell Sodek asked about the Bertram OCR, and after discussion it was decided that the strategy would be removed from this partial scope of work so AECOM would have time to speak to Bertram and get more information about the strategy.

- 15. Receive public comments on third draft Task 5A Partial Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies. None.
- 16. Consider and take action on approval of the third Task 5A Partial Scope of Work and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with the third 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 third partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB. After discussion during Agenda item #14, the RWPG approved motions to: 1) approve the third Task 5A Partial Scope of Work, as edited, 2) authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for a Notice-to-Proceed with the third 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 third partial Scope of Work based on comments received from TWDB.
- 17. Discuss and consider taking action on designation of Ecologically Significant Stream Segments. – Charlie Flatten, Con Mims, and Jim Barho gave a presentation on ecologically significant stream segments. They discussed Region L's experience with recommending ecologically significant streams. The presentation included material describing how Region L created a recommendation packet that went to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). After TPWD provided information, Region L went forward with a bill to the Legislature to formally designate their recommended stream segments as ecologically unique.

The Region L bill included various applicability conditions. Jim Barho described processes that Region K has conducted in past planning cycles to gather public input in developing Region K's information and recommendations.

It was noted that in past rounds Region K plans recommended that additional clarification from the Legislature was needed to clarify questions related to potential designation of steam segments. Teresa Lutes expressed support for continuing the 2016 plan's recommendations regarding potentially unique stream segments. Mike Reagor noted that stream segments with endangered species protections are already subject to additional regulations. Jennifer Walker and Anne McElroy expressed interest in exploring ways to potentially further the recommendation of unique stream segments. To better understand the existing Region K plan elements related to this topic and have further discussion on this subject, it was decided to convene a Unique Stream Segments Committee meeting with Jennifer Walker as Chair before the April 2019 LCRWPG Meeting.

18. Discuss and consider action to request TWDB to conduct a socioeconomic analysis of not meeting identified water needs for Region K for inclusion in the 2021 Region K Water Plan. – Lann Bookout, TWDB, explained that TWDB does a socioeconomic impact analysis of not implementing water management strategies to include in the plan. They have been trying to complete this process earlier in the planning cycle to provide information that could help inform RWPG decisions. The group approved a motion to request that TWDB conduct socioeconomic impact analysis of not meeting identified water needs for Region K for inclusion in the 2021 Region K Water Plan.

David Lindsey asked about TWDB's coordination on the socioeconomic impact analysis. Lann Bookout noted that comments and input can be provided separately or by the group.

#### 19. Agenda items for next meeting

It is planned that Daniel Berglund will provide an overview of agricultural conservation at the April meeting. If you have specific questions you want to be addressed, please let Daniel know in advance if possible.

- a. Location and date of next meeting Next RWPG meeting will be on April 24, 2019.
- b. <u>Other committee meetings</u> There will be a Water Management Strategies Committee and a Unique Stream Segments Committee meeting prior to the next LCRWPG meeting.

## 20. New / Other business (time permitted) - None.

- 21. Public Comments None
- 22. Adjourn The meeting to adjourned at 11:43 am.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting April 24, 2019

LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

## Members Signing In:

John Burke, Water Utilities Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Dianne Wheeler, Public Interest, Alternate Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities David Lindsey, Recreation, Alternate Mike Reagor, Municipalities Alicia Reinmund- Martinez, GMA 10 Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

## Voting Members Absent:

Paul Sliva, Agriculture Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental Rebecca Batchelder, River Authorities, Alternate Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Larry McManus, Non-Voting, TDA

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Joe Don Dockery, Counties Karen Haschke, Public Interest, Alternate Attended Ann McElroy, Environmental Charles Olfers, Agriculture Doug Powell, Recreation, Alternate Attended Byron Theodosis, Counties David Wheelock, River Authorities, Alternate Attended

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Laurence Brown, Jr., TSSWCB Mike Thuss, WRA Danny Bulovas, BCL Christina Castleberry, Water Utilities Alt. Earl Foster, Lakeway MUD Monica Masters, LCRA Jordan Furnans, LRE Water Chris Mullins, Save Our Springs Alliance Sarah Hoes, Austin Water

Stephanie Moore, DBS&A Sarah Backhouse, TWDB Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Kevin Smith, TWDB David Villarrel, TDA Augusto Villalaw, FNI Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Helen Gerlach, Austin Water

# Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 20 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The minutes from the January 9, 2019 Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) meeting were approved as amended.
- 2. A motion to use updated non-Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) availability methodologies was approved by the group.
- 3. The RWPG approved a motion to use generally higher percent reductions to estimate savings for the municipal conservation water management strategy.
- 4. The group approved recommendations from the Unique Stream Segments Committee, as edited, noting that there will be future opportunities for additional stakeholder and public input related to these recommendations.
- 5. The group approved a motion to keep the same population projections which were approved earlier this cycle.

# Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:02 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 numbers 6 through 13 (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) None.
- 4. **Attendance Report** Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Consent Agenda
  - a. <u>Approval of Minutes from the January 9, 2019 regular meeting</u>: A motion made by Barbara Johnson to approve the minutes as amended from the regular January 9, 2019 meeting was approved by the group.
  - b. <u>Financial/Budget Report</u>: Rebecca Batchelder reported the total consultant budget is \$723,046 for the study period. So far, \$393,128 has been spent on consulting services and there is a remaining balance of \$329,918. The account balance for paying the consultant, which is reimbursed by TWDB, is \$45,436. The members account currently has a balance of \$2,949

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

- a. <u>Director Kathleen Jackson to provide comments from the TWDB:</u> Director Jackson updated the RWPG on TWDB efforts. SWIFT is funding a variety of projects across the state, including the Luce Bayou project in Houston. TWDB nominated the Wichita Falls Direct Potable Reuse and Indirect Potable Reuse projects for the EPA Pisces award, which they won. Thoughts and ideas are welcome from the Regional Water Planning Groups on how TWDB could better help and serve Texas.
- b. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout provided an update on regional water planning activities and schedules. The Drought Preparedness Council met and approved submitting recommendations to the RWPGs. There are several upcoming deliverables related to DB22 data entry. An updated outline of TWDB's Drought Template is available online. There are

also new educational materials available for regional water planning on the TWDB website. There are several water management strategy evaluation tools available through TWDB, including the uniform costing tool, the conservation planning tool, and the drought management impact estimating tool. RWPG technical memorandums are available on the TWDB website. Several water planning-related bills are being tracked by TWDB in the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas legislative session, as well as several flood planning and funding bills. David Lindsay asked if there were any bills affecting water permitting going through the legislature, and Lann explained that TWDB is not currently tracking those since they would likely be more directly affecting TCEQ. Lann also described TWDB's new Public Water System Viewer tool, which is available on the web. Barbara Johnson asked if there was an estimated date of completion for the socioeconomic analysis that TWDB is performing, and TWDB indicated that they are anticipating finishing by the end of 2019.

## 7. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

a. <u>Water Management Strategies Committee</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, gave an update on the Water Management Strategies Committee meetings. The committee met on both March 4 and April 10, 2019. At the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Committee discussed updates to the Bertram reservoir strategy, which will be considered a groundwater strategy until TCEQ makes a decision about its status, as well as beginning discussions about Agricultural Irrigation Conservation, Municipal Conservation, Drought Management, and Expand Local Use of Groundwater water management strategies.

The Committee also met on April 10<sup>th</sup> to further discuss topics such as Agricultural Irrigation Conservation and Municipal Conservation. Drought management was also a topic of discussion, and the Committee decided to postpone voting on recommendations to the full RWPG until the next Committee meeting. The Committee also discussed expanded local use of groundwater, with the committee to receive a breakdown of the potential strategy with supply allocation. Protection of inflows to the Colorado River were also discussed. The Water Management Strategies Committee chose to refer this strategy to the Policy Committee for more discussion.

Jaime also updated the planning group about Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) peaking factor. After discussion, the planning group agreed to continue discussions on whether or not to request using a MAG peaking factor for this cycle.

- b. <u>Unique Stream Segments Committee</u>: The Committee met on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 where they discussed several recommendations to make to the RWPG, which are covered in a later agenda item.
- c. <u>Other Committee reports, as needed</u>: None.

#### 8. Consultant Status Report -

- a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented slides that illustrated the consultant's progress to date.
- b. <u>Draft Chapter 2 (Population and Water Demands) to RWPG for review</u>: The draft Chapter 2 contains discussion of methodologies used in population and demand projections, identification of Major Water Providers and their commitments, and a discussion of environmental demands, among other things. The draft is available

for review as hard copies or online, and Jaime requested that feedback be provided around the July meeting timeframe.

- c. <u>Water management strategy memos for RWPG members</u>: AECOM submitted the 3<sup>rd</sup> amended scope of work for Task 5A to TWDB, based on RWPG's approval on January 9<sup>th</sup>. They prepared memos for several water management strategies, as will be discussed in later agenda items.
- d. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: AECOM will continue to work on completion of updates to Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 7 for the 2021 plan, and hopes to have drafts to provide to the RWPG soon. They will continue to meet with the Water Management Strategies Committee and hold meetings for the Drought Committee and the Legislative and Policy Committee.
- Discuss Brackish Resources Aquifer Characterization system (BRACS) study mapping and characterizing brackish groundwater in the Hill Country Trinity Aquifer – TWDB staff could not attend the meeting, so they will plan to do a presentation at the next RWPG meeting.
- 10. Discuss and consider updates to non-Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) availability methodologies. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, described how modeled available groundwater (MAG) volumes are used for a majority of the groundwater sources in the region. Several groundwater sources do not have MAG volumes because the GMAs identified the sources as non-relevant for joint planning purposes. At Regions K's October 2018 meeting, some potential methodology updates for the Marble Falls Aquifer in San Saba County and the Hickory Aquifer in Llano County were discussed. TWDB has provided DFC-compatible, non-relevant values for these aquifers plus the Ellenburger-San Saba in Llano County with their informal Tech Memo review comments. Jaime recommended that the RWPG chose to use these availabilities, and after discussion, the group approved a motion to use non-MAG availability methodologies for those aquifers.
- 11. Discuss methodology updates from municipal conservation and irrigation conservation water management strategies, as recommended by Water Management Strategies Committee. Consider action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, outlined the discussion from the March 4, 2019 WMS Committee meeting regarding the municipal water conservation water management strategy. The WMS Committee recommended generally using a higher percent reduction to calculate the municipal conservation savings in this plan as compared to the last plan. After discussion, the RWPG approved a motion to use the generally higher percent reductions to estimate savings for the municipal conservation water management strategy.

Jaime then described the discussion concerning the Irrigation Conservation water management strategy at recent WMS Committee meetings. Three key tasks were discussed that will help gather additional details to inform the Irrigation Conservation strategy. Additional details will be shared to the committee and RWPG once developed.

12. Discuss Unique Stream Segments Committee recommendations to RWPG. Consider action as needed. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over the terminology and process of designating unique stream segments in a slide presentation. She explained that there are currently no recommended ecologically unique stream segments in Region K, but that per Appendix 8A of 2016 Region K RWP, ten streams in Region K were previously identified for further study in previous planning cycles. The Unique Stream Segments Committee made several recommendations which were presented to the full group. After discussion, edits were incorporated resulting in the recommendations shown below:

- a. Before including in the Region K Water Plan any on-channel reservoir/dam water management strategies located on stream segments identified for further study for potential designation as ecologically unique in Chapter 8, Region K will conduct a higher level of additional screening, as defined by the LCRWPG, to determine potential ecological impacts. (Recommendation is not intended to include existing structures or diversion structures, recharge enhancement weirs, or flood control.)
- b. The 2021 RWP will include a list of studies completed since 2000 relevant to segments listed in Table 8A-1 in the 2016 RWP.
- c. Recommend requesting sufficient funding from TWDB for the 2026 RWP to reevaluate stream segments based on criteria for potential identification as ecologically unique, using studies listed in Action Item B. Note that even if a reevaluated stream segment remains on the list of stream segments identified for further study for potential designation as ecologically unique in Chapter 8, or if stream segments are added to this list, the planning group, after weighing all considerations, may or may not choose to recommend the segments for designation as ecologically unique.
- d. Request data from Region J and other relevant planning groups regarding any analysis of unintended consequences or other experiences resulting from unique stream segment designation.
- e. Request a presentation from TWDB staff on 31 TAC §357.43 (b)(2) (see excerpt below) and how it has been implemented in regions with designated unique streams.

(2) For every river and stream segment that has been designated as a unique river or stream segment by the legislature, during a session that ends not less than one year before the required date of submittal of an adopted RWP to the Board, or recommended as a unique river or stream segment in the RWP, the RWPG shall assess the impact of the RWP on these segments. The assessment shall be a quantitative analysis of the impact of the plan on the flows important to the river or stream segment, as determined by the RWPG, comparing current conditions to conditions with implementation of all recommended WMSs. The assessment shall also describe the impact of the plan on the unique features cited in the region's recommendation of that segment.

The group approved recommendations from the Unique Stream Segments Committee, as edited, noting that there will be future opportunities for additional stakeholder and public input related to these recommendations.

