

Minutes
Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
November 12, 2015
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
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Donna Klaeger, Counties
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Doug Powell, Recreation

Mike Reagor, Municipalities
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
Charles Shell, GMA 8
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB
Dan Hunter, TDA

Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10
Byron Theodosis, Counties

David Van Dresar, Water Districts

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Tom Albin, City of Austin
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electric
David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Cindy Smiley, Counties Alternate
Jasper van Hersch, Omni Earth Data

Dianne Wheeler, Public Interest Alternate
Jaime Burke, AECOM Region K consultant
Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate
Gary Gold, Austin Water

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. Approved motion to adopt the October 14, 2015 meeting minutes with one spelling correction.
2. Approved motion to accept changes and additional text in Chapter 5 pertaining to information on environmental impacts.

3. Approved motion to authorize the Consultant to submit the adopted 2016 Region K Water Plan to TWDB by December 1, 2015 and to authorize the Consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed or if requested by TWDB.
4. Approved motion to approve the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2016 Region K Water Plan and submit to TWDB.
5. Approved motion to continue with AECOM as the Region K Planning Group's consultant for the next planning cycle.

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.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the member's packet.
4. Consent Agenda –
 - a. Approval the October 14, 2015 meeting minutes – A spelling error was identified and noted to be corrected. A motion to adopt the meeting minutes with one spelling correction was approved.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock provided a financial and budget report. Mr. Wheelock informed the group that the balance remaining in the Member's Account is \$3,925 and \$56,697 in the Grant Account. There is less than \$10,000 remaining on the Consultant's contract.
5. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Update – Kathleen Jackson (TWDB – Board Member) provided information on the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT). This information included a summary of the first round of funding as well as the upcoming timeline for the second round of funding. Lann Bookout (TWDB) provided information on the schedule for TWDB's review of adopted Regional Water Plans.
6. Discussion and consideration of all proposed edits to Final 2016 Region K Water Plan. Take action as necessary – Jaime Burke (AECOM) presented additional edits that were proposed to the chapters provided to all planning group members for review prior to the meeting. Additionally, Ms. Burke went through each of the 11 chapters and gave planning group members the opportunity to provide additional comments. David Wheelock drafted additional text to be included in Chapter 5 to discuss the methodology behind how the Region K 2016 Regional Water Plan quantifies environmental impacts of water management strategies that were added since the Region K 2011 Regional Water Plan. Mr. Wheelock presented proposed changes and additional text in Chapter 5 regarding environmental impacts to the group for consideration. A motion to accept changes to Chapter 5 pertaining to information on environmental impacts was approved.
7. Discuss and Take Action regarding the adoption of the 2016 Region K Water Plan. Authorize Consultant to submit adopted 2016 Region K Water Plan to TWDB by

December 1, 2015. Consider authorizing Consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed or if requested by TWDB – A motion to authorize the Consultant to submit the adopted 2016 Region K Water Plan to TWDB by December 1, 2015 and to authorize the Consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption, as needed or if requested by TWDB, was approved.

8. Prioritization Committee report and update
 - a. Discussion and consideration of any proposed edits to the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2016 Region K Water Plan – Jennifer Walker explained the process for Prioritization of Water Management Strategies. Ms. Walker summarized the work that the Water Management Strategies committee performed to score and rank the water management strategies based on the prioritization criteria. Jeff Fox agreed to send planning group members the full Region K 2016 Plan prioritization scoring spreadsheet.
 - b. Take action to approve the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2016 Region K Water Plan – A motion to approve the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2016 Region K Water Plan and submit to TWDB was approved.
 - c.
9. Discuss Consultant Procurement process for next round of regional water planning. Take action as necessary – David Wheelock explained the process and potential options for procuring a consultant for the next round of regional water planning. A motion to continue with AECOM as the Region K Planning Group’s consultant for the next planning cycle was approved.
10. Agenda items for next meeting – The next meeting will be held on February 10, 2016.
11. New / Other Business – Jim Barho suggested an orientation program for new members for the next planning cycle. There was general agreement among the planning group that such an orientation would be beneficial.
12. Public Comments – None.
13. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned.

Final Minutes
Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
October 14, 2015
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
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Donna Klaeger, Counties
Mike Reagor, Municipalities
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosis, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB
Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate
Neil Hudgins, Small Business Alternate
David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Charles Shell, GMA 8

Voting Members Absent:

Ronald Gertson, Small Business, alternate attended
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities, alternate attended

Doug Powell, Recreation, alternate attended
David Van Dresar, Water Districts

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Bruk Berhanu, UT-Austin
Reagan Burnham
Angela Kennedy
Stacy Oliver
Tim Loftus, TX State University
David Meesey
Martha Bohrt, UT-Austin

Charlie Flatten, Environmental Alternate
Tommy Koch
Cindy Smiley, Counties Alternate
Heather Cooke, Austin Water
Cynthia Kirby, Mayor of City of Lometa
Dianne Wheeler, League of Women Voters

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. Approved motion to adopt the April 8, April 22, and July 8, 2015 meeting minutes.

2. Approved motion to approve Mike Reagor as a Region K Water Planning Group voting member from Llano County.
3. Approved motion to follow the recommendation of the Water Management Strategies Committee on the City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam.

Water Management Strategies Committee Recommendation: for the proposed City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam, “the Committee recommends the removal of this proposed dam from the list of municipal water management strategies in the Final Region K Plan”.

4. Approved motion to include the Raw Water Supply Line from San Saba as an existing supply versus a water management strategy.
5. Approved motion to follow the recommendation of the Water Management Strategies committee on the City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy.

Water Management Strategies Committee Recommendation: for the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy, “the Committee recommends that the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy be mentioned in the 2016 Plan as a strategy that was considered but not recommended”.

6. Approved motion to incorporate into the 2016 plan the new route and modified cost for the Hays County Pipeline.
7. Approved motion to include the City of Buda Direct Potable Reuse project as an alternate water management strategy.
8. Approved motion to include the City of Marble Falls Direct Reuse Strategy as a recommended water management strategy.
9. Approved motion to mention the STP Nuclear Operating Company’s “currently under technical review with TCEQ” 5-year joint water right application with LCRA in the 2016 Region K Water Plan.
10. Approved motion to include an appendix proposed by the Central Texas Water Coalition entitled “The Highland Lakes: History and Social and Economic Importance” as an appendix to Chapter 1 and to check if the proposed appendix conflicts with the Region K Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of Unmet Water Needs report and to make amendments to the proposed appendix, as needed.

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.
3. Attendance Report – Chairman John Burke called attention to the attendance report that was included in the member’s packet.
4. Consent Agenda –
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the April 8, April 22, and July 8, 2015 meetings – A motion to adopt the meeting minutes for these three meetings was approved.

- b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock provided a financial and budget report.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – Lann Bookout (TWDB) provided an update on the Texas Water Development Board’s meeting to discuss planning boundaries on October 13th, 2015. The TWDB approved a motion to leave the boundaries the same for the next planning cycle. Mr. Bookout reminded the group that the next round of SWIFT funding starts in December 2015.
6. Discuss and take action on approval of new RWPG member from Llano County – A motion to approve Mike Reagor as a Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) voting member from Llano County was approved.
7. Water Management Strategies Committee Update. Take action as necessary – Jim Barho summarized key recommendations from the Water Management Strategy Committee meeting held on September 9, 2015. This summary included the following recommendations: for the proposed City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam, “the Committee recommends the removal of this proposed dam from the list of municipal water management strategies in the Final Region K Plan” and for the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy, “the Committee recommends that the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy be mentioned in the 2016 Plan as a strategy that was considered but not recommended”.
8. Discuss and take action on the water management strategies for the City of Goldthwaite
 - a. Goldthwaite Channel Dam – Russ Johnson spoke on behalf of the City of Goldthwaite. Mr. Johnson summarized a written statement provided to planning group members by the City of Goldthwaite and asked the group to defer action until they had the opportunity to review the written statement. Ann McElroy, a representative from Texans for Open Water Ways, spoke on behalf of those opposed to the proposed City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam. Jim Barho read a resolution provided by the City of Lometa in opposition to the City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam. A motion to follow the recommendation of the Water Management Strategies Committee on the City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam (see below) was approved. David Wheelock voted in opposition to the motion.

Water Management Strategies Committee Recommendation: for the proposed City of Goldthwaite Channel Dam, “the Committee recommends the removal of this proposed dam from the list of municipal water management strategies in the Final Region K Plan”.

- b. Raw water supply line from San Saba as an existing supply versus a strategy – A motion to include the raw water supply line from San Saba as an existing supply versus a strategy was approved.

9. Discuss City of Wharton water supply strategy text edits for Chapter 5. Take action as necessary - A motion to follow the recommendation of the Water Management Strategies Committee on the City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy (see below) was approved.

Water Management Strategies Committee Recommendation: for the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy, “the Committee recommends that the proposed City of Wharton Water Supply Strategy be mentioned in the 2016 Plan as a strategy that was considered but not recommended”.

10. Discuss Chapter 8 revisions – Jaime Burke summarized edits to Chapter 8 recommended by the Policy Committee. These edits include: 1) addition of Appendix 8A, Unique Stream Segment Recommendations from the 2006 Region K Plan, 2) rewrite of Section 8.1.2.4.8 Funding and Technical Assistance for GMA Planning, 3) removal of sentence referencing the TWCAC in Section 8.1.7.1.1, which is no longer relevant, 4) addition of “and other watersheds in the region” to Item #3 in Section 8.1.9.3 to encourage brush control feasibility studies in additional portions of the region, and 5) clarification in Section 8.3 that Region K is not recommending any potential reservoir sites for unique designation. There was no formal action taken on these edits; the revised Chapter 8 will be considered along with other chapters when the final plan is voted upon.

11. Consultant Status Report

- a. Work effort since July 8th Region K meeting – Jaime Burke provided a summary of the recent consultant work effort, which has included: 1) 2017 Regional Water Planning Application (DB17) database entry, 2) Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) Public Meeting in Wharton, 3) receipt of, review of, and effort towards responses to public and Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) comments on the IPP, 4) survey of implementation of projects from 2011 Plan, 5) Infrastructure Financing Report (IFR) surveys, 6) development of data and information for determining prioritization of 2016 Plan water management strategies, 7) receipt of Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of Unmet Water Needs from TWDB.
- b. Summary of agency and public comments received on IPP. Discussion of potential revisions to the Final 2016 Region K Plan for comments. – Jaime Burke presented comments from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and summarized responses to these comments to explain how they may be addressed in the final Region K Water Plan. Jaime Burke then presented updates on proposed water management strategies that are new or have changed since the IPP, which include 1) the proposed Goldthwaite Channel Dam, 2) the Hays County Pipeline, 3) Water Management Strategy Requests from Buda, Marble Falls, and STP Nuclear Operating Company, and 4) City of Austin Direct Reuse cost. The Goldthwaite Channel Dam was discussed in Agenda Item 8a and not revisited. Jaime Burke mentioned that City of Austin would be providing

updated cost information for its Direct Reuse strategy. Ms. Burke presented details on a modified route for the proposed Hays County Pipeline. Ms. Burke indicated that the project description and project cost would need to be updated to reflect the proposed route modification. A motion to incorporate into the 2016 plan the new route and modified cost for the Hays County Pipeline was approved.

Jaime Burke presented a summary of the proposed City of Buda Direct Potable Reuse project. Brian Lillibridge spoke on behalf of the City of Buda in support of including the project as a recommended strategy. There was discussion about including the City of Buda Direct Reuse project as a recommended or alternate strategy. A motion to include the City of Buda Direct Potable Reuse project as an alternate strategy was approved.

Jaime Burke summarized a request from the City of Marble Falls to add a Water Management Strategy to expand their existing direct reuse program. A motion to include the City of Marble Falls Direct Reuse Strategy as a recommended strategy was approved. Ms. Burke summarized a request from STP Nuclear Operating Company to mention their “currently under technical review with TCEQ” 5-year joint application with LCRA in the 2016 Region K Water Plan. A motion to mention the STP Nuclear Operating Company’s “currently under technical review with TCEQ” 5-year joint water right application with LCRA in the 2016 Region K Plan was approved.

Jaime Burke summarized comments on the IPP from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Sierra Club and National Wildlife Federation, Lower Colorado River Authority, Central Texas Water Coalition, Hill Country Alliance, and individual stakeholders. A motion to include an appendix proposed by the Central Texas Water Coalition entitled “The Highland Lakes: History and Social and Economic Importance” as an appendix to Chapter 1 and to check if the proposed appendix conflicts with the Region K Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of Unmet Water Needs and to make amendments to the proposed appendix, as needed, was approved.

- c. Presentation of TWDB Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of Not Meeting Water Needs for the 2016 Region K Plan – Jaime Burke explained that the Region K Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of Unmet Water Needs was prepared by TWDB and will be included as an appendix in Chapter 6 of the Region K Water Plan.
- d. Discussion of Implementation of Infrastructure Financing Surveys – Jaime Burke explained that the Implementation of Infrastructure Financing Surveys will be included in Chapter 11 to provide information on whether the 2011 Region K Water Plan projects have been completed. Jaime Burke explained that the Infrastructure Financing Surveys are required by TWDB to find out whether an entity plans to apply for State funding for a project in 2016 Region K Water Plan. Ms. Burke said that some surveys

have been sent out and some are still waiting to be sent and Region K Water Planning Group members can fill out the surveys if they have knowledge of the projects.

- e. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables – The November 4th Region K Water Planning Group meeting was moved to November 12th and the location is to be determined. Jaime Burke summarized the upcoming schedule which will include sending out red-lined chapter text updates over the next couple of weeks for Region K Planning Group members to review, completing TWDB Infrastructure Financing Report (IFR) survey efforts and compiling results, completing prioritization of 2016 Region K Water Plan projects, potentially adopting the Final Region K Water Plan and approving the prioritization. Jaime Burke explained that the Final 2016 Region K Water Plan and the prioritized water management strategy list are due to TWDB on December 1, 2015.

12. Agenda items for next meeting – None discussed.

13. New / Other Business – Barbara Johnson, John Hoffman, John Dupnik, and Donna Klaeger were added to the Nominating Committee.

14. Public Comments – None.

15. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes
Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
July 8, 2015
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive
Austin, Texas
10:00 a.m.

Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15
John Burke, Water Utilities
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Donna Klaeger, Counties
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Doug Powell, Recreation
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Villarreal, Non-voting, TDA
Lann Bookout, Non-voting, TWDB
Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate
Charles Shell, GMA 8 Alternate

Voting Members Absent:

Jim Barho, Environmental
John Dupnik, GMA 10
Bill Luedecke, GMA8, alternate attended

Teresa Lutes, Municipalities, alternate attended
Byron Theodosis, Counties

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Leonard Leinfelder, Kingsland Water
Ward Wyatt, CTWC
Tom Weber, Travis County
Ron Anderson, LCRA
Stephen Dickman, Kelly Hart
Jeffrey Hershey, Farmer
Sam Brannon, Texas Impact
Charlotte Gilman, LIV and Texas Impact
James McElroy
David Lindsay, Alternate for Doug Powell
Nan Marley
Leigh McElroy
Shana Horton, Smiley Law Firm
Debbie Taff
Mary Cunningham
Augusto Villalon, Freese and Nichols
Katy Phillips, City of Sunset Valley
David Meeseay
Charlie Flatten, Hill Country Alliance
Reagan Burnham
Richard Galloway
Andres Garza, Jr., City of Wharton
Wes Birdwell
Kodi Sawin
Kyle Jenson
Ann McElroy
Patricia Warren

Lamar Johanson
Henry Warren
Marilynn Johanson
Rudi Rosengarten, City of Sunset Valley
Cindy Smiley, Alternate for Donna Klaeger
Brian Lillibridge, City of Buda
Nora Mullarky, LCRA
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electric
Annie L. Harton, P.E.C.
Heather Howard, H2O4TEXAS
Heather Cooke, City of Austin
Shelby Eckols, AECOM
Andrew Backus
Jim Cherole
Tina Petersen, CDM Smith
Patrick Oliver
Stacy Oliver
Shana Horton, Smiley Law Firm
Sarah Eastman, Black and Veatch
Kira Iles, Black and Veatch
Lann Bookout, TWDB
Dedra Reinert
Robert Lindsay, City of Goldthwaite
Russell Johnson
Jonathon Kleinman, AQUEOUS
Lorenzo Danielson, Non-voting, TDA Alternate

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. Approved motion to adopt the March 11, 2015 meeting minutes with edits incorporated.
2. Approved motion for the Bylaws Committee to review the bylaws with feedback from the group and make update recommendations on updates to the bylaws.
3. Approved motion to include a brief write up (half page) of the City of Wharton “Sustainable Water” system as a separate item that was considered in the process but it is not a recommended strategy.
4. Approved motion to adopt revised additions to Chapter 5 regarding environmental flows.

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.
3. Attendance Report – Jeff Fox called attention to the attendance report that was included in the member’s packet.
4. Consent Agenda –
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the March 11, 2015 meeting – Haskell Simon had a correction to the March 11th minutes and gave the correction to Jeff Fox. Barbara Johnson had a wording correction. The March 11th minutes were approved with edits incorporated.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – No financial report was given at this meeting.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – Lann Bookout gave an update on timeline for the SWIFT applications, information related to interregional conflicts, and the TWDB process in reviewing the Initially Prepared Plans (IPPs).
6. Discuss and take action as necessary on process for replacing planning group members – Ronald Gertson said the process for replacing members needs to be clarified and that the group should strengthen efforts to adhere to the bylaws which were provided in the packets for this meeting. Mr. Gertson urged the group to ensure that recommendations for all replacements go through the Executive Committee. There was a discussion on the role of the Executive Committee in selecting members and on the public notification procedure.
7. Discuss the role of planning group members – Chairman John Burke read to the group a letter from TWDB regarding the role of planning group members. Haskell Simon added that a role of planning group members is also to keep their respective entities informed.
8. Discuss the role and qualifications of alternates – Ronald Gertson asked if the bylaws should state that the alternate should be able to represent the same interest

group that the member they are replacing represents. Mr. Gertson also brought up an issue of an alternate being involved with a committee, even if the member they are replacing is not involved in that committee. Ronald Fiesler made a motion for the bylaws committee to review the bylaws with feedback from the group and make recommendations on updates to the bylaws. The motion was approved unanimously.