13. Discuss Texas Demographic Center (TDC) 2018 population projections. Consider action as needed. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented slides on the TDC population projections. She explained that compared to the 2018 TDC projections, TWDB 2021 Plan projections are currently over-projecting population for Bastrop and Burnet Counties while under-projecting Travis, Hays, and Williamson Counties. Adjusting the population projections was not recommended by AECOM at this point in the planning cycle. Timing of water management strategies in future decades could be informed by this new population information, even if the if the Region K population projections are not changed. After discussion, the group approved a motion to keep the same population projections which were approved earlier this cycle.

# 14. Agenda items for next meeting -

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u> The next RWPG meeting will be on July 10, 2019.
- b. <u>Other committee meetings</u> None.
- 15. New / Other Business (time permitting) None.
- 16. Public Comments- Limit 3 minutes per person None.
- 17. Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting July 10, 2019

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 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental David Lindsay, Alternate for Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities

Alicia Reinmund- Martinez, GMA 10 Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA

#### Voting Members Absent:

Jim Luther, Counties Paul Sliva, Agriculture Charles Olfers, Agriculture

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Laurence Brown, Jr., TSSWCB Mark Robinson, TWDB Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Stacey Barne, CDM Smith Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Ron Anderson, LCRA Adam Conner, FNI Emi Ray Uecker, Blanco County Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Monica Masters, LCRA Doug Powell, Recreation, Alternate Attended Paul Tybor, GMA 7

Rebecca Batchelder, River Authorities Danny Bulovas, BCL Earl Foster, Lakeway MUD John Mikels, GEOS Consulting Christianne Castleberry, Water Utilities Alt. Katie Snyder, B&V Sarah Eatman, B&V Pete George, Collier Consulting Kevin Kluge, TWDB Lorraine Liu, Austin Water

#### <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

# Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The minutes from the April 24, 2019 Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) meeting were approved as amended.
- 2. The group voted to elect Jim Luther as the Counties interest representative (Burnet County) to replace Joe Don Dockery.
- 3. The group approved a motion to send nominations for Teresa Lutes and David Wheelock to TWDB as potential Region K representatives for the Interregional Planning Council.
- 4. The group approved a motion for LCRA to execute an amendment to the contract with TWDB for additional committed funds for consultant services.

## **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:04 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 numbers 6 through 16 None.
- 4. **Attendance Report** Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. **Approval of Minutes from the April 24, 2019 regular meeting:** A motion to approve the minutes as amended from the regular April 24, 2019 meeting was approved by the group.

Note: After discussion, beginning with this meeting, and hence, LCRA will plan to provide a written financial report for review, as opposed to having a standing agenda item for a verbal financial report. The plan will be to send the report out as part of the meeting packet in the future.

- 6. Discuss and take action on electing Jim Luther as the Counties interest (Burnet County) to replace Joe Don Dockery The group voted to elect Jim Luther as the Counties interest representative to replace Joe Don Dockery.
- 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
  - a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> Lann Bookout provided a legislative update from the 86<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature on bills relevant to regional water planning. HB 807 requires TWDB to appoint an interregional planning council (made up of RWPG members) and adds several requirements to the development of regional water plans. HB 721 requires TWDB to conduct studies of aquifer storage and recovery and aquifer recharge projects in the state water plan or identified by interested persons. It also requires TWDB to conduct a statewide survey to identify the relative suitability of various aquifers for use in aquifer storage and recovery and aquifer recharge projects. HB 723 requires TCEQ to develop updated water availability models (WAMs) for several river basins. SB 7 establishes a state and regional flood planning process administered by TWDB.
- 8. For discussion and possible action: Nominations for the new Interregional Planning Council required by HB 807. Lann Bookout described to the group that HB 807 requires the creation of an interregional planning council. The council is planned to be made up of one representative from each region. Both Teresa Lutes and David Wheelock were nominated as potential representatives on the council from Region K. A motion to forward those individuals' names on to TWDB as Region K representative nominations was approved by the group.

9. Discuss approving LCRA to execute an amendment to the Contract with TWDB for additional committed funds. Take action as needed. – David Wheelock explained that the authorized amount and the amount under contract with AECOM do not currently match, so this amendment would match them up. A motion to approve LCRA to execute an amendment to the Contract with TWDB for additional committed funds for consultant services was approved by the RWPG.

#### 10. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. <u>Water Management Strategies Committee:</u> Lauri Gillam, Committee Chair, introduced Jaime Burke, AECOM, to give a presentation on Water Management Strategies Committee activities. There was a Committee meeting held on June 17, 2019, where presentation and discussion of the draft water management strategy evaluations ready for review was done. A discussion of costing assumptions for the Municipal Conservation was also discussed, and the Committee requested a progress status and timeline for water management strategies.
- b. Other committee reports, as needed: None.

#### 11. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Since the last meeting held on April 24, 2019, electronic versions of chapter two and three have now been sent to the RWPG for review. Approximately half of the scoped strategies are in-progress or have completed draft water management strategy evaluations at this point. Trungale Engineering has started developing the strategy version of the Region K Cutoff Model. Jaime posed questions for the group to discuss regarding water availability modeling, including Austin's Water Forward modeling and how the group should determine environmental impacts. Jennifer Walker requested that a more in-depth discussion on environmental impacts continue at a Water Management Strategies Committee meeting. Further discussion about the difference in modeling assumptions between the Region K and Water Forward models was also suggested for a Water Management Strategies Committee meeting.

The drought response activities since the last meeting have been waiting on drought preparedness council recommendations to be released. Before Chapter 7 can be released, AECOM needs to know the drought management strategies to include, so the Drought Committee may need to meet once. AECOM has also been working on preparing a comparison of the 2016 Plan and 2021 plan elements as part of the draft Chapter 11. Finally, AECOM received the Implementation Survey documentation from TWDB and are preparing an information request to send to project sponsors.

b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, informed the group that upcoming efforts will focus on finishing the draft water management strategies evaluation, including meeting with the Water Management Strategies Committee and Water Modeling Committee, as needed. Jaime said they are aiming to complete draft evaluations for strategies by September/October. The draft for Chapter 4 needs to be sent to RWPG for review, and AECOM is currently receiving comments on Draft Chapter 3 and will send those to the RWPG to review. Additionally, AECOM will be working on the Implementation Survey and meeting with the Legislative and Policy Committee. Lastly, work will be done on the incorporation of the new HB 807 requirements.

12. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, gave an update on draft plan chapters out for review. LCRA submitted comments on Draft Chapter 2, including a question on whether a section on the story of Matagorda Bay should be left in the plan. Jennifer Walker suggested that it should be left in the plan. LCRA also suggested being consistent with the name "Austin" versus "City of Austin"; Teresa Lutes suggested that since the Water User Groups are utility-based, the name should be Austin Water. David Wheelock noted the need for there to be coordination with LCRA on David Lindsay's edits on certain sections.

David Lindsay suggested referring to Brazos River Authority (BRA) and Corpus Christi demands, as relates to HB 1437, in Chapter 2. Corpus Christi is included in Chapter 3 because of their run-of-river (ROR) water right. BRA is listed as an LCRA commitment. David Wheelock agrees with Mr. Lindsay's suggestion that it should be discussed in text, but noted that it might need to be explained in more detail how HB1437 will be incorporated. David Lindsay also had comments related to HB 807 in Draft Chapter 2.

AECOM would like comments on Draft Chapter 1, which is out for review by the full RWPG, back before the October Region K meeting, if possible. Note that comments can be submitted after the October Region K meeting as well. Comments on Draft Chapter 3, which is out for review by the Water Modeling Committee, are requested by August 16<sup>th</sup>. Again, comments can still be submitted after this initial comment period.

- 13. Presentation and discussion of draft water management strategies ready for RWPG review. Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained to the group that the strategies discussed in this section have been reviewed by the Water Management Strategies Committee and are ready for review by the full RWPG. No action is requested, just discussion and comments. The group should send Jaime any comments they have, so that they can be shared at the October Region K meeting.
  - a. <u>Municipal Drought Management</u>: Jaime provided an overview of the Municipal Drought Management strategy. It is an update to the strategy recommended in the 2016 Plan. Demand reductions for this strategy are calculated from percentages based on GPCD.
  - b. <u>Burnet County Regional Projects</u>: Burnet County Regional projects include projects for Buena Vista, East Lake Buchanan, and the Marble Falls System. Rob Ruggerio suggested an edit to include language on the possibility of needing to restore disturbed or disrupted sites.
  - c. <u>City of Austin water management strategies</u>: Teresa Lutes gave a presentation to the group outlining the portion of Austin's water management strategies that are ready for review by the full RWPG. The strategies include Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Off-Channel Reservoir with Evaporation Suppressant, Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting, Capture Local Inflows to Lady Bird Lake, Indirect Potable Reuse through Lady Bird Lake, Lake Austin Operations, and Austin Conservation. Discussion, questions, and answers followed the presentation.
  - d. <u>South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company (STPNOC) (Matagorda Steam-Electric) water management strategies</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, described the various STPNOC water management strategies. These included Alternate Canal Delivery and Brackish Surface Water Blending. Jason Ludwig explained that there is no additional cost for blending since it would occur in an existing reservoir.

- 14. Update on additional working draft water management strategies. Jaime Burke, AECOM, gave an update on several strategies that have working drafts but are not ready for full RWPG review yet.
  - a. <u>Municipal Conservation</u>: The Municipal Conservation strategy has been discussed at several Water Management Strategies Committee meetings. Jaime presented cost assumptions for the strategy.
  - b. <u>Reuse</u>: Jaime described the various reuse opportunities, including centralized direct non-potable reuse, decentralized direct non-potable, direct potable, and indirect potable reuse. AECOM is coordinating with Water User Group representatives to include details for each project, and additional funding may need to be allocated to this scope.
  - c. <u>Expand Use of Local Groundwater</u>: This strategy would involve pumping additional groundwater from an aquifer that a Water User Group currently uses as a source, either using existing wells or by drilling new ones.
  - d. <u>Development of New Groundwater Supplies</u>: This strategy would involve drilling new wells to pump groundwater from an aquifer that a Water User Group does not currently uses as a source.
  - e. <u>Wharton Water Supply Strategy</u>: Jaime described several strategies for Wharton Water Supply, including converting a groundwater irrigator to surface water, a new groundwater wellfield, Aquifer Storage and Recovery, and a firm supply contract with LCRA.
- 15. Presentation on Brackish Resources Aquifer Characterization System (BRACS) study mapping and characterizing brackish groundwater in the Hill Country Trinity Aquifer Mark Robinson, TWDB presented to the group on the BRACS study being done by TWDB. In his presentation, Mark described what brackish groundwater is and discussed aquifer geology, brackish groundwater zone designation and next steps. The presented slides are available on the Region K website.
- 16. Update on the upper Colorado rainfall-runoff study. Jordan Furnans, LRE Water, gave an update the group on the results of an upper Colorado rainfall-runoff study. The results are still in draft form and will be reviewed by TWDB before being finalized. This study is a followon to one performed by Kirk Kennedy previously. The majority of the study area was upstream, in Region F. Jordan explained that his results showed that there was less rain more often, which, because of the decreased intensity, could be related to decreased runoff. The study also looked at the effects of the proliferation of small ponds and temperature trends, among other things.

## 17. Agenda items for next meeting -

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u> The next RWPG meeting will be on October 9, 2019.
- b. <u>Other committee meetings</u> None.
- 18. New / Other Business None.
- 19. Public Comments None.
- 20. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting October 9, 2019

LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 Christianne Castleberry, Alternate for Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Terry Bray, Alternate for Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Charles Olfers, Agriculture Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Alicia Reinmund- Martinez, GMA 10

## Voting Members Absent:

John Burke, Water Utilities, Alternate Attended Jim Luther, Counties

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Patricia Lopez, TWDB Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for guorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties

Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Larry McManus, Non-Voting, TDA Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSSWCB

Barbara Johnson, Industries, Alternate Attended Paul Sliva, Agriculture

David Lindsay, Alternate for Recreation Monica Masters, LCRA Katie Snipes, SWCA David Villerral, TDA Teal Harrison, NWF Leah Martinson, TAGD

# Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The minutes from the July 10, 2019 Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) meeting were approved as amended.
- 2. The Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) approved a motion to define "Significant Needs" for water in the planning process as non-agricultural needs over 10,000 acre-feet per year.
- The LCRWPG approved a motion to amend the Task 5A Scope of Work for evaluating water management strategies to include additional scope of work items and budget reallocations; and to authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for the amendment and to execute the subsequent contract amendment.

## **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Vice Chairman David Wheelock called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Vice Chairman David Wheelock welcomed all to the meeting. Brooke Paup, Texas Water Development Board Member, was in attendance and addressed the group. Board Member Paup thanked the planning group for its service.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 6 through 11 None.
- 4. **Attendance Report** Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. **Approval of Minutes from the July 10, 2019 regular meeting** A motion to approve the minutes as amended from the regular July 10, 2019 meeting was approved by the group.

Note: As discussed at the July 10, 2019 Region K meeting, LCRA will plan to provide a written financial report for review, as opposed to having a standing agenda item for a verbal financial report. The plan will be to send the report out as part of the meeting packet in the future.

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u> – Lann Bookout, TWDB liaison to Region K, provided an update on water planning activities and schedules. Region K requested that TWDB develop a socioeconomic impact analysis. That analysis will be complete later this year. TWDB staff can be available to give a presentation of the analysis if the RWPG requests one. Relating to new legislation from the most recent legislative cycle, TWDB is planning to request that draft rules be published in November, which will start the public comment process.