9. Discuss and take action as necessary on Chapter 8 revisions – Barbara Johnson called attention to redline edits of Chapter 8 which were provided as a handout. Ms. Johnson explained some of these changes. There was discussion on items included in Chapter 8 including revisions to address environmental flows. It was clarified that the proposed changes would be posted on the Region K website and incorporated for consideration in the Draft Final Plan.

10. Discuss and take action as necessary on City of Wharton water supply strategies – Wes Birdwell presented on the proposed City of Wharton Sustainable Water System. Birdwell said the purpose of the system is to create 20,000 acre feet of water under existing permits, develop a new well field, and develop mitigation water possibly through Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR). The consultant's presentation is posted with the other meeting materials on the Region K web-site. Ronald Gertson suggested a number of language changes regarding the City of Wharton proposed projects. Jim Brasher asked about the timing of the project. Wes Birdwell said it is a long term project and he appreciates the comments. John Hoffman expressed concern that there is no discussion in the proposal on the impacts on downstream users. Ronald Gertson made a motion to include a brief write up (half page) of the City of Wharton "Sustainable Water" system as a separate item that was considered in the process but it is not a recommended strategy. The motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action as necessary on City of Goldthwaite channel dam project – Russ Johnson representing the City of Goldthwaite spoke on behalf of the Goldthwaite Channel Dam project. Mr. Johnson said the project does not seek any additional authorization to divert additional water from the Colorado River by the City of Goldthwaite or the applicant OP Leonard and said that the project will only impound water during times of excess flow. Ronald Gertson said the IPP indicates there is no firm yield associated with the dam and asked how the City of Goldthwaite plans to make use of the dam if it does not provide firm yield. Russ Johnson represented that the project would help improve the reliability of the water supply.

Haskell Simon asked how many examples there are of in-channel dams in Texas. Russ Johnson said he did not know but the City of Llano currently has an in-channel dam. David Wheelock asked about the partnership between City of Goldthwaite and the applicant, OP Leonard. Russ Johnson said the City of Goldthwaite has committed to cost sharing with the applicant but that the city has not dedicated any of its existing water rights to the dam and is therefore not listed as an applicant. David Wheelock pointed out that it looks like the dam would require active management and asked who would manage the dam. Russ Johnson said he does not yet know who would actively manage the proposed dam but that the City of Goldthwaite hopes to be actively involved in its management. Donna Klaeger asked if the project as it is presented has been approved by the planning group because it appears there were changes to the project over the years. Russ Johnson said he did not know the answer, but that the

engineering work was done over past the several years. Russ Johnson said the differences over the past years have to do with the conversion of a diversion authorization to an impoundment authorization.

Jennifer Walker asked about downstream impacts of the channel dam strategy. Mr. Johnson said the goal of the project is to not have adverse effects downstream for any users. David Wheelock indicated that LCRA has asked for a contested case hearing on the project. Ronald Gertson asked if the location of the dam would back water up to the City of Goldthwaite's existing infrastructure. Russ Johnson said the answer is yes and that the water would back up in the channel upstream. Ronald Gertson asked if there would be restrictions on when the intake could be operated based on river conditions. Russ Johnson indicated that the answer could be yes. Donna Klaeger asked if the strategy that is being identified is to meet an increase of needs that are not being identified in the plan. Mr. Johnson said the project is intended to "firm up" supply and provide reliability to meet existing demand and future demand. Mr. Johnson said that the strategy has been active since 2007. Donna Klaeger asked Jamie Burke what has been approved in the previous plans. Ms. Burke indicated that the previous plans have included a smaller version of the proposed project. It was noted that the City of Goldthwaite requested that the project be included in the plan in a timely manner.

Donna Klaeger motioned to remove the project from the plan and the motion was seconded by Jennifer Walker. There was further discussion regarding how the dam relates to the OP Leonard water right permit. Chairman Burke suggested that TCEQ is the appropriate agency to speak to and make rulings on issues associated with the proposed OP Leonard project and permit. There was a question on when the OP Leonard permit application began and Russ Johnson said it was started in 2012 or earlier and that the City of Goldthwaite is not named in that permit. Donna Klaeger withdrew her motion to remove the project from the plan and Jennifer Walker withdrew her second of the motion. Barbara Johnson suggested the Water Management Strategy Committee reconvene and discuss the issue further and that suggestion was accepted.

12. Evaporation Suppression Technology presentation – A representative of Flexible Solutions presented information about an evaporation suppression product and asked for it to be considered as a part of the "water conservation toolbox".

13. Committee Updates/Reports

- a. Drought Committee - David Wheelock presented an update on the drought and inflows into the Highland Lakes. Mr. Wheelock gave an update regarding TCEQ's Emergency Order and LCRA's application to amend the Water Management Plan.

14. Consultant Status Report

- a. Status Update and Schedule - Jaime Burke gave a status update on the Initially Prepared Plan, public meetings, committee meetings, and work being conducted by the consultant. It was decided that the Water Management Strategy Committee would meet in the near future. Jaime Burke gave an update regarding dates for upcoming meetings.

- b. Presentation for discussion of LCRWPG chapter edits received since IPP – Jennifer Walker presented potential additions to Chapter 5 that discuss attainment frequencies of recommended environmental flows. The additions that Ms. Walker presented include information regarding the SB3 recommended flows and results from computer modeling. Ms. Walker explained these additions and discussion followed. There were proposed changes that were captured by Jaime Burke to be reflected in the Draft Final Plan. Jennifer Walker made a motion to accept the revised additions to Chapter 5 regarding environmental flows. The motion was approved unanimously.

15. Agenda items for next meeting – None discussed.

16. New / Other Business – None.

17. Public Comments – Reagan Burnham expressed concerns about the proposed City of Goldthwaite channel dam project. Dedra Reinert expressed concerns about the proposed City of Goldthwaite channel dam project.

18. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 3:20pm.

Minutes

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

April 22, 2015
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive
Austin, Texas
10:00 a.m.

Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental	James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Brasher, GMA 15	Jim Totten, GMA 12
John Burke, Water Utilities	Byron Theodosis, Counties
John Dupnik, GMA 10	Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9	David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Ronald Gertson, Small Business	Jennifer Walker, Environmental
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities	David Wheelock, River Authorities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest	David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
Barbara Johnson, Industries	Lorenzo Danielson, Non-Voting, TDA
Donna Klaeger, Counties	David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities	David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business	Peggy Travis, Electric Utilities Alternate
Haskell Simon, Agriculture	

Voting Members Absent:

John Hoffman, Electric Utilities, alternate attended	Bill Luedecke, GMA8
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities	Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Cindy Smiley, Alternate for Donna Klaeger	Augusto Villalon, Freese and Nichols
Katy Phillips, City of Sunset Valley	Ann McElroy
Ron Anderson, LCRA	Reagan Burnham
Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB	Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate
Lorenzo Danielson, TDA	Danielle Martin, COA
Charlie Flatten, HCA	

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. Approved motion to adopt the Region K Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) and authorized submittal to TWDB.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke offered a reminder to all that the Initially Prepared Plan would be reviewed. Chairman Burke reminded everyone of the timeline for comments. Jennifer Walker reminded all that there will be more time to suggest revisions during summer. Donna Klaeger indicated that she plans to abstain from voting on approval of the IPP because she has not had sufficient time to review the IPP in full.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the member's packet. John Burke reminded all that, according to the LCRWPG bylaws, voting members are considered to have excessive absenteeism if they are absent for more than half of the meetings over the prior 12-month period.
4. Consent Agenda –
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the February 18, 2015 meeting –. Consideration of approval of these minutes will be postponed to next meeting because of delays in the distribution of the draft minutes for review prior to the meeting.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the balance for the Members' Account is \$4,284 and the balance for the Grant Account is \$76,406. The remaining budget for the current planning cycle is \$161,481, as reported by an AECOM invoice.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meesey gave a reminder that each planning group must certify that the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) is complete in accordance with all statutes. David gave a schedule update on when the draft IPP is due and approximate time periods of when public meetings will be held. David also announced that he is retiring and the current planning cycle will be his final one as a TWDB employee.
6. Lane City Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR) and other LCRA OCRs – David Wheelock introduced Ron Anderson of LCRA to give a presentation on the Lane City OCR. Mr. Anderson summarized that a key goal of LCRA's is to increase firm yield. To meet this goal, Mr. Anderson explained that LCRA is pursuing the Bastrop Groundwater Project and the Lane City OCR which in combination can potentially increase firm supply by 100,000 acre feet. Mr. Anderson provided an overview of information on the Lane City OCR project. Chairman Burke asked for the presentation to be provided for posting on the Region K web-site.
7. Review and finalize Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) edits to remaining draft chapters of the Initially Prepared Plan, as applicable – Donna Klaeger made a comment that, during the period between the submittal of the IPP to TWDB and the approval of the final plan, she would like to continue to work with other members on potential edits to Chapter 4. Ronald Gertson made a comment to confirm that all edits currently in the draft IPP will go into the IPP unless members object and changes are made during today's meeting. Jaime Burke confirmed this procedure. Ronald Gertson clarified a distinction being made between "commitment" and "demand". David Wheelock affirmed that the distinction should be made so that the wording in Chapter 4 will be "projected demand and commitment" rather than simply "projected demand". There was a discussion regarding the distinction between the words "demand" and "commitment" in Chapter 4. It was decided that the wording should use both ("demand and commitment") for the time being and the issue should be revisited if needed. Haskell Simon asked for clarification on how return flows will be utilized and how that will influence the deficit. Teresa Lutes clarified that strategies relating to return flows to meet water needs are included in Chapter 5 (Water Management Strategies). Teresa explained that use of return flows are listed as water management strategies to meet COA needs and, for the remainder, where applicable, for downstream needs in Chapter 5. David Wheelock indicated that for calculations in Chapter 4, consistent with standard procedure, it is assumed that there are no return flows, for baseline water availability determination.

Jaime Burke announced the beginning of Chapter 5 edit discussion and explained the contents of the section. David Lindsay said the presentation of information in the draft

Chapter 5 section on the proposed Goldthwaite dam appears to be confusing. There was discussion on who requested the strategy and it was indicated that City of Goldthwaite had requested it to be considered. Jennifer Walker asked is this strategy is linked to the OP Leonard application. Donna Klaeger expressed concerns about the proposed project and the draft write-up in the IPP. Public comments were given from Reagan Burnham who came from San Saba on behalf of downstream landowners. Mr. Burnham expressed concerns over river flow and property values and indicated that it is confusing that the proposed in-channel dam may be thought by some to have become somehow linked with the OP Leonard water rights permit application. Ronald Gertson and Jim Barho indicated that the reference to OP Leonard application should be removed. It was determined that the strategy should be confirmed with the City of Goldthwaite before the next round of public meetings and the reference to the OP Leonard water right application should be removed. It was decided that the City of Goldthwaite should be contacted via a written letter. Jaime Burke (AECOM) agreed to prepare the letter to the City of Goldthwaite and the city would have the opportunity to respond and confirm the consideration of inclusion of the Goldthwaite Channel Dam in the regional plan.

David Lindsay recommended that the effect of water pricing on conservation should be considered in the plan. It was recommended that the discussion be moved to another time. David Lindsay stated that all options, including pricing, should be on the table. Haskell Simon made a comment that a planning group should not make allocation recommendations because that is the purview of the TCEQ. Jennifer Walker indicated that she has started drafting a document discussion environmental flow needs for later consideration for inclusion in Chapter 5.

The group moved on to discuss edits to Chapter 6. John Dupnik brought up the issue of production from brackish groundwater zones potentially affecting freshwater zones and indicated that there should be a reference to this issue in the plan. It was decided that the language could be developed for consideration after the IPP was submitted. John Dupnik agreed to work on the language for submittal and possible approval by the group.

The group moved on the discuss edits to Chapter 7. Jaime Burke indicated comments from City of Austin and Donna Klaeger were submitted and these comments were discussed by the planning group. There was a public comment from the City of Sunset Valley to request that they are added to the list in Chapter 7 titled "Municipal Region K WUGs under 7,500 in population (2010) and with a sole-source of water". Haskell Simon brought up the wording of Table 7.3 and there was discussion to clarify wording on "Table 7.3: Summary of LCRA Recommended Drought Triggers and Responses" so the description of the table is accurate and consistent with what the table represents. Ronald Gertson said that in some regards he considers the plan to be an incomplete plan and that is should be thoroughly reviewed after the IPP is submitted. There was subsequent discussion and Teresa Lutes suggested that the plan should be presented for consideration for approval by the LCRWPG as a complete draft IPP that is ready for public comment.

8. Consider approval to adopt the Region K Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) and authorize submittal of the IPP to TWDB by the May 1, 2015 deadline – Jim Barho moved to approve this motion. Donna Klaeger and David Lindsay abstained from the vote. The motion was approved with a count of 19 in favor, 0 not in favor, and 2 abstentions (note that one member previously in attendance left the meeting prior to the vote on this agenda item).
9. Agenda items for next meeting -- Chairman Burke stated the next meeting would be July 8th in Austin and suggested additional comments on the IPP by the planning group should be submitted by June 15th.
10. New / Other Business – A deadline of June 1st was set for the City of Wharton to submit recommended and alternate water management strategies.
11. Public Comments – none
12. Adjourn

Minutes

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

April 8, 2015
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive
Austin, Texas
10:00 a.m.

Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental	Haskell Simon, Agriculture
John Burke, Water Utilities	Jim Totten, GMA 12
John Dupnik, GMA 10	Byron Theodosios, Counties
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9	Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Ronald Gertson, Small Business	David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities	Jennifer Walker, Environmental
Karen Haschke, Public Interest	David Wheelock, River Authorities
Barbara Johnson, Industries	David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
Donna Klaeger, Counties	David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities	David Villarreal, Non-Voting, TDA
Doug Powell, Recreation	Peggy Travis, Electric Utilities Alternate
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business	Charles Shell, GMA 8 Alternate

Voting Members Absent:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15	Bill Luedecke, GMA 8, alternate attended
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities, alternate attended	Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities	James Sultemeier, Counties

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Joe Trungale, Consultant	Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB
Rudi Rosengarten, Council City of Sunset Valley	David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Ron Anderson, LCRA	Cindy Smiley, Alternate for Donna Klaeger
Melissa Grote, TSSWCB	Charlie Flatten, HCA
Steve Coonan APAI	Nora Mullarkey, LCRA
Stefan Schuster, MWH	Jaime Burke, AECOM
Karen Bondy, LCRA	James Kowis, AECOM
Tommy Koch, Consultant	Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electric	Danielle Martin, COA
Bob Rose, LCRA	

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. Approved motion to recommend alternative water management strategies from presented list of remaining potentially feasible water management strategies, as presented and including edits suggested today. (See item 8.a.)
2. Approved motion to accept final edits to Chapters 9 and 10 of the Initially Prepared Plan as presented today. (See item 8.f.)

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke

3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report that was included in the member’s packet.
4. Consent Agenda – none
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meeseey reviewed the timeline for the Region K Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) and public hearing. After the final plan is submitted, due on December 1st, there will be a public meeting to hear comments on what should be included in the next Plan.
6. Highland Lakes Drought Update and Presentation – David Wheelock stated that the Highland Lakes are gaining water, as opposed to last year at this time when the levels were falling, however inflows remain low. Bob Rose presented his weather outlook. In March, rainfall was normal west of I-35, and above normal east of I-35. Mr. Rose reported that the weather pattern for spring and summer looks to be wet. Ocean temperatures indicate that an El Nino has developed, which will likely lead to more rainfall through the summer, temperatures are forecast to be normal. Hurricane season looks to be quiet.
7. Committee Updates/Reports
 - a. Legislative and Policy Committee – Barbara Johnson, Committee Chair, gave an update on Chapter 8 and invited comments from the group.
 - b. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee met in a joint committee meeting. In Agenda Item #8, Consultant Status Report, Jaime Burke (AECOM) will include an outcome summary from the joint committee meeting (Water Management Strategies Committee and Water Modeling Committee) discussions.
 - c. Water Management Strategies Committee – Jim Barho, Committee Chair, noted the joint committee meeting and had no other announcements.
 - d. Drought Committee – David Wheelock, Committee Chair, stated that comments on the draft Drought Chapter are due today, and the revised draft will soon be submitted to the consultant.
8. Consultant Status Report
 - a. James Kowis (Consultant) presented remaining Water Management Strategies for consideration by the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG), which included an update on Conservation Costs, Goldthwaite, Sunset Valley, Water Purchases, South Texas Project (STP), City of Austin, Return Flows, Lower Colorado River Authority, and Irrigation. Jennifer Walker suggested including a section addressing environmental flows to provide additional context. Ron Fieseler moved to recommend alternative water management strategies from presented list of remaining potentially feasible water management strategies, as presented and including edits suggested today; the motion was approved. Ronald Gertson expressed concern over the speed at which the group was expected to take action for this and hoped to plan better for the next cycle. Discussion on the comment period and time allowed for editing after the IPP is submitted followed. Jennifer Walker expressed concern over including more strategies in the Plan than indicated by the standard planning process comparison of water availability to projected demand.
 - b. Jaime Burke (AECOM) presented LCRWPG edits on Chapter 1 (Regional Planning Area Description) for consideration and handed out the chapter edits with track changes. Items discussed included a proposed appendix 1B (TWDB database, DB17, reports), which will not be included in the IPP, but will be addressed for the final plan. Teresa Lutes suggested

also adding a section on the current drought and water supply to this Chapter for the final plan. Chapter 1 will be considered for approval with the rest of the IPP in June.

- c. Jaime Burke presented LCRWPG edits on Chapter 3 (Water Availability and Supplies) for consideration and handed out the chapter edits with track changes. The group discussed comments previously received from Donna Klaeger and Jim Brasher, among others.
 - d. It was decided to postpone until the April 22nd LCRWPG meeting discussion of edits on Chapter 4 (Water Needs).
 - e. Jaime Burke presented minor edits to Chapter 9 (Water Infrastructure Financing Recommendations) for consideration.
 - f. Jaime Burke presented minor edits on Chapter 10 (Public Involvement Activities) for consideration. Jim Barho moved to approve final edits to Chapters 9 and 10 of the Initially Prepared Plan as presented today, the motion passed.
 - g. Jaime Burke updated the group on the remaining chapters in the Initially Prepared Plan. Chapters 5, 6, 7, and 11 will be sent out for LCRWPG review next week. Edits and comments can be made between submitting the IPP and the Final Plan.
 - h. Jaime Burke reviewed the schedule and upcoming work/deliverables. On April 22nd, the LCRWPG to consider approval of submittal of the IPP to TWDB on May 1st. Public hearing and public meetings will take place in June and July, comments from state agencies are expected in September. Final adopted plan and 2016 plan water management strategy prioritizations are due December 1, 2015.
9. Discussion and possible action on Chapter 4 revisions – Discussion and action postponed until the April 22nd LCRWPG meeting (see 8d. above).
10. Agenda items for next meeting
- a. Date and location of next meeting – April 22, 2015 to be held in Austin. Public meetings will take place at locations upstream and downstream in the basin, and one public hearing will take place in Austin on July 8, 2015. The LCRWPG will plan to also hold a regular meeting on that same day, upon conclusion of the public hearing.
11. New / Other Business - none
12. Public Comments – none
13. Adjournment

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

March 11, 2015
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
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Doug Powell, Recreation

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
David Villarreal, Non-Voting, TDA
Robin Gary, GMA 10, Alternate
Cindy Smiley, Counties, Alternate

Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10, alternate attended
Donna Klaeger, Counties, alternate attended
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8

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

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electric
Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB
David Lindsay, Recreation, Alternate
Charlie Flatten, HCA
Kay Phillips, Sunset Valley
Nora Mullarkey, LCRA

Jaime Burke, AECOM
James Kowis, AECOM
Jeff Fox, Municipalities, Alternate
Danielle Martin, COA
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

Formal Actions Taken:

- 1. Motion passed approving Chapter 2 of the Initially Prepared Plan with changes, as discussed in the meeting (Agenda item 9.b.).
2. Motion to approve recommended and alternative water management strategies from presented list of potentially feasible water management strategies, as selected by the RWPG, subject to revision at the April 8th Region K meeting, passed with one opposed (Agenda item 9.c.).

Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the member attendance report, and noted corrections for Bill Luedecke’s attendance.

4. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that \$159,140 remains in the grant account and \$4,272 remains in the planning group account, which is funded through donations from various entities in the region and used for other expenses not covered by the TWDB regional water planning grant. Teresa Lutes noted that expenses associated with the scope of work tasks conducted by AECOM to update the water availability modeling results to include hydrological data through the year 2013 have now been paid to the Consultant out of the planning group account.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meeseey reported that the total dollar amount of SWIFT applications received now exceeds available funding and that TWDB is continuing to work through the SWIFT loan process. Mr. Meeseey reviewed deadlines for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP), public hearings, and 5th cycle planning. Mr. Meeseey updated the group on the implementation survey and regional planning socio-economic information development.
6. Highland Lakes Drought Update – David Wheelock announced that analysis of preliminary data for 2014 inflows shows that the basin is in a hydrologically critical drought period. Mr. Wheelock gave an overview report on supplies using 2011 as a base year for run of river rights rather than 1956, this was a key factor in LCRA's system firm supply volume, which is estimated to have been reduced from 600,000 to 500,000 ac-ft. Mr. Wheelock noted that the amount of water contracted is less than that reduced total amount and the amount of current firm water use is significantly less. Jennifer Walker and David Wheelock discussed the difference between a hydrologic drought of record and a DWDR as defined in the Water Management Plan. Teresa Lutes suggested incorporating into the draft Initially Prepared Plan language used in the LCRA Board announcement on LCRA's preliminary system firm yield reduction estimates, particularly because of the ongoing historic drought.
7. LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) Update – David Wheelock stated that TCEQ has issued an Emergency Order granting relief from the LCRA 2010 WMP for the fourth year in a row. LCRA's application to amend the WMP is currently in technical review at TCEQ and TCEQ action on the application is expected in the next several months.
8. Committee Updates/Reports: John Burke announced that the Department of Homeland Security will attend the Region K meeting on April 8th and, due to homeland security concerns, have requested a closed session after the meeting.
 - a. Legislative and Policy Committee – Jaime Burke stated that the Committee met to review draft Chapter 8 and will be ready to present the final draft Chapter 8 sections to Region K and receive comments in April. Barbara Johnson, Committee Chair, stated she plans to convene the committee one more time and will follow-up with some suggested dates. David Villarreal noted that he will confirm with the Texas Department of Agriculture Commissioner about language to support brush control.
 - b. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes announced that there will possibly be a joint meeting with Water Management Strategies Committee later this month.
 - c. Water Management Strategies Committee – Jim Barho noted that the Committee met on March 5th
 - d. Drought Committee – David Wheelock announced that the Committee met last week and will meet again today to look at emergency interconnects and emergency supplies.
9. Consultant Status Report:
 - a. Chapter Update and Status – Jaime Burke reviewed the current status of draft Initially Prepared Plan Chapters 1 through 11.
 - b. Present RWPG edits on Chapter 2 for consideration.

Jaime Burke presented draft edits to Chapter 2, including minor language changes. The group reviewed and discussed Chapter 2 and provided edits. Ron Fieseler made a motion to approve Chapter 2 of the Initially Prepared Plan with changes, as discussed in the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Presentation of Water Management Strategies for consideration by RWPG.

Jaime Burke presented potential water management strategies ready for consideration by the RWPG, and handed out a table document and a screening matrix document. Ms. Burke updated the group on the Committee meeting that was held on March 5th. Categories of strategies presented for consideration included drought management, municipal conservation, expansion and development of groundwater supply and importation, Burnet County regional projects, aquifer storage and recovery, brush control, and reuse. The group discussed further exploring costing for municipal conservation after submittal of the IPP and in the Legislative Policy section. Ron Fieseler made a motion to approve recommended and alternative water management strategies from the presented list of potentially feasible water management strategies, as selected by the RWPG, subject to revision at the April 8th Region K meeting. The motion passed with one opposed.

Final determinations on selected and remaining strategies will be made at the April 8th Region K meeting. Jaime Burke presented water management strategies not ready for consideration today in preparation for the April 8th regular planning group meeting; categories include non-wholesale water provider strategies, LCRA strategies, and City of Austin strategies. Jim Barho suggested posting the March 30th combined Water Modeling and Water Management Strategies committees meeting as a public meeting workshop for planning group members to review the strategies not being considered for action today.

d. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables: Finalize strategies and some chapters for IPP by April 8th; authorize consultant to submit IPP to TWDB on April 22nd; IPP due May 1, DB17 due July 1, final adopted plan and 2016 prioritization due December 1.

10. Agenda items for next meeting: none noted

- a. Location of next meeting – 10:00 am March 30th Open Joint Water Modeling and Water Management Strategies Committee meeting/workshop at Dalchau Service Center, the next regular meeting is at 10:00 am at Dalchau Service Center on April 22nd.

11. New / Other Business: none

12. Public Comments: none

13. Adjourn

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

February 18, 2015
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive
Austin, Texas
10:00 a.m.

Members Signing In:

Jim Barho, Environmental
John Burke, Water Utilities
John Dupnik, GMA 10
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Donna Klaeger, Counties
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
James Sulzemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseay, Non-voting, TWDB
David Villarreal, Non-Voting, TDA
Dave Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Brent Batchelor, Agriculture Alternate

Voting Members Absent:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8
Doug Powell, Recreation, alternate attended

Haskell Simon, Agriculture, alternate attended
Byron Theodosis, Counties
David Van Dresar, Water Districts

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Doug Prinz, City of Elgin/LPGCD
Sue Brashar, City of Elgin
Vicky Kennedy, Travis County
Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB
Wes Birdwell, Halff Associates/City of Wharton
Charlie Flatten, HCA
Stefan Schuster, MWH

Jonathan Klenman, Aqueous
Danielle Martin, AW
Gary Gold, AW
Jeff Fox, AW
Jaime Burke, AECOM
James Kowis, AECOM

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. Approved motion to approve the January 14, 2015 meeting minutes with addition of wording to reflecting the deadline discussion for water management strategy proposals to be considered for this planning cycle.
2. Approved motion to request in writing that TWDB provide a socio-economic analysis for Region K, as required for the regional planning process.
3. Approved motion to authorize the Region K political subdivision to hold a public input meeting on the Initially Prepared Plan after May 1, 2015.

Regular Meeting:

- 1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke
3. Attendance Report –Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report and asked the planning group members to review the report for accuracy.
4. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the January 14, 2015 meeting – The Planning Group approved a motion to approve the January 14, 2015 meeting minutes with addition of wording to reflecting the deadline discussion for water management strategy proposals to be considered for this planning cycle.
- b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported the Members' Fund has \$13,142, and the Grant Fund has \$176,713 as of the end of January.
5. Environmental Flows 101 presentation – Jaime Burke introduced Joe Trungale, Consulting team hydrologist. Joe Trungale gave a history of regional and state flow studies for lakes, rivers, bays and estuaries, and the resulting environmental flow recommendations that have come from them, including Senate Bills 2 and 3, and their likely influence on the pending WMP. Mr. Trungale reviewed the variable levels of natural flow regimes and flow recommendations for the Colorado River and Matagorda Bay. Ron Fieseler and David Lindsay discussed study sites for the SB2 process and its applicability to rivers and tributaries with natural flow conditions. Jim Barho, David Bradsby, and Jennifer Walker discussed these studies and their relevancy to the current drought and prolonged extreme dry conditions and the impact to environmental flows. Trungale stated that SB3 tries to resolve some of the issues with unstudied sites and recent drought by accelerating the process using available data and involving stakeholder groups in a workplan process. David Wheelock asked for a brief summary of how to use this information for planning and what differences there may be this cycle from the last one. Mr. Trungale noted the incorporation of the LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) as a water management strategy and evaluation of new water management strategies (WMS) as important, and the SB3 processes being in place for the first time this cycle.
6. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meeseey reviewed the Emergency Infrastructure Interconnect requirement: RWPGs must summarize information on existing water facilities that may be used for water interconnects and provide that to TCEQ confidentially and separately from the Plan by February 20th. David Meeseey also reminded the group of upcoming deadlines: the IPP must be approved before it is due to TWDB on May 1, the date to apply for the 5th cycle of Regional Water Planning funding is March 3, and consultants need to be procured before any technical work can be done for the next planning cycle.
7. Highland Lakes Drought Update – David Wheelock updated the group on current drought conditions: combined storage is at 36%, January inflows were 26% of average January inflows, although rainfall was above average, which is forecast to continue throughout spring. Barbara Johnson and Dave Lindsay recommended doing research on comparing current to historical inflows. Mr. Wheelock responded that he plans to work on it when other priorities have been completed.
8. LCRA Water Management Plan Update – David Wheelock reported that LCRA is performing several drought response activities, including emergency applications pending at TCEQ for relief from the LCRA 2010 WMP for interruptible supply and reduced Blue Sucker flows; temporary agricultural run of river use at upstream locations. Mr. Wheelock noted that no releases have been made by LCRA through Tom Miller dam since November 4th, and that once per week watering restrictions are in place. Jennifer Walker and Barbara Johnson asked about the Board meeting taking place today, David Wheelock clarified that they are talking about a hydrologic drought of record today, not the DWDR declaration that is defined in the Plan. David Wheelock mentioned that there is a very small probability of reaching 600,000 AF combined storage level the end of spring in the March or April timeframe. Barbara Johnson asked if the LCRA Board could declare a DWDR prior to reaching the 600,000 storage level to which David Wheelock responded that he thinks they probably could but the LCRA Board was not discussing that at today's Board committee meeting.
9. David Meeseey recommended that the group take action to submit a letter to TWDB. Jim Barho motioned to request in writing that TWDB provide a socio-economic analysis for Region K, as required for the regional planning process. Ronald Gertson asked if any other group does it this way; Mr. Meeseey responded that Region K is the only one. The motion passed unanimously.
10. David Meeseey announced the meeting should be held shortly after the RWPG adopts the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). David Wheelock motioned to authorize the Region K political subdivision to hold a public input meeting on the Initially Prepared Plan after May 1, 2015; the motion passed unanimously.
11. Committee Updates/Reports.

- a. Legislative and Policy Committee – Jaime Burke communicated updates to Chapter 8, including SWIFT and other funding information, recommendations for growth, groundwater planning, and conservation, and recommendations for handling of the Conservation Messaging Coordination and brush control sections. Jim Barho and Ronald Gertson discussed including an Off-Channel Reservoir discussion in this chapter and its relevance to policy. Ronald Gertson commented that the group has traditionally approached development of this Chapter such a way that there is unanimous agreement from the entire group on the content to be included, and anything not unanimously supported is typically struck. It was noted that information on brush control should be included and a study on inflows could be beneficial due to the on-going drought; David Lindsay volunteered to draft language for the Committee to consider on the study of inflows.
 - b. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes reported that the committee met on February 2nd and is in the process of drafting recommendations to put before the entire group probably prior to the next meeting.
 - c. Water Management Strategies Committee – Jim Barho reported that the committee held their kickoff meeting on February 4th. The group is looking at reviewing working documents on strategies.
 - d. Drought Committee – David Wheelock stated that the committee will be meeting today after the group meeting.
12. Consultant Status Report
- a. Summary of Major Items at January Region K meeting: Donna Klaeger was elected to replace planning group member Bill Neve, LCRA was designated as the Region K political subdivision, information on the Hays County pipeline project was presented, Prioritization and Water Modeling Committees reported updates, and the extended hydrology modeling results were presented.
 - b. Chapter Update and Status: comments from the RWPG on Chapter 2 are due by the end of February, Chapters 3 and 8 are in Committee review, Chapters 1 and 4 are nearly complete, Chapters 5, 7, 10, and 11 are in progress, Chapters 6 and 9 have not yet been started. Jim Barho reminded the group to get comments in as quickly as possible to give the consultants more time to complete the Chapters.
 - c. Strategy Update and Status: plan to have most potential strategies evaluated before the WMS Committee meeting on March 5th, consideration by RWPG on March 11th, approvals for inclusion in the IPP by April 8th meeting. Jaime updated the group on the Hays County pipeline project, Wharton sustainable water supply, various LCRA and City of Austin strategies, region-wide strategies, various local strategies by county, and strategies for WUGs in multiple regions. Jaime stated that mining in Burnet County is a remaining issue that will need to be resolved.
 - d. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables: Chapter draft completion, RWPG chapter reviews, and strategy evaluation and preparation of list for RWPG evaluation. The RWPG will meet at least monthly until May 1. The IPP will be considered for approved by RWPG in April with an April 8th meeting planned and a tentative second April meeting planned for April 22nd if needed, prior to the May 1 deadline to submit to TWDB. A 30-day notice for a public hearing must be posted prior to the TWDB database (DB17) update due date of July 1. Final Plan and water management strategy prioritizations are due December 1.
13. Next meeting
- a. Agenda items – Ron Fieseler, John Dupnik, and David Meesey discussed potentially having an item on an upcoming agenda to discuss issues related to private-owner groundwater interbasin transfer between Regions K and L.
 - b. Date and Location: March 11 at LCRA Dalchau Service Center.
14. New / Other Business - none
15. Public Comments – none
16. Adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

January 14, 2015
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
John Hoffman, Electric Utilities
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Donna Klaeger, Counties (Elected this meeting)
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties (Resigned this meeting)

Doug Powell, Recreation
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sulzemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseay, Non-voting, TWDB
David Villarreal, Non-Voting, TDA
Charles Shell, Alternate, GMA 8

Voting Members Absent:

Bill Luedecke, GMA 8, alternate attended

Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Ward Wyatt, CTWC
Brent Batchelor, Agriculture
David Venhuizen, Venhuizen Water Works
Bill Thaman, FNI
Robin Gary, BSEACD, alternate
Wes Birdwell, Halff Associates
Clay Collin, City of Sunset Valley
Karen Bondy, LCRA
Brent Covert, Forestar
Carissa Shelley, Pape-Dawson
Cindy Rodibauger, FCGWD
Mitchell Sodek, CTGCD
Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB
Jared Bower, TSSWCB
Katy Phillips, City of Sunset Valley
Rudi Rosengarten, City of Sunset Valley
Usa Guardiollie, SAWS
David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Stephen Ramirez, SOS

Jay Long, Empresario Partners
Linda Roye Rogers, HTGCD
Velma Danielson, Blanton & Associates
Tommmmy Koch, C Thomas Koeler
Heather Cooke, City of Austin
Susan Roth, Susan Roth Counseling
Charlie Flatten, HCA
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electrical
Barbara Wildon, Village of Volente
Owen Moorhead, Texas Impact
Danielle Martin, City of Austin
Jeff Fox, COA Alternate
Gary Gold, City of Austin
Will Conley, Hays County Commissioner
Linda Rogers
Jim McMeans
Stephen Ramirez, Save our Springs Alliance
Jaime Burke, AECOM
James Kowis, Consultant