## 7. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

a. <u>Water Management Strategies Committee</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on the Water Management Strategies (WMS) Committee. The WMS Committee met several times since the last full RWPG meeting, with the first Committee meeting on August 8<sup>th</sup>. At that meeting, the Committee discussed water management strategy modeling options, and draft water management strategy evaluations that were ready for Committee review. Additionally, there was an update and further discussion for the draft Expand Use of Local Groundwater, the draft Development of New Groundwater Supplies, and the draft Irrigation Conservation water management strategy evaluations. The WMS Committee met again on September 16<sup>th</sup> and discussed a request for strategies from Goldthwaite, reviewed changes to draft strategies based on committee comments, and had a presentation and discussion of draft water management strategy evaluations ready for review. These included Expand Use of Local Groundwater, Develop New Groundwater, Ocean Desalination, Direct Reuse, and Downstream Return Flows. There was also an update and discussion on Irrigation Conservation, several LCRA strategies, and Contracts and purchase strategies.

The committee met on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to review changes of the draft strategies based on committee comments. The Committee also had presentation and discussion of draft water management strategy evaluations ready for committee review, including Direct Portable Reuse, Non-Municipal Conservation, Irrigation Drought Management, Hays County Groundwater Importation, Brush Management, and Wharton Water Supply. The Committee also discussed the definition of "Significant Needs" for water and a potential amendment to Task 5A Scope of Work.

b. <u>Legislative and Policy Committee:</u> The Legislative and Policy Committee met on August 29<sup>th</sup> to review legislative policy recommendations from the 2016 plan. Mostly from committee member volunteers, the Committee identified which Committee members would be responsible for reviewing the recommended policy sections and providing updates for committee review.

Another meeting was held on October 9<sup>th</sup>, where the Committee met to begin discussion of the proposed edits. This discussion included edits to: management of surface water resources: inter-basin transfers and model linking, groundwater, the coordination of planning cycles for determination of desired future conditions by Groundwater Conservation Districts and generation of the regional water plan by RWPGs, and inflows to the Highland Lakes.

c. Other committee reports, as needed.

It was noted that the Nominating Committee will need to soon meet to prepare for the election in January 2020 of Executive Committee members for the year.

#### 8. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, gave an update on the consultant progress to date. Since the last RPWG meeting, AECOM has been working to incorporate draft report comments from the Water Modeling Committee into Draft Chapter 3. For Water Management Strategies, all scoped strategies now have draft water management strategy evaluations that either ready-for-review or in-progress. Additionally, AECOM worked with Goldthwaite on a requested strategy, developed a strategy version of the Water Availability Model, and help three WMS Committee meetings. Consultant progress to date also includes incorporating Drought Preparedness Council recommendations and preparing a request for information to send to project sponsors to fill out the TWDB Implementation Survey.

- b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Upcoming consultant efforts include finishing draft WMSs and facilitating the RWPG reviewing and making an initial decision on Recommended vs. Alternative vs. Considered strategies for the 2021 Plan at the November meeting. The Chapter 3 comments need to be addressed, and the Chapter 4 and 7 drafts need to be finished and sent out for review. The Implementation Survey from TWDB also needs to be sent to the Water User Groups and Wholesale Water Providers.
- 9. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received AECOM Jaime Burke, AECOM, informed the group that draft Chapter 2, Population and Water Demands, is out for review and the comments received from LCRA and Dave Lindsay were discussed at the July RWPG meeting. No additional comments on Chapter 2 have been received. Chapter 1, Regional Water Planning Area Description, is out for RWPG review. Dave Lindsay is working on a draft update to Appendix 1B that will be provided for review when ready. Chapter 3, Water Availability and Supplies, has been sent to the Water Modeling Committee for review and AECOM is currently working to address the comments received, at which point they will send out the chapter for RWPG review.
- 10. Presentation and discussion of daft water management strategies ready for RWPG review, and update on any remaining working draft water management strategies AECOM. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on draft water management strategies ready for RWPG review. These strategies were reviewed by the WMS Committee and recommended for review by the planning group. No action is requested for these WMSs at this meeting, the strategies will be presented and discussed at this point. The municipal drought management strategy, Burnet County Regional projects, some Austin strategies, and STPNOC strategies were previously presented at the July meeting. The strategies presented today for discussion are shown below. More detail on each strategy can be found in the consultant presentation.
  - BS/EACD Edwards/Middle Trinity ASR
  - BS/EACD Saline Edwards ASR
  - Municipal Conservation
  - Rainwater Harvesting
  - Downstream Return Flows
  - Oceanwater Desalination
  - Expand Use of Local Groundwater
  - Development of New Groundwater Supplies
  - Direct Reuse
  - Direct Portable Reuse
  - a. Include discussion of Region K's definition of "significant needs", as pertains to the <u>new HB807 requirement</u> "if a RWPA has significant identified water needs, provides a specific assessment of the potential for aquifer storage and recovery projects to meet those needs" (TWC §16.053(e)(10)). Take action as needed: Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that the RWPG needs to define a threshold for "significant needs". Jennifer Walker made a motion to define "significant needs" for water in the planning process as non-agricultural needs over 10,000 acre-feet per year. Jim Brasher seconded, and the RWPG approved the motion.

# 11. Potential Task 5A Scope of Work Amendment for evaluation of water management strategies. – AECOM

Discuss and consider potential additional scope of work item(s) and budget allocations for amending the Task 5A Scope of Work for evaluation of water management strategies: Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained to the RWPG that they were considering possible needed additional strategy scope of work items to be added but determined that none are needed at this point. The RPWG previously discussed the possible need for requesting additional funding from allocated money for the reuse strategy. After the Austin Conservation strategy scope and budget were submitted to TWDB for approval, TWDB needed AECOM to pull Austin Blackwater and Greywater Reuse and Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting out as separate strategies. No additional budget was allocated at the time, but a request to increase the budget for all three items to accommodate this change was made. Due to additional WUGs for the reuse strategies, coordination with WUGs, and individualized strategy details, AECOM is requesting that the budget for the reuse strategy increase from \$14,000 to \$28,000.

- a. <u>Receive public comments on amending the Task 5A Scope of work for evaluating</u> water management strategies for potential additional scope of work item(s) and <u>budget reallocations</u>: None.
- b. <u>Consider and take action on amending the Task 5A Scope of work for evaluating water management strategies for potential additional scope of work item(s) and budget reallocations; and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for the amendment and to execute the subsequent contract amendment: Daniel Bergland motioned to approve the amendment as requested, Mike Reagor seconded, and the RWPG approved the motion.</u>

## 12. Agenda items for next meeting -

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next meeting will be held on November 13, 2019 at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center. After November, the full RWPG meeting dates will be January 15, 2020 at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center, February 5 and February 18, 2020 at the LCRA Redbud Center.
- b. <u>Other committee meetings</u>: Doodle polls will be sent to determine the best dates for upcoming committee meetings.

## 13. New / Other business (time permitting) - None.

- 14. Public Comments None.
- 15. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman David Wheelock at 1:37pm.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting November 13, 2019 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 Jim Luther, Counties Paul Babb, Alternate for GMA 9 Earl Foster, Alternate for Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental David Lindsay, Alternate for Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Alicia Reinmund- Martinez, GMA 10 Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Lawrence Brown Jr., Non-Voting, Alternate for TSSWCB

# Voting Members Absent:

Ron Fieseler, GMA 9, Alternated Attended Lauri Gillam, Municipalities, Alternated Attended Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Charles Olfers, Agriculture Doug Powell, Recreation, Alternate Attended Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Mike Thuss, WRA Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Katie McNeal, Austin Water Steven Van Kampen-Lewis, SWCA Christianne Castleberry, Alt. for Water Utilities Stefan Schuster, Aqua Strategies Charlie Flatten, HCA Monica Masters, LCRA Joe Trungale, TES Rebecca Batchelder David Villarreal, TDA Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law

Adam Connor, FNI

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The minutes from the October 9, 2019 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. The LCRWPG approved the initial determination of which water management strategies would be considered as recommended, alternative, or considered for drafting Chapter 5

# Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:00 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 numbers 6 through 12 None.
- 4. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review. The budget report from LCRA was also included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2019 regular meeting The group approved a motion by David Wheelock, and seconded, to approve the minutes as presented from the regular October 9, 2019 meeting. Mr. Wheelock commended the efforts of the Austin Water staff members who prepare the regular meeting minutes.

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB liaison to Region K, provided an update on water planning activities and schedules. TWDB has sent an Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) review checklist to planning group consultants, and also sent information about Infrastructure Financing Report (IFR) surveys. Other information about sociogenic impact studies will hopefully get sent out sometime late December.

## 7. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. <u>Water Modeling Committee</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on the Water Modeling Committee meeting held on October 23, 2019. At that meeting, the Committee reviewed comments received on draft Chapter 3 from LCRA and David Lindsay. The Committee also discussed changes to surface water availability estimates for STPNOC based on comments from LCRA.
- b. <u>Water Management Strategies Committee</u>: Jaime Burke provided an update on the Water Management Strategies (WMS) Committee meeting held on October 31, 2019. At that meeting, the Committee discussed changes to draft strategies based on committee comments. The Committee also saw a presentation and discussed draft water management strategy evaluations ready for Committee review.
- c. <u>Legislative and Policy Committee</u>: Jaime Burke provided an update on the Legislative and Policy Committee meeting held on November 1, 2019. At that meeting, the Committee discussed proposed edits to draft Chapter 8 sections.
- d. <u>Other committee reports, as needed</u>: Ann McElroy, Chair of the Nominating Committee, provided an update on the Nominating Committee meeting held on

November 13, 2019. They Committee is proposing a slate of candidates for the executive team which will be voted on by the LCRWPG at the January 2020 meeting. The nominations are as follows:

- John Burke Chairman
- David Wheelock Vice Chair
- Teresa Lutes Secretary
- Ron Fieseler At Large
- Jason Ludwig At Large
- Byron Theodosis At Large

#### 8. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

a. <u>Progress to date:</u> Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on consultant efforts. Since the last meeting, the consultant has worked on Chapter 3 of 2021 Plan, which is the Water Availability and Supplies chapter. The consultant received comments and suggested edits from LCRA and David Lindsay, and the Water Modeling Committee met to discuss some of the comments. AECOM is working to address all comments prior to sending the draft chapter out to the LCRWPG and plans to distribute the draft within the next two weeks.

AECOM has also been working to address remaining water management strategies. All but three of the scoped strategy write-ups have been completely drafted. Most have received either committee or LCRWPG review with comments addressed. One WMS Committee meeting was held since the last Region K meeting, and AECOM will be presenting strategies today in order to move forward with Chapter 5 and 6 text development.

Since the last LCRWPG meeting, the consultant has also been working to prepare implementation and comparison surveys for the WUGs. The surveys will hopefully be sent in the next couple of weeks and AECOM will keep the group updated on information received.

- b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Upcoming efforts for AECOM include incorporating Chapter 3 (Water Availability and Supplies) comments from the Water Modeling Committee and sending that draft chapter out to LCRWPG for review. Chapters 4 and 7 need to be completed and sent out for review as well. Chapter 5 will be composed largely of compiled water management strategy (WMS) memos, and once that is complete, the draft chapter will be sent out to the LCRWPG for review. AECOM will also begin drafting Chapter 6 (Impacts of Regional Water Plan), which includes cumulative impacts modeling. Lastly, implementation surveys will be sent out to Water User Groups/Wholesale Water Providers and work on remaining chapters will begin.
- 9. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received AECOM. Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that both draft Chapters 1 and 2 are out for LCRWPG review. Chapter 2 has not received any comments yet, but David Lindsay has completed a draft update to Appendix 1B that will be sent out for review in the next couple weeks. Comments have been received for Chapter 2 and are being addressed. Draft chapter 3 will be sent out to the RWPG in the next couple of weeks after comments from the committee are addressed.

10. Presentation and discussion of draft water management strategies ready for LCRWPG review, and updates on any remaining working draft water management strategies – AECOM. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented sets of drafts WMSs for the LCRWPG to review. Initially, Jaime described what strategies were presented at previous LCRWPG meetings, explaining that only strategies that had been updated since those meetings would be discussed today. These strategies are as follows:

## Presented at July 10, 2019 Meeting (13)

- Municipal Drought Management
- Burnet County Regional Projects
  - $\circ$  Buena Vista
  - East Lake Buchanan
  - Marble Falls System
- Austin
  - Aquifer Storage and Recovery
  - OCR w/ Evaporation Suppressant
  - Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting
  - Capture Local Inflows to Lady Bird Lake
  - IPR through Lady Bird Lake
  - Lake Austin Operations
  - Austin Conservation
- STPNOC
  - Alternate Canal Delivery
  - o Brackish Surface Water Blending

# Presented at October 9, 2019 Meeting (10)

- BS/EACD Edwards/Middle Trinity ASR
- BS/ EACD Saline Edwards ASR
- Municipal Conservation
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Downstream Return Flows
- Oceanwater Desalination
- Expand Use of Local Groundwater
- Development of New Groundwater Supplies
- Direct Reuse
- Direct Portable Reuse

Strategies that were presented at a previous meeting but which have been updated are listed below. Jaime provided a brief description of the updates and the LCRWPG had a discussion regarding the changes where there were questions or comments.