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. Approved motion to adopt the minutes, as presented.
2. Approved motion to elect the Executive Committee members as nominated by the Nominating Committee.
3. Approved motion to accept Bill Neve's resignation from the group.
4. Approved motion to elect Judge Donna Klaeger as the Counties Interest group member for Burnet County.
5. Approved motion to designate LCRA as the Political Subdivision for the 5th planning cycle for the 20121 Regional Water Plan.
6. Approved motion to authorize the LCRA to post the associated 30-day public notice to apply for and to authorize submitting a grant application to TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding the 2021 Regional Water Plan cycle.
7. Approved motion for Region K to address projected water demands in the Region K portion of western Hays County by including for consideration a water management strategy (WMS) that will consider the importation of non-Trinity and/or non-Edwards water sources from Region L into Hays County. This WMS has the potential to either partially or wholly meet those projected water demands; and, in order to avoid any water management strategy incompatibility with Region L, AECOM is directed, as the budget allows, to coordinate, not develop, any such water management strategy with HDR Engineering in order to assess strategy options, water sources, quantity of water available for any such strategy, or other relevant considerations.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke
2. Welcome and Introductions – Chairman John Burke
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes
4. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the October 8, 2014 meeting – Jim Barho's motion to adopt the minutes as presented was passed.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the Grant account holds \$214,295, while the Members' account has \$13,140. \$8,200 will be withdrawn from the Members account to fund updated hydrology modeling.
5. Election of Officers – Ronald Gertson called attention to the email from himself to Chairman Burke regarding the Nominating Committee recommendation of John Burke for Chair, Jim Barho for Vice Chair, Teresa Lutes for Secretary, and Byron Theodosis, Jim Brasher and Ronald Gertson for at-large Officers. There were no nominations from the floor. Barbara Johnson's motion to elect these nominated members was passed.
6. Discuss and take action concerning Region K Planning Group member Bill Neve's recommendation to appoint Commissioner Neve's alternate Judge Donna Klaeger as his replacement for Counties (Burnet) Interest group, and take action on Commissioner Neve's tendered resignation. Bill Neve's motion to resign from the group was approved. Commissioner Neve's motion to appoint Judge Donna Klaeger as his replacement was passed after discussion from Jennifer Walker and John Burke on the process.. Commissioner Neve said goodbye to the group as a member.
7. Discuss letter from Senator Fraser. Take action as necessary – John Burke called attention to the letter included in the members' packets regarding the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) and the Texas Open Meetings Act. Ronald Gertson, Chairman Burke, David Meesey, Jim Barho, and Ron Fieseler discussed the posting of committee meetings; Judge Klaeger and David Meesey commented on making public decisions and properly recording meeting minutes. The group came to the conclusion that the current committee process meets the requirements of the Open Meeting Act, and no action was taken.
8. Presentation and possible action on requested Water Management Strategies for Hays County – Ronald Fieseler is the Region K liaison with Region L; he introduced a requested water management strategy for consideration which would require coordination with Region L to import water into and through Hays

County. John Dupnik explored the LCRWPG's role in weighing water quality issues related to projects, David Meeseey indicated that the LCRWPG can either decide to evaluate the project further or decline to consider it this round. Ron Fieseler commented that Region L is already working on this project, which lightens the load for Region K. Will Conley, Hays County Commissioner, spoke and indicated that he would assure that he would deliver detailed information to AECOM in a timely manner. Ron Fieseler moved that Region K address the projected water demands in the Region K portion of western Hays County by including for consideration a water management strategy that will consider the importation of non-Trinity and/or non-Edwards water sources from Region L into Hays County which could either partially or wholly meet those projected water demands; and, in order to avoid any water management strategy incompatibility with Region L, AECOM is directed, as the budget allows, to coordinate, not develop, any such water management strategy with HDR Engineering in order to assess strategy options, water sources, quantity of water available for any such strategy, or other relevant considerations. After discussion from the group on budget and use of consultant time, the motion passed.

9. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meeseey, TWDB reported on upcoming deadlines; a first draft of the IPP will need to be ready by the end of March or early April in order to meet the May 1 deadline for TWDB. Project Prioritization for the 2016 Plan is due December 1, 2015. After the IPP submittal due May 1, 2015 there will be a commentary period, after which any revisions by the planning group are due to TWDB by November 2, 2015.
10. Highland Lakes Drought Update – David Wheelock, LCRA, gave an update on the drought. 2014 was the second driest year in the history of the Highland Lakes, which are currently 34% full, the combined storage on January 1 was the lowest it had been since the lakes were full; the previous lowest January 1 storage level was in 1952. USGS data and evaporation data need to be finalized before a drought worse than the drought of record (DWDR) could be determined. LCRA drought management activities include: a third year of interruptible water cutoff and applying for a fourth year; a temporary permit to use run of river rights for downstream use; no storage releases from the lakes for almost 4 months; and mandatory once a week watering for firm customers. The weather forecast is for a weak El Nino, below average temperatures, and above average moisture. Jim Barho asked for a possible timeframe for 20% firm water curtailment, Mr. Wheelock responded that the model shows a slight possibility for reaching the trigger by March. Jennifer Walker asked if LCRA has done any research on rainfall to inflow ratio. Mr. Wheelock responded that he could more readily go into detail on that correlation and recent trends offline. John Dupnik asked if any research had been done by LCRA on the effects of well drilling on base flows. Mr. Wheelock responded that no specific study has been done, but that most stored water in the Highland Lakes is accumulated during high-flow events. Jim Barho and Teresa Lutes commented on current and future planning and conservation efforts that stretch the water supply. Karen Hashke suggested that PSA announcements would be beneficial to encourage public awareness and participation in conservation. Ronald Gertson commented that as a result of the lack of availability of surface water for irrigation, there has been an enormous amount of drilling for groundwater in the lower basin, which has seriously strained or even exceeded the available groundwater. Consequently, municipalities in the area, which are dependent on groundwater, are concerned about future planning. Mr. Wheelock noted that LCRA has broken ground on its Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR) in the Lane City area, which will be a new supply for interruptible and firm use. Haskell Simon added that there is a lot that is still not understood about the movement of water under ground; the worst case is that groundwater is over-appropriated; the best is that we don't know.
11. LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) Update – LCRA/David Wheelock reported on recent WMP activities; LCRA has applied for an amendment to the LCRA WMP revision application to TCEQ, which is currently under TCEQ review, with expected activity from them in the next few months.
12. Discuss and take action: Teresa Lutes motioned to designate LCRA as the Political Subdivision for the next (5th) planning cycle for the 2021 Regional Water Plan. The motion was approved.
13. Discussion and possible action: A motion was made and approved to authorize LCRA, as the Region K Political Subdivision, to post the associated 30-day public notice (30 days prior to TWDB Board action) to

apply for and to authorize submitting a grant application to TWDB on behalf of Region K for funding the 2021 Regional Water Plan cycle.

14. Committee Updates/Reports. Take action as necessary.

- a. Prioritization Committee – Chairman Burke reported that a Chairs’ meeting was held; Chairman Burke and Jennifer Walker attended. It was decided that the projects for the 2016 Plan will be prioritized with the same parameters that were used for the previous Plan. Ms. Walker added that RWPG prioritization only counts as 15% of the total score for SWIFT fund allocation. Barbara Johnson remarked that 15% seems low and suggested requesting a higher percent; Chairman Burke replied that he did bring that up at the meeting and did not receive any interest.
- b. Legislative and Policy Committee – Walker met with TWDB to discuss SWIFT funding for conservation and reuse projects with no capital costs associated. She will send information she receives back from TWDB on to the RWPG. Meeseey added that a large entity could borrow money on behalf of small communities, which happens already with farmers in the Pan Handle region. Walker also noted that several communities can apply together, which would score higher. Barbara Johnson announced that the committee will meeting soon.
- c. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes reported that the committee has reviewed the draft results from the consultant work on extending WAM hydrology through 2013. The committee also discussed concepts for incorporating additional safety factors for the drought into this planning round of the Plan to help address drought response and uncertainties. Next steps for the Modeling Committee include meeting in February to develop recommendations to bring to the LCRWPG. These suggestions may include additional ways to address the ongoing drought in the current plan as well as other recommendations that could be incorporated into the 2021 regional plan. Donna Klaeger, John Burke, David Wheelock, and Teresa Lutes discussed what it would take to include 2014 data in the model; it was concluded that there is not time to include final data before the Plan is due, but that the Modeling Committee can recommend safety factors and additional water management strategies to address uncertainties and needs related to the ongoing drought. Chairman Burke suggested possibly including the data in the final plan even if there is not time to include it in the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Ronald Gertson and Jennifer Walker expressed potential concerns over possible over-planning concepts.
- d. Water Management Strategies Committee – Jim Barho provided an update on the committee’s efforts. Jim related that the committee would like to stress that it is the responsibility of the entity that is submitting a strategy to gather and prepare data and provide analysis, not the consultant’s responsibility. The group agreed that the cut-off date for new WMS’s would be effective as of this meeting date January 14, 2015.
- e. Drought Committee – David Wheelock reported that the committee has begun meeting; they will be undertaking an assessment of entities’ preparedness for emergency water shortages.

15. Consultant Status Report. Take action as necessary. – Jaime Burke, AECOM

- a. Summary of Major Items at October Region K meeting:
 - i. Presentations from: GBRA, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, WaterSmart Software, and City of Wharton.
 - ii. Actions: New voting members were elected, Technical Memo was ratified, motion to submit letter to TWDB and Texas Groundwater Alliance, and approval for AECOM to run WAM with updated hydrology.
 - iii. Committee updates: Prioritizations due date postponed to Dec. 1, 2015, Drought Committee met after LCRWPG meeting, Nominating Committee was created.
- b. Work Progress since last meeting:
 - i. Updated availability modeling and needs analysis
 - Drought of record did not change, the driest year was 2011, small decrease to firm yield, and large decreases to irrigation divisions ROR (creates need for additional strategies).

- Irrigation shortages to Colorado, Matagorda, and Wharton Counties.
 - Municipal shortages to Bastrop, Blanco, Burnet, Colorado, Fayette, Gillespie, Hays, Llano, Mills, San Saba, and Travis counties.
 - Mining and Steam Electric shortages to Bastrop, Burnet, Fayette, Hays, Matagorda, and Travis Counties.
- ii. Strategy development
- Preparing table of potential WMS with criteria analysis for LCRWPG consideration.
 - Received guidance from WMS Committee on municipal conservation, agricultural conservation, and drought management. Also received guidance on Bastrop County needs.
- iii. Chapter progress and drafts
- Chapters 2, 3, 7, and 8 are under review or review is needed by Committees.
 - Chapters 1 and 4 are nearly complete and ready for RWPG review.
 - Chapters 5, 10, and 11 are being developed and updated.
 - Chapters 6 and 9 have not yet been started.
- c. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables: Upcoming work includes strategy evaluation and list preparation. Virginia Wilkinson will be leaving AECOM January 21st. IPP drafts due for RWPG review in March before the April 8 deadline (unless an additional meeting is called on April 22) for the RWPG to consider authorizing consultant to submit to TWDB on May 1. DB17 due July 1, Final Plan now due December 1, 2015.
16. Next meeting: Meetings will be held monthly starting on February 18th, with a potential additional meeting on April 22nd.
17. New / Other Business: Water Modeling Committee will meet on February 2nd; WMS Committee will meet February 4th.
18. Public Comments: all public comments were regarding agenda item 8, the proposed Hays County Water Management Strategy (WMS).
- a. Charlie Flatten, Hill Country Alliance, stated that the proposed Hays County WMS does not meet minimum criteria for the LCRWPG administrative procedural process, including no demonstrated specific demand, associated price, defined source, or route, stating that the Carrizo-Wilcox region is already strained.
 - b. Will Conley, Hays County Commissioner – noted that Hays County’s population is rapidly growing, and there is a need to ensure long-term water sustainability.
 - c. Linda K Rodgers expressed concern about the proposal for a lack of communication and transparency, and that the purpose for it is to allow development.
 - d. Jim McMeans expressed concern over developing Central Hays County which the proposed pipeline would traverse, as it is an aquifer recharge area. He proposed an alternate pipeline route.
 - e. Stephen Ramirez, Save our Springs Alliance, encouraged a thorough discussion among the group.
19. Adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

October 8, 2014

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
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Joe King, Electric Utilities
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties
Doug Powell, Recreation
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
David Villarreal, Non-Voting, TDA
Robin Gary, Alternate, GMA 10
Lauri Gillam, Alternate, Municipalities

Voting Members Absent:

John Dupnik, GMA 10, alternate attended
Brandon Wade, Municipalities, alternate attended

Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Andres Garza, Jr., City of Wharton, City Manager
Jasmine Gardner, Blanton & Associates, Inc.
Jonathan Lala, Freese & Nichols, Inc.
Doug Shaw, TWDB
Heather Cooke, City of Austin
Mayra Ortiz, Halff
Wes Birdwell, Halff
Bill Swanson, MWH
Joe Trungale, TES
David Lindsay, Alternate, Recreation
Karen Bondy, Alternate, River Authorities
Susan Roth, Susan Roth Consulting
Laurance Armour, Peirce Ranch
Gay Erwin, Strategic Partnerships
James Lee Murphy, Esq., GBRA

Stefan Schuster, MWH
Brent Batchelor, Alternate, Agriculture
Lyda Creus Molarpley, WaterSmart Software
Jim Campbell, WaterSmart Software
Jeremy Mazur, Representative Callegari's Office
Frank Gradiline, PVAMC
Jeff Fox, Alternate, Municipalities
Chris Hoelter, LCRA
Chris Lippe
Holly Vierk, TWDB
Rudi Rosengarten, SSV
Margaret Cook, UT Austin
Aaron Wendt, TSSWCB
Tommy Koeh
John Hoffman, Alternate, Electric Utilities

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. Approved motion to adopt the July 9, 2014 minutes with no changes.
2. Approved motion to send a letter to TWDB requesting a review of City of Wharton population and water demand projections.

3. Approved motion to replace Voting Members Brandon Wade with alternate Lauri Gillam and Joe King with alternate John Hoffman.
4. Approved motion to send letter drafted by the Legislative Committee to TWDB and the Texas Groundwater Alliance.
5. Approved motion to authorize LCRA to contract with AECOM to extend Water Availability Model (WAM) hydrology through 2013 for \$8,200.
6. Approved motion to ratify the Technical Memorandum submitted on August 1, as outlined by Consultant.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke called the meeting into order.
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke welcomed everyone in attendance.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the attendance report included in member's packets.
4. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the July 9, 2014 meeting – Teresa Lutes presented the minutes, Jim Barho moved to adopt the July 9th minutes with no changes. The motion passed.
 - b. Financial / Budget Report – David Wheelock reported a grant account balance of \$85,504. The member's account has \$1,576, plus an additional \$7,000 gathered so far from the group's region-wide solicitation for funds to help support the regional planning process. David noted that, if approved, these funds collected will partially fund WAM modeling services to be considered in agenda item #13.C. John Burke urged members to contact officials and Water User Groups (WUGs) in their areas for donations.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meesey (TWDB) updated the group on the water planning timeline. The Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) should be adopted and submitted to TWDB by May 1; a public hearing will follow with a comment period. Comments will be considered by the group and, as needed, revisions will then be made. The final adopted Plan is due to TWDB November 2, 2015.
6. Highland Lakes Drought Update – David Wheelock (LCRA) reported that the Highland Lakes which hold just over 2 million acre-feet have been below 40% (800,000 acre-feet) since May 2013, with the lowest point being approximately 32% (637,000 acre-feet) in September of 2013. A year ago at the beginning of October the lakes were at approximately 33% 664,000 acre-feet. The combined lakes Travis and Buchanan storage volume is currently at approximately 35% (700,000 acre-feet). LCRA is currently operating under a TCEQ approved Emergency Order to depart from operating under LCRA's current Water Management Plan (WMP). It is anticipated that additional Emergency Orders may be needed for 2015.
7. LCRA Water Management Plan (WMP) Revision Update – David Wheelock (LCRA) reported on the status of LCRA's WMP revision process. TCEQ published updated Colorado Basin hydrology through 2013 in May and issued a draft report to LCRA along with a proposed drought management framework for new WMP revisions. Some of the suggested changes to the plan include maintenance of combined storage volumes above 600,000 acre-feet, a multiple level drought management structure, and a look-ahead element. LCRA developed a model, proposed changes, and after a stakeholder review, the LCRA Board approved the framework for an application incorporating TCEQ recommendations to be filed at the end of this month.
8. GBRA Presentation on ocean desalination project – Jim Murphy (Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority) asked the group to consider their project as an alternate strategy, and introduced Bill Swanson(MWH), consultant project engineer. The their Integrated Water and Power Project

(IWPP) is a regional water supply strategy that integrates ocean water desalination with existing water supplies to decrease costs related to desalination. The concept proposes to start with an initial 25 MGD plant with expansions up to 250 MGD. The feasibility study encompasses a large area of central and coastal Texas and includes portions of 6 Water Planning Regions. David Meesey noted that the Region L plan is being amended to include desalination in the current and next plans. Costs saving strategies include sharing facilities, minimizing energy cost, reducing treatment cost, delivery and financing strategies, and regional water integration. Bill Neve asked how cost sharing would be distributed; Mr. Swanson responded that it would be a benefit-based cost allocation. Mr. Murphy noted that initially this project would serve customers in the lower basin, therefore, the cost of the infrastructure and water received would be borne by those entities. If demand develops in the upper basin, most of the network infrastructure would already in place to distribute the water. Jim Barho noted that the group has considered desalination in the past and have encountered two key issues; relatively high cost per volume, and residue disposal. Mr. Swanson mentioned that the proposed strategy benefits from reduced costs and environmental impacts of open water concentrate disposal by collaborating with power developments. John Burke requested a comparison between desalination and the SAWS Vista Ridge groundwater project. Mr. Swanson commented that the cost of seawater treatment is the same anywhere; where the cost varies is in the transportation of seawater to the plant and connection of treated water to customers. The cost of the Vista Ridge project is achievable for desalination, depending on transportation variables. David Van Dresar, Bill Neve, and Jennifer Walker asked about who pays for the water and benefits to other regions. Jennifer Walker commented that it seems that a community that invests in desalination should first stretch all existing water supplies before turning to more expensive sea water desalination. Mr. Murphy commented that from his perspective all other resources in Region L are very limited, and with projected population and manufacturing growth along the Texas coast, a desalination facility would allow for greater flexibility of supply.

9. Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board: Water Supply Enhancement Program (WSEP) legislative changes and brush control program update presentation – Aaron Wendt / TSSWCB presented current program operations affected by recent legislative changes. The purpose of WSEP is to increase available surface and ground water through noxious brush control and re-vegetation. Mesquite, Juniper, and Salt Cedar are all found in Texas and have a negative impact on water supply. The USGS found through a feasibility study linked with a WAM that lake storage would increase with brush control under drought conditions. Changes to the program include funding processes, feasibility studies - including modeling and follow-up treatments; committees have been established to implement changes, and an internal audit found full compliance with legislative directives. The Stakeholder Committee recommended goals, including focusing on municipal water supplies. Proposals for TWDB funding are ranked based on water yield increased per capita, among other criteria. Funding is potentially available for proposals that have a feasibility study and are in the Regional Water Plan; there is currently one completed and four proposed feasibility studies in Region K. Jim Barho, Chairman Burke, and Mr. Wendt discussed incorporating WSEP in the Regional Plan; brush control has been included in past Plans, and the group could specifically mention a study in the Plan; an entity such as LCRA, Region K, or a municipality could apply for a feasibility study. Robin Gary suggested another candidate may be a Priority GMA area to include groundwater information in a feasibility study area such as the western Travis County area. David Villarreal asked what species are problematic in the downstream counties of the region; Mr. Wendt replied: primarily Huisache (typically pronounced "wee-satch"). Byron Theodosios inquired about cost; Mr. Wendt noted that feasibility studies include cost analysis, and the State cost share is a 70% maximum. Billy Roeder commented on the required follow-up commitments from landowners.
10. Presentation by WaterSmart Software: conservation software – Jim Campbell presented WaterSmart's customer engagement software which seeks to encourage conservation through

behavioral change. WaterSmart combines meter data with other information to provide individual households with reports on their water use in the context of their peers. WaterSmart works with Utilities to increase customer engagement, and studies show an average of 5% water use reduction.

11. Presentation on City of Wharton water planning – Wes Birdwell introduced himself as the City's consultant and introduced Andres Garza, Wharton City Manager. The City of Wharton is developing a sustainable and affordable water supply to prepare for growth and higher demands on groundwater from within the county. A feasibility study has been authorized to look at all supply possibilities to keep the cost as low as possible. Population could potentially grow faster than TWDB forecasts due to several factors including local economic and transportation expansion. Pierce Ranch is willing to consider allowing Wharton to use their groundwater under conditions that are sustainable. In order to do that, an in-channel detention system could be built. Wharton requests that their Sustainable Water System be included as a water management strategy in the Region K Regional Water Plan. Jim Brasher expressed concern that the Central Gulf Coast MAG is approaching its limit; Mr. Birdwell responded that they would like to work with the groundwater district to do additional detailed testing to see if there is more water available. Ronald Gertson commended the City for taking the initiative to plan for its future, and looks forward to working on improving the plan, but believes that this water management strategy it is not ready for Region K to include in the Plan. Mr. Meesey, Ms. Walker, and Mr. Gertson discussed Region K's ability to present a population review request to TWDB. David Wheelock and David Meesey discussed potentially including the water management strategy in the plan regardless of population projections so that Wharton can apply for funding; this project could fall under strategies already included in the Plan. Jim Barho asked whether the study will include also looking at groundwater options and consultant Wes Birdwell said yes. Gertson motioned to send a letter to TWDB requesting them to review the Wharton population and water demand projections. The motion passed.
12. Discuss and Take Action on replacement of Voting Member with the Alternate Member for the following two members at the request of the two following members. Their term will expire at the time of the current member's term ends. Motion to replace the two members passed.
 - a. Replace voting member with alternate member for the Municipalities Interest Group currently filled by member Brandon Wade with alternate Lauri Gillam.
 - b. Replace voting member with alternate member for the Electric Generation Utilities Interest Group currently filled by member Joe King with alternate John Hoffman.
13. Committee Updates / Reports. Take action as necessary.
 - a. Prioritization Committee – Jaime Burke reviewed that at the July meeting the group authorized the Committee to review and give final approval for submitting prioritized 2011 Water Management Strategies list to TWDB. The Committee did not suggest any further changes and it was submitted on August 27th. The due date for the prioritization of the approved list of 2016 Plan water management strategies was postponed.
 - b. Legislative and Policy Committee – Barbara Johnson reported that the Committee has not met since the last RWPG meeting. A letter was drafted to be sent to TWDB suggesting alignment of groundwater and surface water deadlines to allow use of more recent data in the regional planning process. Virginia Wilkinson noted that David Meesey suggested sending the letter to the Texas Groundwater Alliance (TGA) as well. Barbara Johnson motioned to send the letter to TWDB and the TGA, the motion passed.
 - c. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes updated the group on committee recommendations, including extending WAM hydrology through 2013; the consultants estimated a budget of \$8,200, which will be funded by Member Fund donation solicitations, as discussed by the Executive Committee. The proposal is for the Consultant team to run the updated modeling analysis to provide results at the January 2015 RWPG meeting. Doug Powell asked about including 2014 data, Teresa Lutes responded that due to IPP deadlines,

2014 data will not be available in time, but the Drought Committee is tasked with addressing the ongoing aspects of the drought and can also address concepts such as safe yield during drought conditions or planning multiple water management strategies to meet needs. Bill Neve expressed concern about over-projecting water availability. Ronald Gertson, David Wheelock, Bill Neve, and Jaime Burke discussed incorporating 2014 data into the modeling if it becomes available in time to be included in the planning cycle. Teresa Lutes made a motion to authorize LCRA to contract with AECOM in the amount of \$8,200 to extend the 2013 hydrology and run the WAM water availability analysis. The motion passed.

- d. Drought Committee – David Wheelock informed the group that there is a new TWDB requirement which requires a new chapter on drought, drought contingency plans (DCPs), and drought preparedness; the Drought Committee will meet immediately following the RWPG meeting.
- e. Nominating Committee – John Burke appointed a Nominating Committee: Ronald Gertson, Chair, Barbara Johnson, Bill Neve, David Van Dresar, and Lauri Gilliam will serve.

14. Consultant Status Report – Jaime Burke, AECOM

- a. Summary of Major Items at July Region K meeting: TWDB Board Members Kathleen Jackson and Bech Bruun attended; LCRA update on drought and WMP; City of Austin drought planning update; Legislative and Policy Committee update; Region K Water Management Strategy (WMS) Prioritization list from the 2011 adopted plan was submitted to TWDB; Drought Committee created; Draft water needs analysis presented; approval to submit Technical Memo and Scope of Work (SOW) task 4D.
- b. Work Progress since last meeting: Final Scope Of Work, Prioritization for 2011 adopted plan water management strategies (WMS), and Technical Memo submitted to TWDB; Technical conference call held; WAM work scoped, to be completed by end of 2014; Strategy evaluation and chapter updates. Pflugerville demand increases, and Bastrop groundwater WMS use. Water Conservation and Drought Survey responses were posted on the Region K website.
- c. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables: TWDB Database 17 (DB17) coordination with other regions on split WUGs and strategies; WAM update; WMS evaluation; environmental flow impacts; Committee support; complete chapter drafts. Present modeling update January; IPP draft due for RWPG review March 1; approval to submit IPP to TWDB April 8; IPP due to TWDB May 1; Final plan due November 2.

15. Region K Technical Memorandum, approved for submittal to TWDB at July 9, 2014 Region K meeting. Take action to ratify the Technical Memorandum, which was submitted to TWDB on August 1, 2014. (Documentation provided as part of meeting materials packet.) Jim Barho motioned to ratify the Technical Memorandum; the motion passed.

16. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. Next meeting January 14, 2015.
- b. Tentative Water Modeling Committee meeting on December 10, 2014 to review WAM results.

17. New / Other Business: Jennifer Walker passed out a flyer for a workshop on Water Rates models for utilities.

18. Public Comments – David Lindsay suggested studying inflows and how the drought inflows impact WAM modeling results.

19. Adjourn at 2:08 PM

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

July 9, 2014
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
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Brenton Lewis, Municipalités
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture

James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Kercheval, Non-Voting, TDA
David Meesey, Non-voting, TWDB
Lauri Gillam, Alternate, Municipalities
John Hoffman, Alternate, Electric Utilities
David Lindsay, Alternate, Recreation

Voting Members Absent:

Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Joe King, Electric Utilities, alternate attended
Bill Neve, Counties
Doug Powell, Recreation, alternate attended

Billy Roeder, Agriculture
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Brandon Wade, Municipalities, alternate attended

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other:

Jaime Burke, Region K Consultant AECOM
Virginia Wilkinson, Reg. K Consultant, AECOM
Joan Portillo, AECOM
Jeff Fox, Austin Water, Municipalities Alternate
Danielle Martin, Austin Water
Clay Schultz, TWDB
Doug Shaw, TWDB
Carissa Shelley, Pape Dawson
David Villarreal, TDA
Brian Koch, TSSWCB
Roman Grijama, Brown & Gay

Rob Harris, Brown & Gay
Charlie Flatth, HCA
Jasmine Gordner, Blanton & Associates
Michael J Simmanz, Lost Pines
Heather Cooke, Austin Water
Wes Birdwell, Halff Associates
Bill Jerron, LCRA
Lauren Graber, TWDB
Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member
Bech Bruun, TWDB Board Member
Chris Hoelter, LCRA

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. Motion approved to adopt the April 9, 2014 minutes, without changes.
2. Motion approved to authorize the Legislative and Policy Committee to draft a letter to send to the Legislature to encourage alignment of groundwater and regional planning timelines, and to re-establish funding, to then be approved by the Executive Committee for submittal.
3. Motion approved to authorize the Prioritization Committee to work with the TWDB on Region K's behalf to submit the final prioritization deliverable prior to the September 1, 2014 deadline.
4. Motion approved to authorize consultants to complete and submit Technical Memorandum to TWDB by August 1, 2014 with the understanding that the RWPG will need to approve the Technical

Memorandum at the October Region K meeting. Technical Memorandum will be submitted with a cover letter stating that it is draft and that the group can potentially adjust the numbers at any time prior to final plan adoption.

5. Motion approved to finalize the Final Supplemental Task 4D Scope of Work based on the requests received and those discussed at the meeting, and to authorize Consultants to submit the Scope of Work to TWDB for review and issuance of a "Notice-to-Proceed".

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions – David Meesey introduced Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member. Ms. Jackson spoke to the group about her background in engineering, as well as future plans for the TWDB. Haskell Simon and Ms. Jackson complimented David Meesey on his excellent work for Region K.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes called attention to the report in the members' packet and asked for any revisions.
4. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the April 9, 2014 meeting – Motion approved to adopt minutes without changes.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the current balance in the planning group's account is \$1,575.64 and the balance in the TWDB grant funded account is \$131,303.66. John Burke suggested raising more funds for the planning group's account.
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meesey informed the group that TWDB has received an application for funding from LCRA for the construction on the Lane City Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR) project. If approved, TWDB will likely be able to close on the loan in early September. Jennifer Walker asked about the funding source for this loan since HB4 money is not yet available; Meesey replied that TWDB refers to it as the "D-Fund", which is short for Development Fund and is a State, rather than Federal, program with funding from selling bonds, not the "revolving fund". John Dupnik asked if there may be consideration for refinancing once SWIFT funds become available. David Meesey and Kathleen Jackson responded that it will depend on which program is involved and is not known yet and that the financial model for the HB4 funds loan program is still being determined.
6. Highland Lakes Drought Update – David Wheelock reported that inflows to the Highland Lakes increased slightly in May and June, filling them to about 40%, which is about 60,000 acre-feet higher (3%) than a year ago. Year-to-date inflows are still only at 19% of average, and models show that the 600,000 acre-foot Drought Worse than the Drought of Record trigger could be reached as early as this fall. David Wheelock outlined 8 key actions LCRA has taken recently for drought relief, as follows: 1) Emergency Orders to operate outside of the 2010 LCRA Water Management Plan which have resulted in the cutoff of interruptible agricultural irrigation water to customers for the third year in a row, 2) temporary use of water rights from irrigation division areas for municipal and industrial use downstream of Austin, 3) conversion of the Lost Pines Power Plant from surface water to a groundwater supply, 4) implementing once a week watering for municipal customers, 5) enforcing watering restrictions on domestic users, 6) requesting TCEQ not to issue temporary permits for non-essential water use, 7) increased communication with customers, and 8) planning for supplemental supplies.
7. LCRA Water Management Plan Revision Update – David Wheelock updated the group on the Water Management Plan (WMP) updates from TCEQ. Hydrology through 2013 is included in the TCEQ report issued in May, as well as a comprehensive framework for the Plan. LCRA is analyzing the effects of this framework on water management and plans to reply to TCEQ by late August. Haskell Simon asked Wheelock to characterize what has been published. Wheelock responded that there are three main components: 1) updated hydrology, 2) avoid hitting 600,000 acre-feet, and 3) avoid the need for Emergency Orders. Also included is a more sophisticated set of three curtailment curves. David Lindsay

asked if there will be a process to update the hydrology as the drought continues; David Wheelock replied that it is something they have in mind, but it is too early to work on incorporating until more full data sets are available. Haskell reminded all of the importance of everyone following this issue.

8. City of Austin Drought Planning Update including summary of potential water management strategy options - Teresa Lutes called attention to a letter included in the members' packet regarding this subject. Teresa then presented a drought update from the City of Austin (COA), including several records set during the current drought for lowest inflows and comparisons to the Drought of Record. Due to Austin's drought response and water conservation efforts, the City's municipal diversions have been declining over the last several years at the same time population has been growing. John Dupnik asked if the historical per capita data was calculated in a uniform way; Teresa responded yes, and agreed that a breakdown by use sector would be beneficial in future reports. COA has a multi-faceted drought response plan, including water conservation, water management strategies, and participation in the LCRA WMP revision process. A Council-appointed Task Force (Austin Water Resource Planning Task Force) recently convened and delivered a report with recommendations for water management planning for Austin. The COA plans to continue to include water management strategies from previous planning cycles and to also include a number of new strategies in this planning round, possibly including Task Force recommendations for demand-side management, operational enhancements, and supply augmentation. John Dupnik asked for definition of decentralized concepts and a general overview of conceptual elements was provided by Teresa. The Task Force recommended exploring desalination of brackish groundwater as an option, but at this stage, prior to potential future direction by Council, etc., the City would like to include all potential options in the 2016 Plan development process. Barbara Johnson, Jennifer Walker (a Task Force member), Teresa Lutes, and John Dupnik discussed why the Task Force recommended brackish groundwater, which is generally more expensive than fresh groundwater. It was expressed by Jennifer that the Task Force chose to recommend studying brackish groundwater as a potential temporary and local source as opposed to accessing long distance fresh water sources which would require permanent infrastructure.

9. Committee Updates/Reports:

- a. Legislative and Policy Committee – Barbara Johnson reported updates to the group.
 - i. Summary of Efforts to Date: Committee met twice, made edits to Chapter 8, and identified major policy revisions.
 - ii. Highlights of Policy Discussions: alignment of modeled available groundwater (MAG) and Regional planning timelines for groundwater; LCRA staff will make recommendations for the conservation section; Austin will make edits for City of Austin reuse in the reuse section; linking surface and ground water models; and considering the impact of growth on water use.
 - iii. Moving Forward: Committee will continue to meet until the May 2015 initially prepared Plan deadline. Jim Barho motioned to authorize the committee to draft a letter to send to the legislature to encourage the alignment of groundwater and regional planning timelines, and to re-establish funding, to then be approved by the Executive Committee for submittal. The motion was approved.
- b. Prioritization Committee – Jaime Burke recapped the Committee's past work, and called attention to a comment packet from TWDB to Region K.
 - i. Comments from TWDB on draft prioritization: suggestions were made to increase consistency across the state and would impact scoring for criteria 2D and 5A; TWDB provided guidance recommendations, which are not required to be followed at this time.
 - ii. HB4 Stakeholder Committee Update: Jennifer Walker reported that during the Stakeholder Committee conference call it was determined that the group is not required to update criteria based on TWDB guidance due to time constraints. However, the Region K consultants had time to adjust some of the scoring based on the TWDB

recommendations, which the group could decide to adopt. Ron Fieseler, Jim Barho, and David Meeseey commented in favor of statewide consistency. John Dupnik commented on the relative weighting of regional prioritization in overall project scoring; Director Bruun responded that regional prioritization is heavily weighted, even though it is only given 15 points in the overall criteria matrix.

- iii. Jim Barho motioned to authorize the Prioritization Committee to work with the TWDB on Region K's behalf to submit the final deliverable prior to the September 1, 2014 deadline. The motion was approved.