- BS/EACD Edwards/Middle Trinity ASR
  - Updates included added water user groups (WUGs) and changing Buda's infrastructure and sources
- BS/EACD Saline Edwards Desalination and ASR
  - Strategy will now be from saline water, with the focus on desalination and ASR meeting peaking demands
- Rainwater Harvesting
  - Updates based on feedback from TWDB that distribution-level costs such as rainwater harvesting (RWH) systems, plumbing, etc. should not be included in the Region K costing.
  - The RWPG discussed this changes to this strategy in more detail after Jaime had outlined the update. Jennifer Walker commented that the Unified Costing Model (UCM) is more useful for centralized infrastructure than it is for decentralized strategies such as RWH. She suggested including clear narrative language about how the costing was done and what types of costs are shown in the plan versus what is not included, having a cost-benefit discussion, and making a recommendation in the plan regarding the UCM use for decentralized strategies.

- Lann Bookout, TWDB, explained that under current guidelines, TWDB funding is only to provide new water supply, not to distribute existing water supply, and therefore these distribution-level costs should not be included.
- Teresa Lutes stated that she would like to have more discussion on what is considered "distribution-level" and what would be considered infrastructure needed to complete the strategy. She also suggested changing the name of the cost table from "cost of water" to something indicating that it represents the portion of a strategy that TWDB would fund, rather than the full cost of the water.
- David Wheelock commented that since cost is a nearly universal metric, it would be good to include the actual costs of a RWH system in the plan. He suggested including the costs in a write-up, as well as providing more detail on the assumptions used to generate the cost numbers.
- David Lindsay pointed out that the cost for a RWH system is also very dependent on whether it is retrofitted into an existing home or with new construction and suggested that the difference in cost be mentioned in the plan.
- Development of New Groundwater Yegua-Jackson Aquifer
  - Updates based on adding Smithville and updating land costs in Fayette County; could consider doing one recommended and one alternative strategy.
- Expand Local Use of Groundwater -Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer
  - Updates based on change to mining use, which reduced the strategy yield a bit. The Bertram Quarry Reservoir was initially included as groundwater, but it has now been reclassified as a surface water source, resulting in reduced groundwater yield.
- Direct Potable Reuse
  - This strategy was reviewed for potential distribution-level costs that may need to be removed, but no changes were made.
- Direct Non-Potable Reuse
  - This strategy was revised to remove distribution-level costs.
  - David Wheelock commented that there are lots of questions about how to pay for purple pipe systems, and that we should have a discussion with TWDB about funding for these systems so the LCRWPG can weigh in.

Alicia Smiley, AECOM, then presented on non-major water provider strategies. Details about each of the specific strategies can be found in the consultant presentation for this meeting. The LCRWPG discussed strategies in more detail throughout the presentation where there were comments and questions.

- Water Supply Infrastructure Development
  - Subject to change based on TCEQ decision on whether it is a surface or groundwater source.
- Mining Conservation
- Groundwater Importation Hays County Pipeline
  - David Wheelock commented that the purchase of water cost in the costing table for this strategy seems low. Jaime explained that the cost is based on the price to purchase water from the Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA), and that the treatment and transportation of the water

is included in the Region L plan. Mr. Wheelock explained that he thought the purchasing cost for Region K should include the full cost to purchase, treat, and move the water. Jaime said she would look at ways to include more description of the full project cost in the write-up.

- Groundwater Importation Alliance Regional Water
  - Ann McElroy asked if there had been any analysis done on the economic effects on surrounding areas for importation projects. Ms. Smiley explained that there are opportunities for feedback during the public comment period, as well as diverse stakeholder interests on the LCRWPG that could highlight issues.
  - David Lindsay suggested that AECOM look at how much of the strategy is tapping available water versus unavailable water, e.g. the modeled available groundwater (MAG).
- New Water Purchase and Water Purchase Amendments
  - One of the WUGs that was included in this strategy was Llano, which had a very high unit cost of water. Mike Reagor explained that Llano is not planning to purchase millions of dollars of water; instead, the strategy would be used only as an emergency supply to truck in water over a matter of days, not on an annual basis as shown in the plan. Ms. Smiley said that they could look at including more narrative in the write-up to explain the emergency basis. Jaime pointed out that because Llano shows an identified need in 2020, it is necessary to include a noninfrastructure WMS for 2020, which this purchase strategy fulfills.
  - David Wheelock commented that although that might be the case, it doesn't seem correct to represent a strategy which we know would be infeasible on an annual basis as being used for a whole year. He further commented that maybe the group should acknowledge that it can't meet the 2020 need rather than identifying a "paper" solution to meet a "paper" shortage. David offered to meet with Mike Reagor and Alicia Smiley to see if there is an alternative to include in the plan.
  - Mike Reagor explained that Llano is currently in the process of developing a future water supply plan, which will include a plan for emergency water supplies. Alicia said that she could look at adjusting the percentage of drought management and conservation for Llano to sync with that plan and see how that affects the 2020 shortage.
- Brush Management
  - Byron Theodosis asked about the scope of this strategy, and Jaime explained that the scope was limited to a study area based on previous study regarding brush management.
- Wharton Water Supply
- Reservoir Capacity Expansion
  - Mike Reagor explained that this strategy would be intended to avoid reservoirs going to near-zero levels, where water quality is much poorer. Lann Bookout, TWDB, commented that the strategy can be evaluated but not recommended, as it has no firm yield associated with it. If the group has concerns about these criteria, Lann suggested writing them up and submitting them to the TWDB.
- Goldthwaite Water Supply
  - Mike Reagor pointed out that this strategy was similar to the Reservoir Capacity Expansion in that it provides no firm yield.

- Ann McElroy commented that she would like to get more information from Goldthwaite about the project before making a decision to include it in the plan.
- Irrigation Drought Management

After the non-major water provider strategies, AECOM presented on new and revised Austin WMSs, as listed below. Details about each of the specific strategies can be found in the consultant presentation for this meeting. Several of the Austin WMSs, including decentralized strategies, were revised based on TWDB's guidance to remove "distribution-level" costs from the analysis. The LCRWPG discussed Austin WMSs in more detail as needed throughout the presentation.

- Austin Blackwater and Greywater Reuse
- Austin Onsite Rainwater and Storm Water Harvesting/Community-Scale
   Stormwater Harvesting
  - Teresa Lutes commented that the O&M costs for this strategy should be included in the write-up along with the facility costs, and that a similar approach be used for other WMSs where "distribution-level" costs were stripped out.
- Austin Decentralized Direct Non-Potable Reuse
- Austin Centralized Direct Non-Potable Reuse
  - Jaime Burke, AECOM, noted that costs for this WMS would need to be examined to determine if any "distribution-level" costs should be removed. Jaime also noted that those costs are allowed if the distribution is to another WUG, such as steam-electric.
- Austin Brackish Groundwater Desalination
  - This strategy was updated so that water is coming from saline portions of the Trinity and Edwards Aquifers.
  - Jennifer Walker asked if the Region K costs were similar to Water Forward costs for a similar strategy. Teresa Lutes responded that the costs were slightly different because the strategy in Region K is sourcing water from two aquifers, but overall the costs were similar.
- Austin Return Flows

Next, AECOM presented on new and revised Irrigation Conservation strategies, as listed below. Details about each of the specific strategies can be found in the consultant presentation for this meeting. The LCRWPG discussed strategies in more detail as needed throughout the presentation.

- On-Farm Conservation
- Irrigation Operations Conveyance Improvements
- Drip Irrigation for Non-Rice Crops
- Real-Time Metering and Monitoring
- Sprinkler Irrigation
- Tail Water Recovery

Finally, AECOM presented on LCRA strategies, as listed below. Details about each of the specific strategies can be found in the consultant presentation for this meeting. The LCRWPG discussed strategies in more detail as needed throughout the presentation.

- Expand Use of Groundwater in Bastrop County
- Alternative Expand Use of Groundwater in Bastrop County
- Groundwater Supply for Fayette Power Plant off-site
- Groundwater Supply for Fayette Power Plant on-site
- Alternative Groundwater Supply for Fayette Power Plant on-site
- Baylor Creek Reservoir
- LCRA Contract Amendments
- LCRA Contract Amendments with Infrastructure
- LCRA New Contracts
- LCRA New Contracts with Infrastructure
  - David Wheelock requested that the footnote be changed to reflect removing the volume from the Highland Lakes or other sources.
- LCRA Import Return Flows from Williamson County
- LCRA Amendments to Water Management Plan
- LCRA Enhanced Municipal and Industrial Conservation
- LCRA Amendments to Existing Water Rights
- Alternative LCRA Brackish Groundwater Desalination
- Alternative LCRA Groundwater Importation from Carrizo-Wilcox
- Alternative LCRA Supplement Environmental Flows with Brackish Groundwater
- LCRA Excess Flows Off-Channel Reservoir
  - Barbara Johnson asked if it was actually feasible for this strategy to be online by 2030, especially in light of the permitting and land acquisition that would be needed. David Wheelock responded that although LCRA has already begun permitting, the 2030 timeframe may be ambitious, so they will consider possibly pushing the implementation back to 2040.
- LCRA Mid-Basin Off-Channel Reservoir
- LCRA Draft Strategies:
  - o LCRA Prairie Reservoir
  - LCRA Enhanced Recharge and Conjunctive Use
  - o LCRA ASR in Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer
- 11. Initial Determination of draft water management strategies as recommended, alternative, or considered, to allow for drafting of Chapter 5 text. Take action on initial determination. AECOM. Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that they would like to move forward on drafting Chapters 5 and 6. AECOM would like the RWPG to make an initial determination on whether each strategy is recommended, alternative, or considered. Jaime explained that the determination can change before the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) is submitted, or up until final adoption of the plan.

Some strategies need to be "alternative" based on their sources and yields. Some WUGs may have multiple strategies to meet a need, and one strategy can be recommended, while another is "alternative". Suggested "alternative" strategies include Expand Use of Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, several LCRA strategies, and potentially a Smithville strategy.

"Considered" strategies generally either don't have enough detail, or don't meet the regional water planning requirements. Some of the suggested "Considered" strategies are the Goldthwaite strategies related to reservoir expansion, reuse and water right permitting; Reservoir Capacity Expansion; Oceanwater Desalination (no project sponsor); Irrigation Conservation; and Aquifer Storage and Recovery (general strategy that was not applied to any WUG).

AECOM's suggestion was that all strategies other than the considered and alternative strategies mentioned be recommended by the RWPG for their respective WUGs and MWPs. Daniel Berglund moved to approve the initial determination of which water management strategies would be considered as recommended, alternative, or considered for drafting Chapter 5. Teresa Lutes seconded the motion, and the group approved the motion.

12. Presentation and discussion of draft legislative/policy recommendations ready for RWPG review. – AECOM. Jaime Burke, AECOM, provided an update on legislative and policy recommendation ready for review by the group. For recommendations related to groundwater, Jim Brasher provided minor language changes to policy, expanded the discussion on Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) Peak Factors, and provided discussion on the utilization and permitting of brackish water. For recommendations related to potential impacts to agricultural and rural water supplies, David Van Dresar and Jim Brasher reviewed the existing policy language and suggested no changes. David Van Dresar and Jim Brasher also reviewed the agricultural water conservation policy and removed references to the LCRA-SAWS project. Finally, the brush management policy was reviewed by David Lindsay, who coordinated with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board to make recommendations, including funding for brush control measures.

#### 13. Agenda items for next meeting -

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next meeting will be held on January 15, 2020 at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center. The following two meetings will be held on February 5 and February 18, 2020 at the LCRA Redbud Center.
- b. <u>Other committee meetings</u>: The Policy Committee will need to meet at a day and time to be determined.
- 14. New / Other business (time permitting) None.
- **15. Public Comments** None.
- 16. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 2:21 pm.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting January 15, 2020 LCRA Dalchau Service Center 3505 Montopolis Drive, Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Jim Luther, Counties Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities

#### Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business David Caldwell, GMA 10 Charles Olfers, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties, Alternate attended David Van Dresar, Water Districts

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jordan Furnans, LRW Water Daniel Bulosas, CTWC Miguel Morales, Austin Water Melissa Alderson, TPWD Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Earl Foster, Lakeway MUD Charlie Flatten, HCA Martin Handly, SWCA Christianne Castleberry, Alternate for Water Utilities

## Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest David Villarreal, TDA Christiane Alepuz, CAPCOG Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Joe Trungale, TES Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law David Lindsay, Alternate for Recreation

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

1. The Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) approved the recommended candidates for the Executive Committee and Officers.

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 Emil Uecker, Alternate for Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Ron Ellis, Non-Voting, Alternate for TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA

- 2. The minutes from the November 13, 2019 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group meeting were approved as presented.
- 3. The LCRWPG approved the inclusion of the City of Austin's Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements strategy as a recommended water management strategy in the plan.

#### Regular Meeting:

- **1.** Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.