10. Consultant Status Report – Virginia Wilkinson and Jaime Burke, AECOM

- a. Summary of Major Items at April Region K meeting – Virginia Wilkinson summarized major items from the April meeting including TWDB and LCRA updates, The Prioritization and Modeling Committees reported on continuing work. (see AECOM handout from July 9, 2014 Region K meeting for additional details)
- b. Work Progress since last meeting – Jaime Burke and Virginia Wilkinson reviewed draft prioritization submitted to TWDB, Legislative and Policy Committee support, Chairs' conference call held, water supply updates entered in database DB17, water management strategies evaluated, and chapter development.
 - i. Drought Chapter Update – template provided by TWDB. Requirements include a definition of the drought of record, drought preparedness summary, emergency interconnects, and drought water management strategies. AECOM recommends creating a Drought Committee to collect emergency interconnect information in a confidential and closed meeting, due to safety concerns. David Wheelock will chair, Lauri Gillam, David Meeseey, Barbara Johnson, Jim Barho, Doug Powell, Teresa Lutes, John Burke, John Hoffman, Haskell Simon, Karen Hashke, Jim Barho, David Van Dresar, and Jennifer Walker will be members.
 - ii. Update on Strategy Evaluation – consultants are evaluating several strategies, including conservation, drought management, groundwater expansion and importation, and Burnet County regional projects before meeting with the committee.
- c. Schedule and Upcoming Work/Deliverables – Task 4D Scope of Work (SOW) submittal date passed; Technical Memo due August 1; Final prioritization due September 1; Initially Prepared Plan due May 1, 2015; Final Plan due November 2, 2015. Upcoming work includes completing DB17 entry and technical memo; submittal of final Task 4D; Legislative and Policy, Drought, and Prioritization Committee support; completing draft chapters after committee review.

11. Draft Water Needs Analysis – AECOM

- a. Presentation of draft water supplies and shortages – Virginia Wilkinson called attention to the handout table which identifies water supplies with elements in place to be accessible to a WUG. Virginia presented the needs analysis by county; the counties with large municipal shortages are: Bastrop, Burnet, Hays, and Llano. The largest needs for the region are agricultural and municipal. Teresa Lutes expressed concern over data for surface water modeling and suggested having the modeling committee discuss including more recent data and the firm yield.
- b. Technical Memorandum deliverable: Barbara Johnson motioned to authorize the Region K consultants to complete and submit the required Technical Memorandum to TWDB by August 1, 2014, with the understanding that the RWPG will need to approve the Technical Memorandum

at the October Region K meeting. John Dupnik, Teresa Lutes and Jim Barho discussed adding a transmittal letter to the Memo with language suggesting that the group can potentially adjust the numbers at any time prior to final plan adoption. The motion was approved.

12. Jaime Burke presented additional items for inclusion in Final Supplemental Draft Scope of Work for potential water management strategy evaluation (Task 4D) to RWPG for discussion and consideration. Jaime referred to the handout with the submitted partial 4D and draft proposed 4D SOW. The four submitted strategies with notice to proceed are Drought Management, Conservation, LCRA OCR, and Expansion of Groundwater. 24 other strategies have been submitted but have not received notice to proceed. Remaining strategies to be included in the final submittal are requests from COA, BSEACD, STP, 2011 Plan strategies, which had not previously been scoped, and various modifications to already submitted strategies. Some of these may fall under already scoped general strategies.
13. Receive public input on Final Supplemental Draft Scope of Work for Task 4D – no public comment.
14. Jim Barho motioned to finalize and approve the Final Supplemental Task 4D Scope of Work based on the requests received and those discussed at the meeting and authorize consultants to submit the Scope of Work to TWDB for review and issuance of a “Notice-to-Proceed”.
15. Agenda items for next meeting:
 - a. Location of next meeting – October 8th, LCRA Dalchau Service Center
 - b. LCRA update, Bob Rose weather update
16. New / Other Business (time permitting) - none
17. Public Comments – none

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

**April 9, 2014
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
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties
Doug Powell, Recreation
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sulzemeier, Counties

Jim Totten, GMA 12
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Kercheval, Non-Voting, TDA
David Meeseay, Non-voting, TWDB
Peggy Travis, Alternate, Electric Utilities
Lauri Gillam, Alternate, Municipalities
Terry Bray, Alternate, Industries
Charles Shell, Alternate, GMA 8

Voting Members Absent

Joe King, Electric Utilities, alternate attended
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
Barbara Johnson, Industries, alternate attended

Bill Luedecke, GMA 8, alternate attended
Brandon Wade, Municipalities, alternate attended

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other

Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate
Danielle Martin, Austin Water
Jaime Burke, Region K Consultant AECOM
Brent Batchelor, Agriculture Alternate
Sarah Backhouse, TWDB
Tom Barnett, TWDB
James Kowis, AECOM
Mitchell Sodek, CTGCD
Michael Suming, LPGCD
Krystal Cantu, LCRA
Chris Hoelter, LCRA
Cecilia Green, Blanton & Associates
Ed Yanoshita, CORIX

Jeremy B Mazur, Rep. Callyan
Stefan Schuster, MWH
David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate
Charlie Flatten, Hill Country Alliance
Velma Davidson, Blanton & Associates
Stephanie Jenkins, FNI
Dawn Capra, Johnson City Mayor
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Electric
Bri Sherrill
Izzy Hauss, CTWC
Kodi Sawin, SAWIN Group
Karen Huber, UT LBJ School
Brad Hunemullek, Hawson

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. Motion to adopt the minutes with no changes approved.
2. Motion to adopt the Prioritization Committee's recommendations, with a provision that the Committee be allowed to make changes recommended by TWDB, approved.
3. Motion to submit the presented letter to TWDB with changes discussed approved.
4. Motion for AECOM to proceed with surface water availability draft numbers, and, as needed, for the Modeling Committee to make and recommend changes to the numbers to be presented in the future approved.
5. Motion made to authorize Consultants to submit the supplemental Scope of Work (SOW) including the City of Austin water management strategies discussed during the meeting approved.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions – Peggy Travis introduced herself as Joe King's Alternate, and Haskell Simon introduced his alternate, Brent Batchelor.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes drew the group's attention to the attendance report which includes updated term dates for members whose terms were reappointed at the January meeting.
4. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the January 8, 2014 meeting – Motion to adopt the minutes with no changes approved.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the balance in the main scope of work account is \$47,586 (TWDB funding), and in the Region K group account the balance is \$1,685 (funding from amounts collected when Region K was initially formed from various regional stakeholders).
5. Texas Water Development Board Communications – David Meesey introduced new TWDB Project Managers, Sarah Backhouse and Tom Barnett. David Meesey reviewed the timeline; the draft project prioritizations are due June 1, with the final due September 1, 2014. The draft initially prepared plan is due May 1, 2015. David Wheelock reported that, for LCRA's current off-channel reservoir project, the TWDB has confirmed that LCRA is eligible for any funding programs that require projects to be included in the 2011 Plan, including SWIFT. Meesey noted that TWDB offers funding options and flexibility and noted that TWDB also has funding programs other than SWIFT currently available, that could be rolled into SWIFT once more funding is available through that program.
6. Drought Status and Drought Relief Actions – LCRA / David Wheelock presented an update on the drought, and stated that to the region could be in a Drought Worse than the Drought of Record (DWDR) condition by this summer. The Highland Lakes inflows have been at historic lows during this drought, and combined storage levels in Lakes Travis and Buchanan have continued to drop each year (currently at approximately 750k acre-feet). LCRA has responded by seeking emergency relief from the LCRA's Water Management Plan, which has resulted in cutting off most interruptible stored water and asking firm customers to cut back use. In addition, LCRA sought authority to use Gulf Coast Irrigation Division water rights upstream, and to reduce certain environmental flow requirements, as well as taking other Drought Contingency Plan actions. LCRA is also

pursuing new water supplies including groundwater and off-channel reservoirs. John Dupnik asked if LCRA is considering brackish water as a new water source; Wheelock responded that it was considered, and listed in the Water Supply Resource Plan, and could feasibly be pursued.

7. Region K WMS Prioritization Committee Update –Jennifer Walker, Committee Chair, reported that the committee has decided on scoring criteria which Jaime Burke (AECOM) has applied to the strategies. The team also compiled questions and comments about the prioritization process in a draft letter to send to TWDB. Jaime Burke called the group’s attention to the two handouts members received in their packets. TWDB provided a spreadsheet template for the regions to apply uniform standards for scoring to projects statewide. One handout is this populated spreadsheet; the other lists each strategy in order of ranking. Jaime then presented the five criteria with weighting for scoring: decade of need (1 A-B, 40%), feasibility (2 A-D, 10%), viability (3 A-D, 25%), sustainability (4 A-B, 15%), and cost effectiveness (5 A, 10%). Points granted for scoring are detailed in the column headers for each criteria sub-category on the spreadsheet. (For additional detail, please refer to the meeting materials packet.)
 - a. Discuss and take action as necessary on Committee recommendations – Jennifer Walker reminded the group that there is funding set aside for rural and conservation project categories. David Meesey stated that competition need not be too fierce, since funding is in the form of loans. It is likely that will be sufficient available funding for qualified projects. Ronald Gertson, Jennifer Walker, and David Meesey discussed the relatively low ranking of LCRA’s off-channel reservoir project, which doesn’t completely reflect current reality because of the current drought and the prioritization process is based on the 2011 Plan. Ronald Gertson moved to adopt the Prioritization Committee’s recommendation with a provision that the Committee be allowed to make changes recommended by TWDB, the motion was approved.
 - b. Discuss and take action as necessary on comments to TWDB on prioritization criteria - Ron Fieseler and the group discussed statewide competition for funding and the need for TWDB to make sure that scoring is done the same way statewide. The committee drafted a letter to TWDB to express potential concerns and describe Region K’s approach. TWDB will review the draft submittal and score normalization procedures and scores before final submittal. Jennifer Walker moved to submit the letter to TWDB with minor typographical changes and add the Region K approach to a few bullet points, the motion passed.
 - c. Set possible follow-up meeting in May – appears to not be needed based on the results of the discussion at the meeting.
8. Other Committee Updates/Reports, as needed. Take action as necessary.
 - a. Water Modeling Committee
 1. Presentation of draft surface water supply availability modeling results (table of Firm Yield Breakdown of the LCRA Highland Lakes System and Table 3.3 Major Run-of-River Rights in the Colorado Basin) and general surface water availability analysis approach – Jaime Burke presented two handouts, and refreshed the group’s memory on the presentation given at the January meeting on surface water modeling. Teresa Lutes, Modeling Committee Chair pointed out that the period of record for this exercise goes through 2009 and doesn’t include the worst years of the current drought. It will likely be necessary to add additional modeling and analysis when the TCEQ has updated data for modeling current drought conditions. Jaime presented the Run-of-River (ROR) availabilities. Terry Bray

asked why the availability for the three decades of ROR is constant and different than the permitted amount. Jaime responded that it is because it is based on a minimum year.

2. Discuss and take action on Consultant moving forward with the draft water needs analysis using draft surface water availability numbers - Teresa Lutes moved to approve the consultants to proceed with the surface water availability draft numbers, and, as needed, for the Modeling Committee to make and recommend changes to the numbers to be presented in the future. The motion was approved. Others Committee Reports, as needed – On behalf of Barbara Johnson, Ronald Gertson announced that the Legislative and Policy Committee will be meeting for the first time, and asked if anyone would like to join the committee. The group discussed ecological unique stream segments and reservoir sites noting that during previous planning cycles Region K did extensive study of these components and has not made changes to that section since that time. It was decided that unless something is specifically identified that needs to be addressed in the arena of ecological unique stream segments and reservoir sites; the group will likely not be making any modifications to this section for this planning cycle.

9. Consultant Status Report – AECOM

- a. Summary of Major Items at January Region K Meeting – Elections were held; TWDB guest speakers attended; HB4 Chair update, City of Austin Conservation presentation; Weather outlook; off-channel reservoir (OCR) update; Modeling Committee Report; Population and Demand update; Drought and Conservation Survey update; Potential water Management Strategies request; Burnet County supply strategies; and CTWC presentation were communicated.
- b. Work Progress Since Last Meeting – Consultants have continued progress on 2011 Plan project prioritization, Region K Cutoff modeling analysis, and water supply updates. Two Chairs' conference calls were held.
- c. Schedule and Upcoming Work – Task 4D Scope of Work due July 1; draft prioritization of 2011 Plan projects due June 1, final due September; Technical Memo due August 1, initially prepared Plan due May 1, 2015, final Plan due November 2, 2015. Upcoming work includes: completing water needs analysis and entering it into TWDB database for use in the Technical Memo, submitting supplemental Task D Scope of Work, continued evaluation of water management strategies, supporting Legislative and Policy Committee activities, and attending the SWIFT info session.

10. Present Additional Partial Draft Scope of Work (SOW) for potential water management strategy evaluation (Task 4D) to RWPG for discussion and consideration. – Jaime Burke ,reviewed Region K's work to date on Task 4D and the four strategies that were submitted to and authorized by TWDB. She called the group's attention to a handout and presented additional strategies for considered inclusion in the supplemental SOW which included Reuse, Groundwater, Surface Water, and Other categories.

- Reuse – requests received from LCRA and Johnson City. For SOW, specific requests will be evaluated, as well as considered as a general category for other projects to possibly fall into. Indirect reuse request received from City of Austin and LCRA for City of Austin return flows strategy from 2011 plan (City of Austin and LCRA joint reuse application).
- Groundwater – Development of new groundwater water management strategy would capture many requests by LCRA and other WUGs. Requests also received

from Lee County WSC and Texas Water Alliance for groundwater importation. LCRA's request included enhanced recharge and conjunctive use, ASR, brackish groundwater and desalination which could be used by other WUGs and providers and in different aquifers and are in the 2011 plan. Jennifer Walker asked for more information on the request from LCRA for supplementing bay and estuary inflows with brackish groundwater. David Wheelock explained that it appears to be a good use of otherwise potentially unusable water to offset releases from the Highland Lakes with brackish water more local to the Matagorda Bay area. David Bradsby, Ron Fieseler, and David Wheelock discussed groundwater regulations. Haskell Simon, David Meesey, and John Dupnik discussed brackish water development and various groundwater planning parameters including Desired Future Conditions (DFC's) and Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG's).

- Surface Water – several individual requests received from LCRA, Goldthwaite, Burnet County, and City of Volente. City of Austin water management strategies also include use of surface water. Additional analysis of these will be done by AECOM.
- Other – Requests for rainwater harvesting as a water management strategy and a commercial and institutional condensate capture strategy from LCRA; these strategies have not been evaluated before by Region K. Other strategy requests are expected from WUGs in Region K including other 2011 Plan strategies.

Teresa Lutes called attention to an email printout sent to the group that included the City of Austin water management strategies from previous planning cycles that the City of Austin plans to include in the 2016 Plan. These are: water conservation, direct reuse (municipal, manufacturing, steam electric), City of Austin return flows, indirect reuse, and water supply contracts. It was noted too that there will likely be additional new potential water management strategies for this planning cycle to follow based on City of Austin drought response options analysis work that is currently underway.

11. Receive public input on Additional Partial Draft Scope of Work for Task 4D. - David Lindsay, Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC), expressed concern about the assumptions being made for water availability and firm yield and that they need to be more conservative in light of ongoing drought conditions.
12. Take Action as Necessary: Finalize and Approve Additional Partial Task 4D Scope of Work and its submittal to TWDB for review and approval to obtain a "Notice-to-Proceed" - This will be revisited and added to in future meetings, as needed. Motion was made to authorize Consultants to submit the supplemental SOW including the City of Austin requests discussed today. Motion was approved.
13. Agenda items for next meeting – Dupnik requested an item on the agenda to discuss funding for Groundwater Management Area (GMA) planning activity. Ronald Gertson suggested the Legislative and Policy Committee consider this issue.
14. New / Other Business – Jaime Burke will send out water needs analysis spreadsheet for consideration by the group before inclusion in the Technical Memorandum. If there is a need to meet before the Technical Memo is discussed at the July meeting, the next meeting may be May 14th. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be July 9th.
15. Public Comments – none
16. Adjourn

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

**January 8, 2014
Texas State Capitol
Legislative Conference Room E2.002
1100 Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701
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
Karen Haschke, Public Interest
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties
Doug Powell, Recreation
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sulzemeier, Counties
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Kercheval, Non-Voting, TDA
David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
Jim Totten, Alternate, GMA 12
John Hoffman, Alternate, Electric Utilities
Lauri Gillam, Alternate, Municipalities

Voting Members Absent

Joe P. Cooper, GMA 12, alternate attended
Joe King, Electric Utilities, alternate attended

Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Brandon Wade, Municipalities, alternate attended

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other

Jeff Fox, COA, Municipalities Alternate
Lawrence Brown, TSSWCB
Meghan Roussel, USGS
Scott Swanson, LaCosta Environmental
Clay Schultz, TWDB
Bill Littler, Vanir
Michael Simmang, Lost Pines Groundwater
Director Bech Bruun, TWDB
David Yager, TWDB
Ed Yanoshita, Corix Utilities
David Lindsay, CTWC, Recreation Alternate
Kodi Sawin, Sawin Group
Asher Price, Statesman
Jon Schnautz, Representative Straus' Office
Heather Cooke, Austin Water
Marian Hog, Johnson City
Allison Smith, Representative Workman's Office
Drema Gross, Austin Water
Lauri Gillam, City of Pflugerville
Susan Roth, Susan Roth Consulting
Augusto Villalon, Freese & Nichols
Jacob Cottingham, Representative Howard's Office

Merry Klonower, TWDB
K. Myers, City of Fredericksburg
C. Bailey, City of Fredericksburg
Charles Flatten, Hill Country Alliance
Emily Seaervight
Marcus Richardson, Student
Lann Bookout, TWDB
Robert Howard, Bluebonnet Coop
Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC
Donna Klaeger, Burnet County Judge
George Russell, City of Marble Falls
Ron Anderson, LCRA
Jaime Burke, AECOM James
Kowis, Consultant
Krystal Cantu, LCRA
Danielle Martin, Austin Water

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. Motion to renew the seven voting members whose terms expired in 2014 passed.
2. Motion to elect 2014 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) Officers and Executive Committee as nominated by the Nominating Committee passed.
3. Motion to approve the minutes as presented from the October 9, 2013 meeting passed.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions – John Burke
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes asked members to review the report from the October meeting.
4. Discuss and take action on election of renewing voting member representatives whose terms would expire this year – John Burke brought the group's attention to the seven members whose terms were expiring; Jim Barho, John Burke, Ronald Gertson, Doug Powell, Robert Ruggiero, Paul Tybor, and David Van Dresar. Mr. Fieseler moved to renew these members' terms. The member's terms would be renewed for five years advancing their term expiration date to 2019. Motion passed.
5. Region K Planning Group Officer Elections – Barbara Johnson announced that the Nominating Committee is nominating John Burke for Chair, Jim Barho for Vice-Chair, and Teresa Lutes for Secretary as officers for 2014. Three members were also nominated to serve at-large on the executive committee; David Wheelock, from Travis County representing River Authorities, Haskell Simon, from Matagorda County representing Agriculture, and David Van Dresar from Fayette County representing Groundwater Districts. The motion to elect the 2014 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) Officers and Executive Committee as nominated by the Nominating Committee passed unanimously.
6. Texas Water Development Board Presentations:
 - a. TWDB Board Member Bech Bruun was introduced to the group. He addressed the group and thanked everyone for their work, including Jennifer Walker and John Burke for their work on State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT)/HB4 process, and invited the group to use TWDB and the new Board as a resource.
 - Haskell Simon commented that he would like to see a provision for the public to share information and provide input in the rule making. Bruun responded that details are still being developed and they are planning on seeking input. Simon expressed appreciation and asked that he send thanks to the new Board for David Meesey's work with the group.
 - b. TWDB Rural and Agricultural Ombudsman Doug Shaw was introduced by Mr. Meesey, who recalled to the Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) that he has worked with the group before as part of the planning staff. Mr. Shaw explained that he was appointed to represent Texas rural and agricultural public interests. He's been with TWDB for about 8 years, grew up on a dairy farm in a small Texas town and studied Agriculture Economics at Tarleton State. He reached out to anyone who would like to meet with him or to have him attend an event to contact him, as his role is to bring rural and agricultural interests to the TWBD to make sure their voices are heard.
 - c. TWDB Communications - David Meesey presented progress since the passing of Proposition 6, and upcoming work. The SWIFT Advisory Committee will give direction

and rules based on stakeholder uniform standards for prioritization and distributing funds.

- Upcoming actions for the regional water planning groups (RWPGs) are as follows: TWDB posts instructions for using SWIFT March 1; RWPGs submit draft prioritization for 2011 Plan projects June 1; final prioritization to be submitted Sept. 1; TWDB reports to Governor and legislature Dec. 1 every even-numbered year. Draft Regional Plans due May 1 2015, projects must be in plan to be eligible for loans mid-2015.
- RWPGs must consider decade of project need, feasibility, viability, sustainability, and cost-effectiveness in prioritization of projects. TWDB will give highest consideration to projects that serve a large population, urban and rural areas, and provide regionalization or meet a high percentage of needs. TWDB must consider local financial contribution, capacity to repay, ability to leverage state financing with local and federal funding, and emergency of need of the applicant, as well as whether the project is ready to proceed, effects of the project on water conservation and loss prevention, and priority ranking from the RWPG.
- Jennifer Walker asked whether projects must be in the new plan or the currently approved plan to be eligible for funding. David Meesey responded that the way it is written, the projects must be in in the current approved plan at the time funds become available. If the money becomes available before the draft plan becomes approved, the projects must be in the current approved plan. Ron Feiseler asked about how funding may be affected when the new plan replaces the current plan. David Meesey responded that it is possible that some plans may need to be amended to include projects to allow for funding, but that it is still early in the rules and program development process to say for sure. Ronald Gertson asked if there will be an annual prioritization process in the future. Mr. Meesey stated that since it is still early in the program and rules development process this is not known for sure. He said there are some circumstances where some prioritization will be necessary, such as alternate projects replacing recommended strategies that will need to be ranked. Chairman Burke told the group that he has related to Director Bruun foreseeable complications due to the timelines for SWIFT funding and how they relate to the regional water planning process timelines, and that the process and timelines need to be smoother and more expeditious. Jennifer Walker mentioned that prioritization is part of the development of the new plan and as funding becomes available and future plans are approved, the prioritization process will likely become better reflective of current realities, especially as relates to the on-going drought, than reflected in the current (2011) plan.

7. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the October 9, 2013 meeting – John Burke moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. There were no corrections suggested and the motion passed.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the balance as of December 1st in the LCRWPG account was \$1,683.71, and in the grant account was \$131,081.31.
8. HB4 Regional Chairs update – Chairman Burke asked if anyone would like to be on the Prioritization Committee. Voting members on the committee are: Jennifer Walker, John Burke, Teresa Lutes, Barbara Johnson, John Dupnik, Ronald Gertson, David Wheelock, Karen Haschke, Jim Barho, Doug Powell, Brandon Wade, David Van Dresar, and Robert Ruggiero, and Haskell Simon are; Non-voting members on the committee are: David Meesey and David Bradsby. Jeff Fox, Jaime Burke, and Virginia Wilkinson, will also indicated that they would be involved in the Prioritization Committee and process. Jim Barho thanked Chairman Burke and Jennifer Walker for all their work on this issue. Jaime Burke showed the water management strategy spreadsheet for use in the prioritization process that the TWDB provided (Jeff Fox has emailed this spreadsheet to the group). Ideally prioritization needs to be done before the April meeting to meet the June 1

deadline. Mr. Meeseey mentioned that there is some regional water planning group funding available for the additional Consultant time needed to spend on this effort.

9. City of Austin Update on Conservation and Reclaimed Water Management Strategies – Teresa Lutes introduced Drema Gross as the Division Manager for Austin Water Conservation.
 - Ms. Gross provided an overview of the City's water conservation and reclaimed water program water management strategies. A copy of the City of Austin's presentation will be made available on the Region K web-site. Regulations practiced by the City of Austin include water use restrictions, including permanent no more than twice per week watering restrictions plus additional watering restrictions that are part of Austin's Drought Contingency Plan, embedded in City Code for design and construction, such as efficient plumbing and landscaping and beneficial use of stormwater. Operations savings come from programs like the five-year, \$125 Million Renewing Austin Initiative, which uses leak detection, improves repair times, and replaces aging water lines.
 - The reclaimed water system currently uses about 5,000 acre-feet per year and plans on rapidly expanding and targeting high use areas, like the recently connect to the University of Texas Campus. Capital costs listed in the 2011 Region K Water Plan are estimated at \$302 Million, with the total project cost around \$429 Million. Austin has been investing \$6-8 Million a year in the reclaimed system, but the more opportunity they have to increase that amount, the faster they can bring it online. An area of near-term projects in central Austin have been identified as potentially good candidates for the 20% conservation funding. Initially, two areas to focus on for potential Proposition 6 funding consideration in Austin are reclaimed and water main replacement projects, since they are in the plan and require capital investment in infrastructure.
10. Weather Update and Outlook – Bob Rose (LCRA, Chief Meteorologist)
 - 2013 rainfall departure from normal in Texas was mostly normal, with few places above and below normal. The drought monitor indicates improving conditions, but water supply has not improved. A member of the audience commented that the years before 2012 were drier than normal, to which Mr. Rose agreed. Some lakes were built in the preceding wet years of the 80's and 90's, so our idea of normal lakes may be skewed by those wet years in which they were built. Near normal rainfall is projected for the spring, some models are showing slightly above normal rainfall for summer.
 - Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) situation is similar to the 1950's, with another predicted 15 years to go in this pattern. La Nina occurs much more often than El Nino in this pattern. The Atlantic has been in a warm phase since the mid 90's, which usually indicates drier weather. This is the first time since the 1950's that the Atlantic and the Pacific are in phases that cause dry weather at the same time. The Atlantic may start to trend cooler in the next 3-5 years, which could give us a break in the current dry pattern. Currently the Pacific is neutral, not trending toward El Nino or La Nina, but may begin trending toward El Nino toward this fall. Mr. Rose predicts that the long term drought pattern will continue across our region unless an El Nino develops. David Van Dresar asked why more hurricanes did not develop over the fall due to the warm Atlantic. Mr. Rose answered that other atmospheric conditions such as dry air coming out of Africa combined with high wind shear lessened the likelihood for storms to develop.
11. LCRA Update on Off-Channel Reservoir Project and groundwater project at Lost Pines Power Park – David Wheelock presented progress on the Off-Channel Reservoir (OCR) and Lost Pines Groundwater Project.
 - The OCR will be built to store 40,000 ac/ft and add 90,000 ac/ft of firm yield for municipal and industrial use, and increase efficiency and reliability for agricultural use. It is located on land currently used as crop farmland and has a natural drainage site near LCRA's most upstream pump station (Lane City) in the LCRA's Gulf Coast Irrigation Division irrigation system. Water will be pumped from the river when available into a ring dike structure and discharged into a canal or the river when needed for firm, agricultural, or environmental use. The footprint is about one mile wide and two miles long, and 40 feet deep. The cost estimate

of construction is about \$215 Million and Operations and Maintenance (O&M) costs are \$19 Million, about \$206 per ac/ft for the firm yield portion of the project.

- The Corps of Engineers 404 permit is pending, LCRA has made a filing with the Corps of Engineers on delineation of wetlands, and submitted an application to TCEQ for the amendment to the Gulf Coast water right to store water in the OCR. Construction is planned to begin in late summer - early fall 2014. Authorization for the next phase of funding is on the LCRA Board agenda for the February-March time-frame. Ronald Gertson asked if LCRA is seeking HB4 funding for this project; David Wheelock responded that he is not sure at this point. There is another site option and its possible there could be future projects.
- Lost Pines groundwater: LCRA was granted 5 permits in 2013, 2 are wells completed and 3 are in construction. This will replace water currently being diverted from the Highland lakes for Lake Bastrop to cool the power plant. Cost is estimated at \$1.5 Million per well. LCRA is in negotiations for additional land to be used to procure additional groundwater.

12. Other Committee Updates/Reports, as needed. Take action as necessary.

- a. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes, Committee Chair, announced that, as planned, the Committee will be meeting immediately following this Region K meeting adjourns to review preliminary model results.
- b. Prioritization Criteria Committee – Jennifer Walker, Committee Chair, clarified that the total number of voting members on the committee is 14, so the meetings will need to be posted.
- c. Others as needed – Ronald Gertson asked the group if they wanted to include a chapter on legislative recommendations and changes in the Plan, and if so, the group will need to decide who wants to Chair and be on the committee. Barbara Johnson volunteered to be the Chair, Ronald Gertson, Vice-chair; members include John Dupnik, Jim Brasher, Bill Neve, John Burke, and Teresa Lutes.

13. Consultant Status Report. Take action as necessary. – AECOM

- a. Summary of Major Items at October Region K Meeting: Final population and demand projection recommendations from TWDB were presented, as well as presentations on the cutoff model, the conservation and drought survey, the HB4 stakeholder committee, and a lower basin comparison to the rest of the basin presentation.
- b. Work Progress Since Last Meeting: Water Modeling Committee met and discussed LCRA downstream water rights modeling and modification the cutoff model. Committee plans to meet again to discuss further. Water Conservation and Drought Survey was sent out. HB4 stakeholder committee met. Consultants from Regions G and L met with Forestar (groundwater) to discuss a groundwater strategy in Hays County. TWDB split demand data by basin; AECOM is reviewing those numbers for water needs analysis. AECOM began evaluation of conservation and drought management strategies based on survey results.
- c. Update on Population and Demand Projections: Basin delineation spreadsheet from TWDB was handed out.
- d. Update on Drought and Conservation Survey: Thus far there has been a 50% response rate. Jennifer Walker asked for a list of those who had not yet responded, Jaime Burke agreed to send that out. Of the 49 responses, 19 have no plans for emergency sources of water, 42 have implemented one or more types of conservation, 23 have implemented voluntary drought management measures, and 23 implemented mandatory drought management measures in 2011. This data will be used to support recommended conservation and drought management strategies in the 2016 Plan under development.
- e. Update on Potential Water Management Strategies: Three strategies were requested from Burnet County and a request was received from Forestar to import groundwater from Lee to Hays County. This would serve communities in Region K, but coordination would be needed with Regions G and L. A strategy evaluation has been requested from the Water User Group (WUG) before the RWPG would move forward. Jennifer Walker,

Jaime Burke, and John Dupnik discussed permitting amounts and modeled available groundwater (MAG) availability.

- f. Schedule and Upcoming Work: Water Needs Analysis in progress, Task 4D Scope of Work target due date March 1, draft prioritization due to TWDB June 1, Technical Memorandum due August 1, Initially Prepared Plan due May 1, 2015, Final Adopted Plan due Nov. 2, 2015. Surface water availability modeling results planned to be presented at the next RWPG meeting, groundwater availability data for non-MAG areas to be finalized.
14. Presentation on Burnet County water supply strategies – Judge Donna Klaeger introduced Susan Roth, who presented three regional water plans requested to be included in the 2016 Region K Plan. 1) East Lake Buchanan: construct deep surface water intakes to replace groundwater due to radionuclides present. 2) Buena Vista: connect to privately owned Buchanan water treatment system and decommission Inks Lake treatment plant. 3) Marble Falls: construct new plant with intake location at Max Starke Dam. Comments: Ed Yanoshita with Corix commented on the relationship between Corix and Burnet County and that they are trying to take advantage of various opportunities and potentially leveraging funding with the Proposition 6 SWIFT program. David Van Dresar asked about quantity of water supply and savings these strategies will have, Susan Roth said the strategies are still at a high level and those details are yet to be developed. David Van Dresar clarified that it appears to essentially be an exchange of groundwater for surface water. Judge Klaeger commented that these plans came out of a disaster relief plan and said that there is not a choice to stay on groundwater. They are simply asking that these strategies be included in the plan to be eligible to receive funding. Jim Barho commented that it is important to get additional, more detailed, information on the construction timeline and amount of supply to Region K soon in order for timely prioritization. David Wheelock reported that there are about 20 contracts and 21,000 ac/ft per year is currently contracted for in the Burnet County area. The County's role has to be an advocate for these types of solutions. Ronald Gertson commended the work that has been done by Burnet and Llano Counties to bring together the right people and should be an example for the rest of the region. Judge Klaeger added that it is important to include all options in the Plan.
 15. Presentation by Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC) – David Lindsay presented many factors influencing the drought, including oceanic temperatures, rainfall and temperature trends, evaporation and streamflow drying trend. CTWC feels that statistical and behavioral analyses developed and used in business have revealed a new normal for inflows since 2008. Current stored water commitments are about equal to inflows to the Highland Lakes reservoirs, causing the lakes to be unable to recover. CTWC asserts that the implications of this new normal and low lake levels mean that new water supply resources, focus on conservation, and better understanding of hydrology and factors decreasing inflows are all needed. Inflows are not making it into the lakes even though the rainfall is near normal.
 16. Agenda items for next meeting – none. To be held on Wednesday, April 9th at the Dalchau Service Center. Note that the incorrect next meeting date was listed on the 2014 meeting list included in the packet.
 17. New / Other Business – Jennifer Walker passed out information on an upcoming water conference.
 18. Public Comments – none.
 19. Adjourn

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
October 9, 2013
The Center for Energy Development
4000 Avenue F
Bay City, Texas 77414
10:00 a.m.

Members Signing In

Jim Barho, Environmental
John Burke, Water Utilities
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Karen Haschke, Public
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Joe King, Electric Utilities
Bill Luedecke, GMA 8 (Appointed by GMA)
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Doug Powell, Recreation

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sulzemeier, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
David Wheelock, River Authorities
Jim Totten, Alternate, GMA 12
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseay, Non-voting, TWDB
David Kercheval, Non-voting, TDA

Voting Members Absent

Jim Brasher, GMA 15
Joe Cooper, GMA 12, alternate attended
John Dupnik, GMA 10
Bill Neve, Counties
Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Byron Theodosios, Counties
Brandon Wade, Municipalities
Jennifer Walker, Environmental, Attending
Chairs Meeting
Brenton Lewis, Municipalities (Elected)

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other

Steven Reis, D.A. Office
Lindsay Deshotels, D.A. Office
Billy Mann, Agriculture Alternate
Barbara Stewart
James Arnold, local business owner
Jane Greason, local landowner
Christella Rodriguez, BCPD
Mona Coldrion, Hunters Cove Apts.
Marla Dyman, Hunters Cove Apts.
James Ilay Randall
Rick Gangluff, Public
Sandy Dannhardt, Public
Leslie Hartman, TPWD
Kodi Sawin, Sawin Group
Kent Pollard, Matagorda County Commissioner
Paul Dlica, Public
Sally Ruggiero, Public
David T. Spencer, Public
Sefan Schuster, MWH
Michael J. Simmang, Lost Pines
John Hoffman, STP, Electric Utilities Alternate
Barry Halvorson, Bay City Tribune
Allison Sliva, Bay City citizen, Matagorda County
Conservation Coalition
David Leese, Self
Dan Pustka, Matagorda County Precinct 1

Leo J. Wick, FCGW
Chau Bao, LAN
Susan Butler, CH2M Hill
David Lindsay, CTWC, Alternate
Robert Lister, Bay City Police Department
Mitch Thane, BC Chamber
Jeff Fox, City of Austin, Alternate
Danielle Martin, City of Austin
DC Dunham, BC CDC
Marilyn L. Sitz, Matagorda Co. Birding
NatureCenter
Susan Dancer, Texas Blessings Rescue
Jaime Burke, AECOM
Allie Matthews, MCCC
Jack Matthews, MCCC
James Kowis, Consultant

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. Motion for Brenton Lewis from the City of Llano to replace Mike Reagor as Llano County representative in the small municipalities interest category passed.
2. Motion to pass minutes from July 10th meeting with addition to item 14 passed.