#### 3. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations -

- a. Discuss and take action on election of Executive Committee and Officers: Anne McElroy, Committee Chair, reported that the Nominating Committee recommendations for the Executive Committee are as follows:
  - 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

Ms. McElroy also noted that all recommended candidates have agreed to serve and have been approved by the Nominating Committee. Chair Burke called for nominations from the floor and there were none. Paul Tybor made a motion to approve the recommended candidates, Ron Fieseler seconded, and the motion was approved by the LCRWPG.

- 4. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 7 through 13 None.
- 5. Attendance Report Teresa Lutes presented attendance report information, which was included in the members' packets for review. The budget report from LCRA was also included in the members' packets for review.
- 6. Approval of Minutes from the November 13, 2019 regular meeting –The LCRWPG approved a motion by Teresa Lutes and seconded by Barbara Johnson to approve the minutes as presented from the regular November 13, 2019 meeting.

## 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Ron Ellis, TWDB, informed the LCRWPG that the 2020 SWIFT application cycle opened in December 2019, and the Board will be accepting applications until February 2020. The applications are being accepted for water management strategies included in the 2017 State Water Plan. The TWDB is also currently accepting applications for agricultural water conservation grants. Public comment periods for the state flood financing, flood planning, and flood region rules ends February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The TWDB is also currently working to update the Regional Water Planning rules—these rules go to the board on February 13<sup>th</sup>, after which there will be a public comment period.

Mr. Ellis also noted that there is a planned Regional Water Planning Group chairs conference call on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## 8. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. <u>Legislative and Policy Committee</u>: Alicia Smiley, AECOM, provided an update on the Legislative and Policy Committee meeting held on December 11, 2019. At that meeting, the Committee met to discuss proposed edits to sections of Chapter 8, including:
  - Inflows to Highland Lakes (8.1.10)
  - Management of Surface Water Resources: Inter-Basin Transfers and Model Linking (8.1.1)
  - The 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)

Policy items that have already been presented to the LCRWPG include Groundwater, Potential Impacts to Agricultural and Rural Water Supplies, Agricultural Water Conservation, and Brush Management.

- b. Other Committee reports, as needed None.
- 9. Presentation and discussion of draft legislative/policy recommendations ready for RWPG review. Take action as needed. Alicia Smiley, AECOM, presented on draft legislative/policy recommendations ready for LCRWPG review. The Inflows to Highland Lakes policy was reviewed and updated by David Lindsay and Rebecca Batchelder, and now includes discussion on rainfall-runoff trends. This policy also requests a hydrologic study of the watershed providing inflows to the Highland Lakes. The Municipal/Industrial Conservation policy was updated by Teresa Lutes and includes minor languages and updated information since the last regional water planning cycle. Ms. Lutes also provided some minor language changes to the Reuse policy. Ann McElroy asked what happens to the recommendations that are included in the plan and Alicia responded that the TWDB reviews them. Ron Fieseler wanted to know how studies recommended in a policy would be funded and it was noted that it seems they would largely be funded by the TWDB if the study recommendations were to be acted upon by the state.

## 10. Consultant Status Report -

<u>Progress to date:</u> Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on the consultant's efforts since the last LCRWPG meeting. Updated drafts of Appendix 1B, Chapter 3, Chapter 4, Chapter 9, and Chapter 7 have now been sent to the LCRWPG for review. Water management strategies are almost complete, with all scoped strategy write-ups completely drafted and only addressing comments and incorporating into Chapter 5 as remaining tasks. Implementation spreadsheets were sent to WUGs; AECOM has received 17 surveys so far. Jennifer Walker asked how many surveys total were mailed out, and Jaime responded that all WUGs received one, so about 70-80 surveys.

a. <u>Upcoming effort:</u> Ms. Burke then outlined AECOM's upcoming efforts, which include updating and finishing draft Chapters 5, 6, 10, 8, and 11. Work also needs

to be completed to incorporate received comments into draft chapters, to develop an executive summary, and to perform database entry (DB22) of Water Management Strategies.

- 11. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, informed the group that draft chapters 1-4 are out for review by the LCRWPG. Comments have been received for some chapters, and AECOM is working to incorporate those. Comments can still be sent in for draft chapters. Ron Fieseler asked Jaime how long we would have to get comments in on the draft chapters, and she said the best would be prior to the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, but if that is unlikely, then just as soon as possible. Mr. Fieseler also wanted to know if any input from the rice farming community was collected for Appendix 1B. David Lindsay, who participated in drafting the appendix updates, noted that he worked with LCRA to update the information since the last cycle and others will have a chance to review the updates and much of last cycle's information is still included in the appendix. There was also discussion about the Pecos Valley Aquifer, Johnson City water needs, steam electric projects, and draft Table 4-10.
- 12. Presentation and discussion of updates to water management strategies since last Region K meeting. Take action as needed – Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on strategy updates. LCRA has requested strategy removal for the Alternative Groundwater Importation from Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer and all of its Fayette Power Project strategies from the list of "recommended" and "alternative" strategies. These strategies will be moved to the "considered" strategies category. For the Bertram WMS water source, after further discussion, AECOM is changing Bertram's reservoir source back to the Ellenburger-San Saba. Mitchell Sodek agrees that the way this strategy is now in the plan is the correct way to represent it, pending additional information.

For the Llano Shortage in the near-term timeframe, AECOM updated the reduction for Llano's drought management strategies to meet demands after conservation is applied. The emergency water purchase strategy volume would then be reduced to 177 ac-ft/yr.

For Austin's water management strategies, AECOM added O&M costs to strategies with sub-WUG level costs (Austin Blackwater and Greywater Reuse, Austin Onsite Rainwater and Storm Water Harvesting, Austin Community-Scale Stormwater Harvesting. Revised Water Supply Infrastructure Development / Expansion strategy). Teresa Lutes also explained that a Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements strategy was included as a recommended strategy in the 2016 Plan but had heretofore had not yet been brought to the group in this planning cycle. The Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements strategy is to be included in the revised Water Supply Infrastructure Development/Expansion strategy. Jennifer Walker commented that although the impacts to the environment for the Longhorn Dam strategy will likely be minimal, it should be noted that there might be some small impacts. The project team will work to address this comment in the draft strategy write-up. Teresa Lutes motioned to approve the Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements strategy as a recommended strategy for the plan, Barbara Johnson seconded, and the LCRWPG approved the motion.

To update the Brush Management water management strategy, AECOM located research showing the impacts of brush management on deep drainage. This information was used that to calculate potential additional benefits to local groundwater volumes from brush management in an amount up to 2,000 acre-feet of water. Based on this projection, that yield was allocated proportionally by geographic area to four counties in the Region K area. David

Wheelock asked if AECOM had looked at what other regional planning groups had done for brush management strategies; Jaime said that they haven't had a chance to do extensive investigation, but that some groups include it as a strategy with no yield. Ann McElroy wanted to know why San Saba County wasn't included as one of the counties receiving yield from the brush management strategy; Jaime explained that they didn't have enough data for San Saba to create a yield estimate, but could add some language about brush management in San Saba in the text.

For Rainwater Harvesting, Jaime explained that they clarified catchment and household savings and added actual cost of large-scale, single family rainwater harvesting systems. For Drip Irrigation for Non-Rice Crops, that strategy was updated to include San Saba, but they could not locate planted acres of grapes for Gillespie. Several strategies are still in progress, including Groundwater Importation: Hays County Pipeline Groundwater Importation: Alliance Regional Water Authority Pipeline.

## 13. Presentation and discussion of cumulative impacts modeling. Take action as needed.

– Joe Trungale, TES, shared a presentation on cumulative impact modeling. TWDB requires an analysis of what the cumulative impacts of the recommended water management strategies would be to the Colorado River and Matagorda Bay. Water management strategies that were included in the cumulative impacts model were:

- a. Austin Return Flows
- b. Downstream Return Flows (Pflugerville)
- c. Import Return Flows from Williamson County
- d. Austin Off-Channel Reservoir
- e. Austin Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)
- f. LCRA Enhanced Recharge and Conjunctive Use
- g. LCRA Excess Flows Off-Channel Reservoir
- h. LCRA Mid-Basin Off-Channel Reservoir
- i. Baylor Creek Reservoir
- j. LCRA Prairie Conservation Reservoir

Joe explained how these strategies were modeled and then presented results of the cumulative impacts model runs.

Teresa Lutes noted that the City of Austin Aquifer Storage and Recovery strategy is planned to pull water from Austin Water's potable system, so planned diversion locations would conceptually be from Lake Austin and upstream. Joe said he would review the model and make any corrections that may be needed in the modeling to reflect that assumption. Jennifer Walker asked how this data would be used in the plan; Jaime explained that the results would be included in Chapter 6, likely as a table or an appendix.

## 14. Agenda items for next meeting –

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next two meetings will be held on February 5 and February 18, 2020 at the LCRA Redbud Center.
- b. <u>Other Committee meetings:</u> None.

15. New / Other Business (time permitting) – Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained that for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP), the LCRWPG is required to hold a public hearing. In the past, the LCRWPG has also held public meetings prior to the public hearing. The plan needs to be available to the public and noticed 30 days prior to the public hearing. Jennifer Walker suggested that we continue to hold public meetings, and plan to one up-basin and one down-basin.

## **16.** Public Comments – None.

**17. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 12:42 pm.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting February 5, 2020 LCRA Redbud Center 3601 Lake Austin Blvd Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Jim Luther, Counties Charles Olfers, Agriculture Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robin Gary, Alternate for GMA 10

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 Emil Uecker, Alternate for Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Charlie Flatten, Alternate for Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Ron Ellis, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Larry McManus, Non-Voting, TDA Lawrence Brown, TSSWCB

## Voting Members Absent:

David Caldwell, GMA 10, Alternate attended Ann McElroy, Environmental James Sultemeier, Counties, Alternate attended Jim Totten, GMA 12 Jennifer Walker, Environmental, Alternate attended

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jordan Furnans, LRE Water Christianne Castleberry, Alternate for Water Utilities Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Helen Gerlach, Austin Water

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 23 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. The minutes from the January 15, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. The LCRWPG approved the inclusion of a Direct Potable Reuse strategy for the City of Llano as a recommended water management strategy in the plan.
- 3. The LCRWPG approved not holding two additional public meetings on the IPP this Planning Cycle.
- 4. The LCRWPG approved a motion to hold the Public Hearing on April 22, 2020 at 10:00 am and authorize LCRA to mail out the notices required for the Public Hearing, and AECOM to distribute the materials electronically to the group and alternates.

#### Regular Meeting:

- **1.** Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:01 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 numbers 6 through 13 None.
- 4. Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report and budget report from LCRA were included in the members' packets for review.
- **5.** Approval of Minutes from the January 15, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by David Wheelock and seconded by Ron Fieseler to approve the minutes as presented from the regular January 15, 2020 meeting.

#### 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Ron Ellis, TWDB, informed the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) that the TWDB is accepting applications for Agricultural Water Conservation Grants through February 19<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated that the Board will be considering a rule proposal for an update to the regional water planning rules on February 13<sup>th</sup>, after which there will be a public comment period. The proposed changes are largely updates from the last legislative session.

TWDB took action on nominations for the Interregional Planning Group, and David Wheelock was the representative chosen from Region K. An email was sent out to RWPG chairs describing the process for identifying conflicts between regions. The planning group has 60 days after submittal of the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) to notify the TWDB about any conflicts with other Regions' IPPs.

#### 7. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

a. <u>Legislative and Policy Committee</u>: Alicia Smiley, AECOM, provided an update on the Legislative and Policy Committee meeting held on January 27, 2020. At that meeting, the Committee met to discuss proposed edits to sections of Chapter 8, including the sections listed below. All discussed edits were approved to be brought forth to the LCRWPG.

- Management of Surface water Resources: Inter-Basin Transfers and Model Linking (8.1.1)
- Environmental: Instream Flows and Freshwater Inflows to Bays and Estuaries. (8.1.2)
- Environmental: Sustainable Growth, Including Impacts of Growth (8.1.3)
- Coordination of Planning Cycles for Determination of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) by GCDs and Generation of the Regional Water Plan by RWPGs (8.1.11)
- Recommended Improvements to the Regional Planning Process (8.1.12)
- Radionuclides in the Hickory and Marble Falls Aquifers (8.1.12)
- Planning for Droughts Worse than the Drought of Record (New)
- b. Other committee reports, as needed– None.
- 8. Presentation and discussion of draft legislative/policy recommendations ready for RWPG review. Take action as needed. - Alicia Smiley, AECOM, presented on draft legislative/policy recommendations ready for LCRWPG review. Several policy recommendations had previously been presented to the planning group and weren't discussed at this meeting. The policy recommendations presented at this meeting included: Management of Surface Water resources: Inter-Basin Transfers and Model linking (8.1.1); Environmental: Instream Flows and Freshwater Inflows to Bays and Estuaries (8.1.2); Environmental: Sustainable Growth, Including Impacts of Growth (8.1.3); Coordination of Planning Cycles for Determination of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) by GCDs and Generation of the Regional Water Plan by RWPGs (8.1.11); Recommended Improvements to the Regional Planning Process (8.1.12); Radionuclides in the Hickory and Marble Falls Aguifers (8.1.13); and Planning for Droughts Worse than the Drought of Record (new). Detailed information on each of the strategies discussed can be found in the consultant presentation. Ron Fieseler requested that clarification be made to section 8.1.2.1 about the wording "in sufficient". After some discussion, Jaime Burke indicated that the consultant would plan to look at this wording and suggest an alternate for consideration for inclusion at the next meeting. The plan will be to consider the Chapter 8 legislative/policy recommendations at the February 18th for inclusion in the IPP.

#### 9. Consultant Status Report –

<u>Progress to date:</u> Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on the consultant's efforts since the last LCRWPG meeting. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 9 were previously sent out to RWPG. Chapter 5 of the 2021 Plan, Water Management Strategies, has revised strategies based on previous LCRWPG discussion and is ready for review, minus appendices and table numbering. Chapter 8 of the 2021 Plan, Unique Stream Segments and Reservoir Site and Legislative/Policy Recommendations, is ready for review and has been sent to the planning group. Chapter 11 of 2021 Plan, Implementation and Comparison to the Previous Regional Water Plan, has been sent to RWPG for review.

a. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Jaime also outlined AECOM's upcoming efforts, which include database entry (DB22) of water management strategies, completing draft Chapters 6 and 10, incorporating received comments, developing the Executive Summary, and completing the IPP deliverables and submittal.

10. Presentation and discussion of any updates to water management strategy evaluations. Take action as needed. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on Water Management Strategies (WMSs) that were updated since the last meeting, including Groundwater Importation: Hays County Pipeline, Austin's Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements WMS, and Expansion of Groundwater – Ellenburger-San Saba Aquifer.

In addition to those strategies, the Llano Water Purchase WMS was amended to 177 ac-ft/yr for the 2020 decade only. A Direct Portable Reuse WMS was added for the City of Llano Water User Group (WUG), per a request by the WUG for use in emergency drought conditions. The LCRWPG approved a motion to include a new Direct Potable Reuse strategy for the City of Llano as a recommended WMSs in Chapter 5 for the IPP. The motion was made by David Van Dresar and seconded by Terry Bray.

- 11. Presentation and discussion of any updates to cumulative impact modeling. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, informed the group that they did not have additional model results to present at this meeting. Any updated results will be sent out as part of Draft Chapter 6 and discussed at the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- 12. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented the various comments that have been received on the draft chapters out for review. More detail is included in the slides of the consultant presentation, edits to Draft Chapters 1, 3, 4, and 8 were presented. Jaime also presented on Draft Chapters 5, 6, 7, 10, and 11, which are out for review or will soon be sent out for review.
- **13.** Discuss potential dates for public hearing and optional public meetings. Take action as needed. David Wheelock, LCRA, and Jaime Burke, AECOM, explained how the public hearing and meeting process works. AECOM is required to submit an IPP to the TWDB by March 3, 2020. Before the plan is finally adopted, Region K is required to have a Public Hearing and a public comment period. To accommodate the timeline, Region K is currently looking at Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 10 am as the date and time of the Public Hearing, to be held Austin at either LCRA's Dalchau Service Center or Redbud Center. The IPP needs to be available at least 30 days before the Public Hearing. The planning group must provide notice of the Public Hearing at least 30 days prior to the event. After the Public Hearing, there is a 60-day public comment period where the public can submit written comments on the IPP.

In the past, Region K has held two additional public meetings during the 60-day comment period following the public hearing. The public meetings are optional, and not required by the TWDB. There was discussion of possibly holding public meetings in Burnet and Wharton Counties during in the May timeframe. Teresa Lutes commented on her support of holding additional public meetings but wanted to hear what others think especially those in the upper and lower basin counties. In the past there has not been much public attendance at the additional public meetings. Daniel Berglund pointed out that all the relevant information is available electronically, so an additional public meeting may not be necessary. After discussion, the group generally concurred that additional public meetings did not need to be scheduled at this time. It was discussed that the IPP and information on the comment process should be shared with GMAs and the planning groups members and alternates so that the information can be distributed to interested parties. A motion to not hold two additional public meetings on the IPP this Planning Cycle was approved. The motion was made by Karen Haschke and seconded by Ron Fieseler.

14. Discuss and take action to authorize the political subdivision (LCRA) to prepare and mail out the notices required for public hearings. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, described the notice procedure for the public hearing. LCRA will mail hard copies of the notice to an extensive list of recipients that includes water user groups, water rights holders, and county judges, among others. Additionally, the notice will be posted on the Region K website, with the County Clerk's office, and at a library in each county. The notice includes information on where information related to the IPP and the planning process can be found. No action will be taken at the Public Hearing, thus a quorum of planning group members is not required. The LCRWPG approved a motion to hold the Public Hearing on April 22, 2020 at 10:00 am and authorize LCRA to mail out the notices required for the Public Hearing, and AECOM to distribute the materials electronically to the group and alternates. The motion was made by Terry Bray and seconded by Daniel Berglund. The Public Hearing is planned to be held in Austin at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center with the LCRA Redbud Center as a back-up location.

#### 15. Agenda items for next meeting.

a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next meeting will be held on February 18, 2020 at the LCRA Redbud Center. Please note that this is a Tuesday.

After the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the following LCRWPG Regular Meeting will need to be held in the July/August/September time-frame after comments on the IPP have been received. Participants should hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in July, August, and September for a future LCRWPG Regular Meeting. The final regional water plan is due to TWDB in early October 2020.

b. <u>Other Committee meetings</u>: Committees will likely not need to meet again until July. There may be a need to meet in August or September to go over public comments.

#### 16. New / Other Business (time permitting). – None.

- **17. Public Comments** None.
- **18. Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 11:33 a.m.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting February 18, 2020 LCRA Redbud Center 3601 Lake Austin Blvd Austin, Texas 10:00 a.m.

#### Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Jim Luther, Counties Ann McElroy, Environmental Doug Powell, Recreation Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robin Gary, Alternate for GMA 10 Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 Emil Uecker, Alternate for Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA Lawrence Brown, Non-Voting, TSSWCB

#### Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Charles Olfers, Agriculture David Caldwell, GMA 10, Alternate attended Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties, Alternate attended Jim Totten, GMA 12

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest Joe Trungale, TES Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Maxwell Hoffpauir, Self David Villarreal, TDA David Lindsay, Alternate for Recreation Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis, SWCA Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business Monica Masters, LCRA Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Charlie Flatten, Alt. for Environmental Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Helen Gerlach, Austin Water

## <u>Quorum:</u>

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 20 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

# Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. David Lindsay was approved by the LCRWPG as the recreation interest category voting member to replace Doug Powell.
- 2. The minutes from the February 5, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.
- 3. The LCRWPG approved a motion to adopt the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) with approved edits, authorize the consultant team to prepare final copies of the revised IPP and associated deliverables, and submit the deliverable to the Texas Water Development Board no later than March 3, 2020.
- 4. The LCRWPG approved a motion to hold a public meeting to present the Initially Prepared Plan in Burnet.

# Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Discuss resignation of Doug Powell as Recreation interest and replacement. Take action as needed. Doug Powell thanked the group and made a motion to have David Lindsay take over as the recreation interest group member. Teresa Lutes seconded the motion, and the group approved David Lindsay as the recreation interest category voting member to replace Doug Powell.
- 4. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 7 through 14 None.
- 5. Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report and budget report from LCRA were included in the members' packets for review.
- 6. Approval of Minutes from the February 5, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by Paul Tybor and seconded by Karen Haschke to approve the minutes as presented from the regular February 5, 2020 meeting.
- 7. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
  - a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB, informed the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) that the TWDB is preparing to receive Initially Prepared Plans (IPPs) and is training staff for review. The database for regional water planning will be closed soon, so data entry and editing should be completed before then. Last week, a proposal for an update to the regional water planning rules was presented to TWDB and the rules are now in a 30-day public comment period.

## 8. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

a. <u>Committee reports, as needed</u>: None.

## 9. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

 a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the LCRWPG on consultant progress since the last meeting. For Chapter 5, Water Management Strategies (WMS), AECOM made updates to a few WMS based on edits or database entry issues, entered data into the TWDB database (DB22), and sent Chapter 5 appendices out for review on 2/17/2020. For Chapter 6, Impacts of Regional Water Plan, Trungale Engineering and Science (TES) finished cumulative modeling and AECOM sent draft Chapter 6 to the group for review on 2/13/2020. For Chapter 10, Public Involvement, AECOM sent draft Chapter 10 to the group for review on 2/7/20. In addition to that work, AECOM sent the draft Executive Summary to the group for review on 2/13/2020 and sent other draft chapters with incorporated edits on 2/17/2020.

- b. <u>Upcoming effort:</u> Jaime updated the group on upcoming consultant efforts, including completing database entry (DB22) of Water Management Strategies and preparing IPP deliverables to submit to TWDB.
- 10. Presentation and discussion of any updates to water management strategies. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on updates to water management strategies (WMSs). The Windermere Utility WMS to purchase water from Blue Water was did not have enough groundwater to meet the full need, so a new LCRA contract was added. The STP Alternate Canal Delivery WMS has revised costs reflecting an update to the raw water intake infrastructure needed. Minor corrections and edits were made in Chapter 5, including adding a missing table, corrections to the cost tables for Prairie Reservoir and Austin Decentralized Reuse, and corrections to the yield table for County-Other in Fayette County. The Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements WMS was discussed, and some minor language was changed describing environmental impacts. Jennifer Walker commented that the language was still confusing, so Teresa Lutes will prepare new language and share it with Jaime and Jennifer prior to IPP submittal.
- 11. Presentation and discussion of any updates to cumulative impact modeling. Take action as needed. Joe Trungale, TES, presented on updates to cumulative impact modeling. Changes to the model included updates to aquifer storage and recovery and enhanced recharge diversions sources, the Baylor Creek WMS, the Mid-Basin project WMS, and Bastrop WMS. The cumulative impact modeling tables were updated to reflect these changes. Jennifer Walker had a question on whether a "return flow" column would be included in the tables. After discussion, it was decided to include a table with a column for the return flow Water Management Strategies only, in addition the column with all of the Water Management Strategies grouped together, the in an appendix of the IPP. Jaime is planning to send the draft table to the group to review prior to submission of the IPP to TWDB.
- 12. Discussion of draft 2021 Plan chapters out for review and comments received. Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, presented on the draft chapters out for review and the various comments received. Details on comments and edits are included in the consultant presentation available on the Region K website. The LCRWPG members brought up various additional edits and concerns which were discussed by the group and will be incorporated, as appropriate and as discussed. Comments included a request by Barbara Johnson for a glossary to be added if not already included. Jaime Burke indicated that a glossary could be added. In Chapter 3, Robin Gary asked that updated information regarding the confirmation of the SW County GCD be added. In Chapter 5, David Wheelock asked for a footnote to be added with a report reference and removal of efficiency factor in 5-32. In Chapter 6, Jennifer Walker asked about the return flow language on page 6-10 and whether the report should mention the 2007 City of Austin and LCRA settlement agreement there.

Teresa Lutes responded that the 2007 City of Austin and LCRA settlement agreement is documented in Chapter 5, and that the Chapter 6 write up is referring to the current City of Austin indirect potable reuse strategy. Barbara Johnson pointed out that water rights can't divert and asked for wording in the draft report section be revised to make that clear. In addition, there were a number of minor-scale corrections noted that will be incorporated into the revised IPP. If was noted that additional comments after today can be made between IPP and final plan. As part of the process they will be officially recorded as comments on the IPP.

- 13. Discuss and take action to adopt the initially Prepared Plan (IPP) with approved edits, authorize the consultant team to prepare final copies of the revised IPP and associated deliverables, and submit the deliverable to the Texas Water Development Board no later than March 3, 2020. Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the group on due dates for the IPP and the process for submitting comments after the IPP is approved. Ron Fieseler made a motion to adopt the IPP with edits, authorize the consultant team to prepare final copies of the revised IPP and associated deliverables, and submit the deliverable to the Texas Water Development Board no later than March 3, 2020. David Van Dresar seconded the motion, and the LCRWPG approved the motion.
- 14. Discuss and take action to consider holding a public meeting to present the Initially Prepared Plan in Burnet. – Jim Luther told the group that he would like to see a meeting in Burnet in the April timeframe, and volunteered to help arrange a location while coordinating with Jamie Burke and David Wheelock. Jim Luther made a motion to hold a public meeting in Burnet, Teresa Lutes seconded, and the LCRWPG approved.
- 15. Discuss Water Conservation Advisory Council (WCAC) draft proposed legislative recommendations and consider providing feedback. Take action as needed. Jennifer Walker told the group that she is on the WCAC and updated the group on proposed legislative recommendations. The WCAC was considering making a legislative recommendation to have third-part validation for annual water loss reporting. An email sent out to the planning group members was looking for feedback on whether this recommendation should encourage voluntary or have mandatory third-party validation. However, the WCAC met before this LCRWPG meeting and decided to include the recommendation for voluntary third-party validation, so feedback from the group is not needed at this time.

## 16. Agenda items for next meeting. -

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: LCRA Dalchau Service Center, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10

   a.m. [Post Meeting Note: This meeting was switched to a virtual format in response
   to COVID-19 emergency orders]
- b. Other committee meetings: None scheduled as of now.
- 17. New / Other Business (time permitting). None.
- 18. Public Comments. None.
- **19. Adjourn. –** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 12:11 p.m.

## **Notes for Region K Public Hearing**

#### Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Public Hearing April 22, 2020 By Conference Call 10:00 a.m.

**Attendance:** 27 phone lines called into the conference call. Chairman John Burke, Vice Chair David Wheelock, and Ms. Jaime Burke, AECOM, were all on one phone line.

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman Burke welcomed all to the public hearing, briefly introducing the planning group members and explaining that this public hearing is to receive comments on the 2021 Region K Water Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) for the Lower Colorado Regional Planning Group. Information on the IPP can be found on the Region K website, at <a href="https://www.regionk.org/planning-documents/2021-region-k-water-plan/">https://www.regionk.org/planning-documents/2021-region-k-water-plan/</a>.

Chairman Burke also explained that the IPP was approved by the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) in February 2020 and required notice was sent on March 12, 2020. Due to COVID-19 concerns, on March 16 Governor Abbott temporarily suspended parts of the Open Meetings Act, which allowed the LCRWPG to conduct this hearing over the internet and phones. The revised notice that cancelled the in-person component of the public hearing and created this virtual meeting was posted on the Secretary of State website, the Region K website, and where possible was emailed to entities that were previously noticed.

- 3. Public Comments Limit 3 minutes per person. No comments were made during the conference call. Region K will accept written comments until June 21, 2020. Written comments may be mailed to LCRA, Attn: David Wheelock, P.O. Box 220, Austin, TX 78767, or emailed to administrative@regionk.org.
- 4. Adjourn Chairman John Burke adjourned the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting July 15, 2020 10:00 a.m. Zoom Virtual Meeting

#### Members Signing In:

- Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental David Lindsay, Recreation
- Mike Reagor, Municipalities Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7 Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSSWCB Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

#### Voting Members Absent:

David Caldwell, GMA 10 Jim Luther, Counties Charles Olfers, Agriculture Paul Sliva, Agriculture Jim Totten, GMA 12 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other (as of start of virtual meeting)\*:

Adam Connor, Freese and Nichols Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda David Villarreal, TDA Gary Newman K Rhodes Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business Monica Masters, LCRA M Redman, BSEACD Zoomsday Prepper Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water Micaela Pedrazas, LRE Water Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Rebecca Batchelder, LCRA Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Helen Gerlach, Austin Water

\*Consultants/support/visitors/other information was gathered from Zoom for attendees that entered a name.

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 18 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

- **1.** The minutes from the February 5, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.
- 2. The minutes from the Policy/Legislative Committee meeting on 1/27/2020, the Nominating Committee meetings on 11/13/19 and 11/30/18, the Water Management Strategies Committee meeting on 10/31/19, the Water Modeling Committee meeting on 10/23/19, and the Unique Stream Segments Committee meeting on 4/11/19 were approved as presented.
- **3.** The LCRWPG approved an amendment to the Task 5A Scope of Work, as recommended, for evaluating water management strategies for allocation of remaining Task 5A funds to assist in responding to TWDB Chapter 5 comments; and authorized LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for the amendment and to execute the subsequent contract amendment.

## Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 6 through 11 (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) Cindy Smiley, of the Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC), provided public comment. She referenced a new study on Texas drought challenges. She stated that the CTWC comments on the Region K Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) suggest a more conservative approach to planning, and that this new study supports that comment. The link to the study is included here for reference:

https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2020EF001552

- 4. Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from the February 18, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by Jennifer Walker and seconded by David Wheelock to approve the minutes as presented from the regular February 18, 2020 meeting.

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on regional water planning activities. TWDB staff has issued comments the IPP for Region K and all regions statewide. Final plans and the prioritization list are due to the Board on October 14, 2020 and must be approved at a regular regional planning group meeting. Comments on the IPP must be included in the final plan. TWDB has adopted flood planning rules and is currently accepting nominations for the Regional Flood Planning Groups. Additionally, the Board is beginning work on putting together the State Water Plan, though it will not be completed until after the Regional Water Plans are submitted and incorporated. Lann also reminded the group that at the close of this planning cycle, the group will need to select a political subdivision and authorize them to submit an application for financing for the next planning cycle.

# 7. Committee Reports – Committee Chairs

- a. <u>Committee reports, as needed</u>: None.
- b. Consider approval of draft meeting minutes for the following:
  - The Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) approved a motion by David Wheelock and seconded by Jennifer Walker to approve the Policy/Legislative Committee meeting minutes from 1/27/2020 as presented.
  - The LCRWPG approved a motion by Jim Brasher and seconded by Ann McElroy to approve the Nominating Committee meeting minutes from 11/13/19 and 11/30/18 as presented.
  - The LCRWPG approved a motion by Daniel Berglund and seconded by Jennifer Walker to approve the Water Management Strategies Committee meeting minutes from 10/31/19 as presented.
  - The LCRWPG approved a motion by Teresa Lutes and seconded by James Sultemeier to approve the Water Modeling Committee meeting minutes from 10/23/19 as presented.
  - The LCRWPG approved a motion by Jennifer Walker and seconded by Ann McElroy to approve the Unique Stream Segments Committee meeting minutes from 4/11/19 as presented.

## 8. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

a. <u>Progress to date:</u> Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the group on the consultant team's efforts since the last meeting. AECOM has completed database entry of Water Management Strategies and submitted the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) to TWDB on March 3, 2020. AECOM also facilitated the Public Hearing on April 22, 2020. There were no public comments received at the Public Hearing. Written public comments were received after the hearing, during the public comment period.

AECOM also sent out the infrastructure financing report surveys and has received 19 responses to date. AECOM also received the TWDB comments on the IPP and is beginning to address those.

b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Jaime also presented the consultant's upcoming efforts to the LCRWPG. AECOM is working to address and respond to all comments received on the IPP and finalize project prioritization. Plan edits will be brought to the LCRWPG for review at the August meeting, and adoption of the 2021 Region K Plan by the LCRWPG is planned for the September meeting. Once adopted, AECOM plans to submit the final 2021 Regional Water Plan to TWDB in October 2020. 9. Discussion of comments received on the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Take action as needed. – Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over comments that have been received on the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). The comments are presented in detail in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website. Ann McElroy had a question about how the brush control water management strategy will be addressed, and Jaime responded that additional counties will be mentioned in the write-up and specific acreage for the various counties included in the analysis will be added. Mike Reagor suggested changing the name of the brush control water management strategy to "brush management", which AECOM said they will change.

# 10. Potential Task 5A Budget Amendment for evaluation of water management strategies

- a. <u>Discuss and consider potential allocation of remaining Task 5A funds to assist in responding to TWDB Chapter 5 comments:</u> Jaime Burke, AECOM, noted that AECOM is working to address comments from TWDB, but some of the comments will require more work to address than initially anticipated. There is some remaining unallocated Task 5A budget, and to address Board comments AECOM is recommending an increase in the budget to address Board comments related to the Austin Blackwater and Greywater Reuse, Austin Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting, and Rainwater Harvesting water management strategies. This would be a total budget increase of \$7,178 and would leave the remaining unallocated budget at \$0.
- b. <u>Receive public comments on potential allocation of remaining Task 5A</u> <u>funds to assist in responding to TWDB Chapter 5 comments:</u> None.
- c. Consider and take action on amending the Task 5A Scope of Work for evaluating water management strategies for allocation of remaining Task 5A funds to assist in responding to TWDB Chapter 5 comments; and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for the amendment and to execute the subsequent contract amendment: The LCRWPG approved a motion by Lauri Gillam and seconded by Barbra Johnson to amend the Task 5A Scope of Work, as recommended, for evaluating water management strategies for allocation of remaining Task 5A funds to assist in responding to TWDB Chapter 5 comments; and authorize LCRA to submit a request to the TWDB for the amendment and to execute the subsequent contract amendment.
- **11.Presentation and discussion of Draft Prioritization spreadsheet.** No action **needed on this item at this time.** Alicia Smiley, AECOM, presented the draft prioritization spreadsheet to the LCRWPG. Ms. Smiley went over the different prioritization criteria, including:
  - Project decade online

- Funding decade
- Supporting data available
- Water rights
- Level of engineering and/or planning
- Request for inclusion in the plan
- Percent of the water user group(s) need met by project (first and last decade)
- Whether the project is the only economically feasible option other than conservation
- Whether the project serves multiple water user groups
- The period of time the project is expected to provide water
- Whether the volume supplied by the project changes
- The expected unit cost of water supplied by the project

David Lindsay had a question about why brush management is not listed as a strategy for Burnet and Llano Counties. Alicia explained that there was not data for brush management yields in those counties or in San Saba County, but all those counties had been included in the write-up for the brush management strategy. Rusty Ray, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB), added that the TSSWCB had removed the requirement that a strategy had to be in the state water plan to receive funding through the TSSWCB water supply enhancement program.

12. Update on TWDB Interregional Planning Council. – David Wheelock, LCRA, updated the LCRWPG on the progress of TWDB Interregional Planning Council, which was formed by HB 807. The Council has met five times so far and has established Council goals. The next meeting will be held on July 29, 2020.

## 13. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next LCRWPG meeting will be on August 12, 2020 and will likely be held virtually. There will also likely need to be a September meeting held to approve the plan. If a September meeting is needed, it will be held on September 15, 2020, with September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> as additional meeting and back-up dates.
- b. Other committee meetings: None.

## 14. New / Other Business (time permitting) – None.

- **15. Public Comments –** Gary Newman, from Regional Water Planning Group G thanked the LCRWPG for their work and allowing him to join the meeting. Barbra Johnson also thanked the LCRWPG group members for their participation during these unprecedented times.
- **16. Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 11:59 a.m.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting August 12, 2020 10:00 a.m. Zoom Virtual Meeting

#### Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries David Lindsay, Recreation Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSSWCB Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD

#### Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business David Caldwell, GMA 10 Karen Haschke, Public Interest, Alternate Attended Jim Luther, Counties Ann McElroy, Environmental Charles Olfers, Agriculture Paul Sliva, Agriculture Byron Theodosis, Counties Paul Tybor, GMA 7

#### Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other (as of start of virtual meeting)\*:

Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Carla Orts, Travis County WCID No. 10 David Villarreal, TDA Marcin Tyszka, LCRA Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water Morgan White, TWDB Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Helen Gerlach, Austin Water Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Stacy Pandey, LCRA

\*Consultants/support/visitors/other information was gathered from Zoom for attendees that entered a name.

#### Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 17 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

1. The minutes from the July 15, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.

# Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance. John Burke requested that Vice Chair David Wheelock chair the meeting today.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Vice Chair David Wheelock welcomed all to the meeting.
- Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers
   6 through 11 (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) No public comments.
- 4. Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report was included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by Barbara Johnson and seconded by Jennifer Walker to approve the minutes as presented from the regular July 15, 2020 meeting.

# 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on regional water planning activities. Lann informed the group that TWDB has extended the 2021 Regional Water Plan deliverable to November 5, 2020 and eliminated the requirement to submit hard copies of the Plan. Lann also reminded the LCRWPG that TWDB reviews regional water planning boundaries and they plan to begin that process again soon.

# 7. Consultant Status Report -

- a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the group on the consultant team's efforts since the last meeting. AECOM has been working to address Region K Initially Prepared Plan comments, prepare updated chapters, coordinate meetings between TWDB and Austin, identify DB22 changes, and update the prioritization spreadsheet based on feedback.
- b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Jaime Burke also presented the consultant's upcoming efforts to the group. AECOM will be working to address and respond to all public and agency comments received, revise the draft project prioritization spreadsheet, bring plan edits to the LCRWPG for review, prepare LCRWPG for consideration of adoption of the 2021 Region K plan, and submit the adopted plan to TWDB on the LCRPWG's behalf.

- 8. Discussion of comments and draft responses for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Take action as needed. Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over comments and draft responses for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Copies of these comments and proposed draft responses were included in the Region K packets mailed out and posted on the Region K website. Jaime first went over comments from TWDB regarding some of Austin's water management strategies (WMSs), including:
  - Blackwater and Greywater Reuse
  - Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting and Community-Scale Stormwater Harvesting
  - Capture Local Inflows to Lady Bird Lake
  - Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements
  - Lake Austin Operations

AECOM is continuing to coordinate with Austin and TWDB to address comments on these WMS. Jennifer Walker asked Jaime to provide some context for the discussions they had been having with TWDB regarding the TWDB comments on some of Austin's WMSs. Jaime indicated that the primary focus of the comments generally relates to understanding how these innovative and decentralized-type strategies work in relation to the Region K drought of record. Teresa Lutes added that Austin is planning to provide more information to TWDB about strategy availability during the drought of record and described how these strategies are intended to work as part of a total water supply portfolio, essentially acting as a system with other strategies and supplies.

Jaime also went over comments in Chapters 3, 7, 10, and 11. For Chapter 11, David Wheelock requested that language stating that the Lane City Reservoir is currently under construction be added. David Lindsay also suggested adding language describing how Region K committee meetings have been open to the public.

- 9. Presentation and discussion of updated Chapter 8 (Additional Recommendations), Chapter 9 (Infrastructure Financing Recommendations), and Chapter 10 (Public Involvement Activities) Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over updates that have been made to Chapters 8, 9, and 10. The updates are presented in detail in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website.
- **10. Discussion of edits to the Prioritization spreadsheet –** Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over updates that have been made to the draft prioritization spreadsheet based on feedback from the City of Buda. These are outlined in more detail in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website.
- 11. Update on TWDB Interregional Planning Council David Wheelock, LCRA, gave the LCRWPG an update on the TWDB Interregional Planning Council. The Council has established three main goals: planning for water resources as a state as a whole, increasing interregional cooperation, and developing best management practices for planning. The Council is meeting roughly every two weeks and has developed draft recommendations which are currently being reviewed.

# 12. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next LCRWPG meeting will be on September 15, 2020 and will be held virtually. Planning group members should also plan to keep October 14, 2020 for a Region K meeting in case another meeting is needed prior to the regional water plan due date.
- b. Other Committee meetings: None

## 13. New / Other Business (time permitting) - None.

## **14. Public Comments –** None.

**15. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair David Wheelock at 11:27 a.m.

#### Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting September 15, 2020 10:00 a.m. Zoom Virtual Meeting

## Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities David Caldwell, GMA 10 Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries David Lindsay, Recreation Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities Jim Luther, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Charles Olfers, Agriculture Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Paul Sliva, Agriculture James Sultemeier, Counties Byron Theodosis, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSWCB Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD

## Voting Members Absent:

Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8

## Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other (as of start of virtual meeting)\*:

Brooke Paup, TWDB Michael Redman Adam Conner, FNI Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest Christianne Castleberry, Alt. for Water Utilities Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law David Villareal, TDA F. Guerrero Jordan Furnans, LRE Water Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water Monica Masters, LCRA Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Sarah Backhouse, TWDB Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis, SWCA Tina Hendon, TRWD Temple McKinnon, TWDB Marcin Tyszka, LCRA Juston McMahon, LCRA Helen Gerlach, Austin Water Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Stacy Pandey, LCRA

\*Consultants/support/visitors/other information was gathered from Zoom for attendees that entered a name.

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 24 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

## Formal Actions Taken:

- **1.** The minutes from the August 12, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.
- **2.** The LCRWPG approved a motion to authorize LCRA to start the process for consultant selection for the next regional planning cycle.
- **3.** The LCRWPG approved a motion to authorize the Lower Colorado River Authority to serve as the Region K Political Subdivision for the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of regional water planning.
- 4. The LCRWPG approved a motion to authorize the Region K Political Subdivision to provide public notice, submit a grant application to the TWDB, and execute a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Region K Water Planning Group for initial funding of the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of regional water planning.

## Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting and invited Brooke Paup of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), to say a few words. TWDB Board Member Paup thanked the planning group members for their hard work and expressed her ongoing support of the regional water planning process even through the challenging times being experienced in 2020. Teresa Lutes and David Wheelock expressed their thanks for TWDB's support throughout the planning process.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 6 through 12 No public comments.
- 4. Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report and budget report from LCRA were included in the members' packets for review.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by Barbara Johnson and seconded by Lauri Gillam to approve the minutes as presented from the regular August 12, 2020 meeting.

## 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) –

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on regional water planning activities. Lann informed the group that TWDB had reviewed the responses to TWDB's draft Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) questions and comments and they are good with the information provided. Lann also noted to the group that the Governor's disaster declaration has been extended through October and that TWDB was beginning the process of reviewing water planning boundaries, which is performed on a 5-year cycle. A stakeholder process for this review will begin in October.

## 7. Consultant Status Report -

a. <u>Progress to date</u>: Alicia Smiley, AECOM, updated the group on the consultant team's efforts since the last meeting. AECOM has completed chapter updates and

submitted the draft IPP comment responses to TWDB for review. AECOM also participated in coordination meetings between TWDB and Austin, identified the DB22 changes for a meeting with TWDB based on IPP comments, and updated the prioritization spreadsheet based on new projects associated with strategies and comments from Austin. In addition to that work, AECOM coordinated with Pflugerville to incorporate information from a finalized Technical Memo regarding water rights alternatives, as accepted by staff and presented to their Council, into the Region K Plan.

- b. <u>Upcoming effort</u>: Alicia Smiley also presented the consultant's upcoming efforts to the group. AECOM will be working to meet with TWDB to implement DB22 changes and print new reports. AECOM will be working to prepare for the planning group to consider adoption and submittal to TWDB of the 2021 Region K plan in October. AECOM is also working to send out letters addressing and responding to all public and agency comments received.
- 8. Discussion of comments and draft responses for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Take action as needed. Alicia Smiley, AECOM, presented the comments and draft responses that they had received on the IPP. A portion of these comments and responses were presented at the August 12, 2020 LCRWPG Meeting. The comments and responses presented at the meeting can be viewed in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website.

While discussing the comments and the responses on the IPP, David Lindsay asked what counties are mentioned for the brush management water management strategy. Alicia explained that specific volumes are only provided for counties included in the brush management study referenced, but all "hill country" counties are mentioned in the text for that strategy. The group discussed a proposed edit to the 6A appendix title and the appendix table headers. After discussion, it was decided to add the word "strategies" to the title. David Lindsay requested that a reference to a new report on inflow trends be added to the plan. After discussion, the group decided that a link to the report will be shared with members for review and, for consideration, members can review a track changes version of the plan with this reference included.

- **9.** Discussion of edits to the Prioritization spreadsheet Alicia Smiley, AECOM, presented updates to the draft prioritization spreadsheet. The specific updates to the spreadsheet can be viewed in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website. The plan will be for the group to take action on the updated prioritization spreadsheet at the next meeting.
- 10. Discuss and take action to authorize LCRA to start the process for consultant selection for the next Regional Planning Cycle. – David Wheelock, LCRA, explained to the LCRWPG that it has been 10 years since the last Region K consultant selection process. After discussion, the group decided it was timely to conduct a new consultant selection process and appointed an ad-hoc committee to assist LCRA with the process. The committee members are:
  - Barbara Johnson (Chair)
  - Teresa Lutes
  - David Lindsay
  - Lauri Gillam
  - David Wheelock

The LCRWPG approved a motion by Daniel Berglund and seconded by Jennifer Walker to authorize LCRA to start the process for consultant selection for the next Regional Planning Cycle.

- 11. Discuss and consider taking action to authorize the Lower Colorado River Authority to serve as the Region K Political Subdivision for the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of regional water planning.
   The LCRWPG approved a motion by Barbara Johnson and seconded by Teresa Lutes to authorize the Lower Colorado River Authority to serve as the Region K Political Subdivision for the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of regional water planning.
- 12. Discuss and consider taking action to authorize the Region K Political Subdivision to provide public notice, submit a grant application to the TWDB, and execute a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Region K Water Planning Group for initial funding of the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of Regional Water Planning. The LCRWPG approved a motion by Karen Haschke and seconded by James Sultemeier to authorize the Region K Political Subdivision to provide public notice, submit a grant application to the TWDB, and execute a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Region K Water Planning Group for initial funding of the 6<sup>th</sup> cycle of Regional Water Planning.

## 13. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next LCRWPG meeting will be on October 14, 2020 and will be held virtually.
- b. <u>Other Committee meetings</u>: None.
- 14. New / Other Business (time permitting) David Wheelock, LCRA, informed the group that a draft report for the Interregional Planning Council is posted for review, and members can email David with any questions they might have.

During the meeting it was acknowledged that the LCRWPG was saddened by the passing of Region K Planning Group Member Karen Haschke's brother. Dr. Robert Otto Dittmar, II, DMV, (Dr. Bob) of Kerrville, was a much beloved family member and member of his community and will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with Karen and her family during this difficult time.

During the meeting it was also noted that the LCRWPG was saddened by the passing of longtime Region K Planning Group Member Haskell Simon. Haskell was a tireless champion of water planning. Haskell's enthusiasm for the mission of the regional water planning group and State water planning process will be missed.

- **15. Public Comments –** Jordan Furnans, LRE Water, thanked the group for voting to conduct another consultant selection process for the next cycle of planning.
- 16. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 11:27 a.m.

## Meeting Minutes Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting October 14, 2020 10:00 a.m. Zoom Virtual Meeting

# Members Signing In:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business Jim Brasher, GMA 15 John Burke, Water Utilities Ron Fieseler, GMA 9 Lauri Gillam, Municipalities Karen Haschke, Public Interest Barbara Johnson, Industries David Lindsay, Recreation Jason Ludwig, Elect. Generating Utilities Jim Luther, Counties Teresa Lutes, Municipalities Ann McElroy, Environmental Mike Reagor, Municipalities Robert Ruggiero, Small Business Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8 James Sultemeier, Counties Jim Totten, GMA 12 Paul Tybor, GMA 7 David Van Dresar, Water Districts Jennifer Walker, Environmental David Wheelock, River Authorities Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSSWCB Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD

## Voting Members Absent:

David Caldwell, GMA 10 Charles Olfers, Agriculture Paul Sliva, Agriculture Byron Theodosis, Counties

# Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other (as of start of virtual meeting)\*:

Ron A Ellen McDonald Feather Jason Afinowiz Michael Redman Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest Jordan Furnans, LRE Water Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business Monica Masters, LCRA Paul Patrick Lopez Rex Hunt Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting Sarah Backhouse, TWDB Sarah Hoes, Austin Water Temple McKinnon, TWDB Marcin Tyszka, LCRA Juston McMahon, LCRA Helen Gerlach, Austin Water Jaime Burke, AECOM Alicia Smiley, AECOM Stacy Pandey, LCRA

\*Consultants/support/visitors/other information was gathered from Zoom for attendees that entered a name.

## Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 21 Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

# **Formal Actions Taken:**

- 1. The minutes from the September 15, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved, as amended, on a motion by Daniel Berglund and seconded by David Wheelock.
- 2. The LCRWPG voted to approve a motion by David Wheelock and seconded by Ron Fieseler to adopt the 2021 Region K Water Plan as edited, to authorize the consultant to submit the adopted plan to TWDB by November 5, 2020, and to authorize the consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed.
- **3.** The LCRWPG voted to approve a motion by Jennifer Walker and seconded by Daniel Berglund to approve the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2021 Region K Water Plan.

# **Regular Meeting:**

- 1. Call to Order Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance.
- 2. Welcome and Introductions Chairman John Burke welcomed all to the meeting.
- 3. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 6 through 10 No public comments.
- **4.** Attendance Report The Secretary's attendance report and budget report from LCRA were included in the members' packets for review.
- **5.** Approval of Minutes from the September 15, 2020 regular meeting The LCRWPG approved a motion by Daniel Berglund and seconded by David Wheelock to approve the amended minutes as presented from the regular September 15, 2020 meeting.

# 6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) -

a. <u>Update on regional water planning activities and schedules</u>: Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on regional water planning activities. Lann informed the group that TWDB is working on a regional boundary review process and has briefed the board. The review will open for public input in October. The plan is to make a recommendation to the board in early 2020 about the regional boundary review process. The draft proposal is available on their website.

The Interregional Planning Council has a draft report out for review and comment. This draft report will be presented to the TWDB at an upcoming Board meeting.

7. Discussion and consideration of all proposed edits to Final 2021 Region K Water Plan. Take action as necessary. – Jamie Burke, AECOM, updated the group on proposed edits to the final 2021 Region K Water Plan. AECOM has made database edits in coordination with TWDB staff as discussed in the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) comment responses. Edits were made to the Executive Summary, and Chapters 1, 3, and 4 all had tables updated. In Chapter 5, Austin requested removing yield volumes from Austin Return Flows strategy from DB22 and adding language to Table 5.2. In Chapter 8, David Lindsay requested that the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) include new language to policy recommendation 8.1.10 referencing a new study. Chapter 9 now includes costs for all projects. Chapter 10 was updated to summarize recent Region K meetings.

Region K received public information request for emails on September 29, 2020. This public information request is related to a Bertram water management strategy that pumps, treats, and transports water from a quarry pit/reservoir. Jaime suggested to the group that Region K coordination with and further response from the requestor may have risen to the level of public comment that potentially should be included in Chapter 10. After discussion, the group decided to add an appendix to discuss the request. Lann Bookout also reminded the group that the entity could request an amendment, as needed.

- 8. Discuss and take action regarding the adoption of the 2021 Region K Water Plan. Authorize Consultant to submit adopted 2021 Region K Water Plan to TWDB by November 5, 2020. Consider authorizing Consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed or if requested by TWDB. A motion by David Wheelock and seconded by Ron Fieseler to adopt the 2021 Region K Water Plan as edited, to authorize the consultant to submit the adopted plan to TWDB by November 5, 2020, and to authorize the consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed on and approved by the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group.
- 9. Discussion and consideration of any proposed edits to the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2021 Region K Water Plan. Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the group on the Prioritization Spreadsheet. No changes have been made since the previous meeting.
- **10. Take action to approve the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2021 Region K Water Plan.** – Jennifer Walker made a motion to approve the prioritization of water management strategies in the Region K Plan. Daniel Berglund seconded the motion, and the LCRWPG voted to approve.

# 11. Agenda items for next meeting.

- a. <u>Location and date of next meeting</u>: The next Region K meeting will be held January 27, 2021. The location will be virtual or at the LCRA Dalchau Service Center, if able.
- b. Other committee meetings: None.

- 12. New / Other Business (time permitting) Chairman John Burke announced that he will be stepping down as Chairman of the LCRWPG for the next cycle. Anyone who is interested in the Chairman position should contact Ann McElroy, Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- 13. Public Comments limit 3 minutes per person None.
- **14. Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned by Chairman John Burke at 10:43 a.m.