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order – John Burke called the meeting to order.
2. Welcome and Introductions – Haskell Simon and Kent Pollard welcomed the group, all members and attendees introduced themselves.
3. Attendance Report – Teresa Lutes
 - a. Bill Luedecke was acknowledged as the GMA 8 member representative.
 - b. David Kercheval was introduced as new Texas Department of Agriculture representative (non-voting member).
4. Discuss and take action on election of voting member representative for the Municipal Interest category – Motion for Brenton Lewis from the City of Llano to replace Mike Reagor as Llano County representative in the small municipalities interest category passed.
5. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approval of Minutes from the July 10, 2013 meeting: Doug Powell requested addition of a summary of Dr. Singh's presentation points to item 14, minutes passed as amended.
 - b. Financial/Budget Report – David Wheelock reported that the balance in the Region K account is \$1,818.90 and the balance in the grant account is \$154,418.25.
6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications – David Meeseey reported there was an amendment added in the contract to cover the last increment of funding available for the Regional Water Plan; it will soon be processed through LCRA, the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group's administrative agent.
7. Consultant Status Report:
 - Jaime Burke (AECOM) summarized items from the July meeting and reviewed work progress since the July 10th meeting, including the following items: the RWPG is currently waiting on notice to proceed from TWDB on partial task 4D scope of work; submitted population and municipal demand revision request to TWDB and received final TWDB staff recommended numbers; HB4 prioritization committee met; TWDB has a new costing tool and AECOM attended training; work continues on finalizing assumptions for the Cutoff Model; conservation and drought survey developed to be sent to water user groups (WUGs); groundwater conservation districts (GCDs) contacted to obtain updated plan and permit data.
 - Modeled available groundwater (MAG) figures are presently determined through 2060; TWDB requested values through 2070. Representatives for the groundwater management areas (GMAs) who had not yet responded did confirm that keeping 2060 values constant through 2070 would be acceptable. Haskell Simon asked how MAG figures enter into the calculations for water supply, David Meeseey responded that a GMA sets the desired future condition, and then TWDB runs the model for available ground water supply which becomes the supply number used in the plan.
 - Upcoming deadlines for the regional water planning groups (RWPGs) are scheduled as follows: Population, Municipal and Non-Municipal demand data recommendations are due to be presented to

the TWDB on Oct. 17th for approval; Task 4D scope of work for all strategies due to be submitted March 1, 2014; Technical Memo due date postponed to August 1, 2014; initially prepared Plan due May 1, 2015; final adopted Plan due November 2, 2015.

8. Update on Population, Municipal, and Non-Municipal Demand Projections:

- Haskell Simon expressed concern over the difference in growth rates between rural and urban areas and how that might affect allocation of funds from HB4. David Meesey responded that funding will be need driven with prioritization guidelines being developed.
- The Region K revision request was submitted, TWDB will recommend all changes except Bastrop County increased growth scenario and full requested increase amount for Travis County 2050-2070. The Travis County projection will be higher than the original draft number, but not as high as the RWPG request.
- Teresa Lutes commented on the process of totaling WUGs that make up the City of Austin, from 2050 on, growth may be higher than the numbers that are being recommended by the TWDB staff, so the group should keep this in mind in planning for these further out time-frames. David Meesey suggested that the current population growth trends may not last all the way to 2070. For planning purposes the RWPG can consider how much additional conservation or other strategies will be needed or how much earlier should it be enacted to accommodate additional potential population increases after 2050. These strategies can be put into the plan now. As Chair of the Population and Water Demand Committee, Ronald Gertson gave a quick water planning overview for the audience to put the importance of the population and demand projection component of the planning process in context. Haskell Simon cautioned the group to consider how the amount of available water may affect future population growth and to be careful not to over-fund projects based on estimated population growth, which may not consider water availability as a limiting factor.
- TWDB staff is recommending all RWPG requested non-municipal revisions, including the recently submitted exchange of irrigation for manufacturing use in Matagorda County.

9. Presentation on surface water availability (general background information):

- Jaime encouraged the group to review Chapter 3 of the current regional water plan in preparation for the meeting in January. She defined surface water sources and under what circumstances State water may be diverted, including two types of water rights permits; run-of-river and stored water. TWDB gives guidance on determining surface water availability, and that it should be estimated based on a firm yield basis assuming all senior water rights are being fully utilized. In the regional water planning process, water *supply* availability is different from water availability in that it is based on ability of infrastructure already in place to supply water.
- Region K uses a modified version of the TCEQ WAM Run 3 called the Region K Cutoff Model which divides the upper and lower Colorado River basins at the dam of Lake Ivie. In the Cutoff Model, generally, the water rights in the upper basin are modeled as being allowed to divert water in the upper basin without consideration of passing inflows to the rights in the lower basin to more accurately reflect the historical operating conditions of the basin. In the current planning cycle the naturalized flow set for the model is being expanded to include flows through 2009 and decadal runs are being expanded to 2070. Jaime said that it is unknown if the more recent updated flow data, incorporating the more recent drought years, after 2009 through the current time-frame will be available from TCEQ in time to use this planning cycle. John Burke asked when the new numbers may be available from TCEQ, and David Meesey responded that the timing is not definite; Jaime said that the updated numbers once available from TCEQ may be available for use in strategy evaluation.

10. Presentation and Discussion of Draft Drought and Conservation WUG Survey:

- Laura Raun, Public Relations sub-consultant with AECOM, was introduced by Jaime; Laura Raun has been working to develop a new version of a water conservation and drought management survey to send to WUGs. The survey will seek information that will help partially determine if 2011 conservation strategies and drought measures were implemented. 2011 was the year that TWDB used to calculate baseline municipal demands. This research will show whether the GPCDs reflect the implementation of

these measures and may provide insights into whether more conservation water management strategy options would be beneficial to the WUGs.

- Laura Raun directed the group to look at the draft handout of the survey and cover letter for the 2016 plan. This year's survey is designed to more precisely quantify water savings achieved from conservation and drought management measures and more information is requested about emergency water sources, drought management measures used in 2011, and specific goals related to water conservation. The survey this year is an interactive electronic document in an effort to make it as user friendly as possible. Ms. Raun asked for volunteers to take the survey and provide feedback on how long it takes to complete and what sort of materials you need gathered before beginning. She asked for feedback by Friday so that it may be distributed by October 16th, with responses due by November 6th.
- Jim Barho asked who will be receiving the survey, Jaime answered the surveys will be sent to municipal WUGs, those who received the population and demand document distribution will receive it. Suggestions and additions to the mailing list were welcomed, especially email addresses; County Judges, entities other than WUGs (non-municipal), and small County-Other entities were discussed by the group. Barbara Johnson told the group that when Austin Area Research Organization (AARO) did a conservation survey, they had trouble with small entities that did not have processes in place to assess the amount of water saved, and suggested a phone number to call for assistance and to encourage them to submit the survey even if they are unable, at this time, to completely fill out all aspects of the survey.

11. Water Management Strategies for the Lower Basin (2011 Region K Water Plan and identified potential strategies for evaluation during this planning cycle):

- Jaime explained that the group is holding meetings up and down the basin to encourage the public to provide suggestions and concerns about the water needs in their area. Jaime presented a comparison between projected water demands in the lower basin (Colorado, Matagorda, and Wharton Counties) and the entire Region K for 2020 through 2070 and discussed the lower basin's largest demands and strategies considered in the last planning cycle to meet those demands. The strategies can all be evaluated again in this planning cycle along with TWDB's required list, including new and expanded water supplies, conservation, reuse, and transfers, and any other new ideas presented. Jaime explained that the group is compiling a comprehensive list of any potentially feasible strategies for the entire region which will be evaluated for inclusion in the plan. Public input is encouraged today or by e-mail by January 1, 2014.
- James Arnold, small tourism business owner, expressed concern over the welfare of Matagorda Bay and the impacts of the lack of fresh water on the commercial fishing industry. He urged conservation across the entire basin and balance between the Highland Lakes and the Bay. Haskell Simon asked for an example of expanding the use of existing supplies as a strategy. Jaime responded with an example of building an additional well (infrastructure) to expand ability to pump water (supply) from an existing aquifer (availability). Ron Fieseler added that it could also include modifying a desired future condition (DFC) which would expand the existing supply. James Kowis offered that an aquifer storage and recovery system is another potential water management strategy example for possible consideration.

12. Other Committee Updates/Reports, as needed

- a. Water Modeling Committee – Teresa Lutes announced that the committee will meet directly after Region K meeting adjourns to review water modeling and assumption information to prepare the consultants to move forward on surface water availability modeling.
- b. Prioritization Criteria Committee – none
- c. Others as needed – none

13. HB4 Stakeholder Committee report – John Burke reported that Chairs Conference Call and meetings are being held to create uniform guidelines for each region to prioritize projects. The guidelines are due December 1, 2013. All projects must be in Regional Plans to be eligible for TWDB ranking and funding, which will be available if Proposition 6 is passed by voters on November 5, 2013. David Meesey noted that loans from this source are produced from the interest of the proposed HB4 funds, so amounts would be

available for small projects, but may also be available for large projects in increments, however, there may not be large-scale sums available all at once. There is concern that small rural projects will be ranked low statewide, however, many of them will rank high in their regional plans, and 10% percent of funding is allocated for rural projects. 20% will also be set aside for conservation and reuse projects. Teresa Lutes commented that the City of Austin is hopeful that its conservation and reuse projects will rank high for potential consideration in this process. Haskell Simon asked if the LCRA off-channel reservoir would qualify for this funding, David Meeseey replied that once it is in the plan it will.

14. Region K membership profile update – Barbara Johnson reviewed that at the last RWPG meeting the County Judge from Hays County expressed concern over lack of representation from that county on the group. She had examined the bylaws and membership profile and presented a composition of the required representation of the group. As of September 9th, representation of GMA 8 and Llano and Mills Counties were missing, but Hays County is represented. Teresa Lutes recalled that Brenton Lewis was elected to represent Llano County earlier that day, and Bill Luedecke was acknowledged as the GMA 8 representative. Mills County is indirectly represented by other members of the group.
15. Committee website password request from non-member – John Burke stated to the group that he received a request from someone in the Austin area for the password to the committee communication portion of the Region K website. Chairman Burke decided to bring this request forward to the full group for consideration and possible approval. David Wheelock asked how many in the group used the secure part of the website, to which some responded occasionally. Jim Barho noted that it was created so that reports could be distributed to members while they were in progress, and once they are finalized for the group they may be simultaneously released to the public. Mr. Barho expressed that he feels strongly that reports should not be released until they are finalized. David Meeseey echoed Mr. Barho's concern and said there are times when there are still mistakes in those working documents. The group reached consensus that this functionality of the web-site should be left "as is" and to not give out the password.
16. Appoint Nominating Committee and Chair for next year – John Burke announced that Barbara Johnson has agreed to be the chair; Bill Neve, Ron Gertson, and Doug Powell are all members.
17. Set meeting dates for next year – January 8, April 9, July 9, October 8, November 12, and December 10 are all planned meeting dates for 2014. All but January will be held at the LCRA Dalchau Center. David Kercheval volunteered to arrange a meeting place in Austin for the January 8 meeting. Covered parking is usually available at the Bullock Texas Museum for \$8.
18. Agenda items for next meeting – none at this time
19. New / Other Business – Ron Fieseler and the group thanked Haskell Simon for providing the group with Bay City/Matagorda County themed coffee cups.
20. Public Comments:
 - Dave Lindsay reminded the group of Intera's presentation at the last meeting and noted that it showed a dramatic drop in water availability. He stated there have been statistical studies on the significance of a disconnect in historical inflows since 2008. He encouraged the modeling committee to carefully consider recent inflows and include inflows since 2009. Jim Barho suggested David Lindsay review the guidelines for including a strategy with Jaime.
 - James Arnold expressed concern over not calculating changes in groundwater levels in the next 50 years, as his well has dropped dramatically, and he urges GMA representatives to include declines in groundwater levels in the plan.

21. Adjourn

**Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
July 10, 2013
Burnet Community Center
401 East Jackson Street
Burnet, 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
Karen Haschke, Public
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties
Billy Roeder, Agriculture
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sultemeier, Counties

Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Brandon Wade, Municipalities
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
Brenton Lewis, Alternate, Municipalities
John Hoffman, Alternate, Electric Utilities
David Lindsay, Alternate, Recreation
Charles Shell, Alternate, GMA 8
Jim Totten, Alternate, GMA 12
David Wheelock, Alternate, River Authorities
David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB
David Villarreal, Non-voting TDA

Voting Members Absent

Joe Cooper, GMA 12, alternate attended
Joe King, Electric Utilities, alternate attended
Doug Powell, Recreation, alternate attended

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other

Terry Zrubeh, LCRA
D. Steed, Travis County WCID 17
Mike Williams, City of Meadowlakes
Cindy Rodibayr, FCFWCD
Steven Williams
Tommy Koch, CTK
Ray Whisenant, Jr., Hays County
Charles Hadlin, HCA
Gloria Teague, INTERA
Abhishek Singh, INTERA
Danielle Martin, COA
Jeff Fox, COA
Bill Luedecke, CTGCD
Pat Womack, City of Leander
Gary N Oradat, City of Pflugerville
Linda Raschke, Llano County
James Kowis
Jeavon Ehler, Environment Texas
Tom Ray, LAN
Izzy Neusch, CTWC
Robert Burns, CTWC

Krystal Cantu, LCRA
Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm
Meaghan Bailey
Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC
John Hoffman, STPNOC
Buddy Harris, CTWC
James Walker, Burnet Bulletin
Owen Greenley, CTWC
Karen Bruett, Lakeside Beach and CTWC
Crista Bromley, City of Burnet
Marvin Lewis
Richard Welchen, TC WCID Point Venture
Dorethy Taylor, WOWSC
Christopher Eddy, BPGED
Vicky Kennedy, Travis County
Kodi Sawin, Sawin
Valinda Bolton
Kirk Kennedy, KRC
Paul Freeman
Carole Freeman

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

Formal Actions Taken

1. Motion to approve minutes from the April 10, 2013 meeting without changes was passed.
2. Motion made to elect David Wheelock to represent the River Authority interest category passed unanimously.
3. Motion approved to authorize the consultants to send the municipal population and water demand projection revision request to the TWDB staff for consideration, and to authorize the consultants to continue discussions with the TWDB on behalf of the RWPG to determine final projections., (see agenda item 8.b)
4. Motion approved to submit a water use change of 3,000 ac/ft from irrigation to manufacturing for Matagorda County passed. (see item 9.)

Regular Meeting:

1. Call to Order:

Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order.

2. Welcome and Introductions:

Chairman Burke welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3. Attendance Report:

Teresa Lutes called the member's attention to the attendance report included in the packet. Chairman Burke asked members to review a list of members contact information which was prepared by Krystal Cantu of LCRA.

4. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the April 10, 2013 meeting:

Chairman Burke asked members to review the minutes. Motion was made to approve them without changes. This motion passed unanimously.

- b. Financial/Budget Report:

David Wheelock reported that there was \$1,833 in the Region K account, and \$186,820 in the grant account. Haskell Simon gave a brief history of where the money in the Region K account came from, including the LCRWPG's effort years ago to collect money from entities and other representatives across the region.

5. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications – Legislative update:

- David Meesey reported on the legislative session that just concluded which passed a considerable amount of water-related legislation, most notably House Bill 4, House Bill 1025, and Senate Joint Resolution 1. If the constitutional amendment passes in the November 5, 2013 election, a stakeholder committee will be formed to establish standards for regional project prioritization by Dec. 1, 2013 for approval by TWDB.
 - *In 2014* - instructions for using the State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) will be posted on TWDB website by March 1; RWPGs submit draft project prioritization from 2011 plans by June 1, 2014 to TWDB, the final list is due September 1, 2014. The TWDB will provide a report to the Governor and Legislature regarding the use of SWIFT by December 1st of every even numbered year.
 - *In 2015* - by March 1 TWDB will adopt rules for allocating funds. Initially prepared regional plans, including prioritized projects for the 2016 Plan, are due May 1. To be eligible for a loan, a project must be recommended in the plan.
 - *In 2016* – approved regional water plan with prioritized project list will be submitted on Jan. 5.
- If the constitutional amendment does not pass, the legislature could address the issue again in the 2015 session.
- The RWPG must consider the decade a project is needed by, feasibility, viability, sustainability, and cost effectiveness of a project for prioritization. TWDB will rank projects on a statewide basis through a points system that considers population, service of both urban and rural population, provide regionalization, and high percentage of need met. Availability of supplemental funding and capacity of

applicant to repay TWDB, emergency of need, how much preparation for a project has been completed, effects on water conservation, and prioritization of RWPG's will also be considered.

- In the upcoming RWPG Chairs' conference call they will begin creating statewide standards and an outline, which John Burke will send to the group for comments before submitting to TWDB by December 1. Jennifer Walker was appointed Chair of the Strategy Prioritization Committee, which will be formed and meet before the Chairs' conference call. Members include Jennifer Walker, Teresa Lutes, Barbara Johnson, Brandon Wade, David van Dresar, John Dupnik, Doug Powell, Ronald Gertson, David Wheelock, Robert Ruggiero, Karen Haschke, Jim Barho, David Meeseey, and David Bradsby.

6. Discuss and take action on election of voting member representative for the River Authority Interest category member:

Motion made to elect David Wheelock to represent the River Authority interest category passed unanimously.

7. Consultant Status Report:

- Jaime Burke reviewed work progress since the April 10th meeting, including: RWPG Chairs' conference calls held on May 7th and July 2nd; partial Scope of Work for task 4D submitted to TWDB; continued efforts on population and municipal water demand projections (see item # 8); submitted letter and received approval from TWDB for Region K's request to use the Cutoff Model to evaluate water management strategies; Cutoff Model updated to include corrections made to the Colorado River WAM; Water Modeling Committee met on July 8th and will be meeting again in August.
- Schedule: final submittal of municipal demand data due August 16th, may require an August Region K meeting. *For 2014* - task 4D Scope of Work due March 1; Technical Memorandum due May 1. *For 2015* – Initially Prepared Plan due May 1; final adopted Plan due November 2, 2015.
- Upcoming task work: Population and municipal demand data analysis and TWDB request preparation; surface water availability modeling for drought and conservation chapters and water management strategies; survey to collect data on supplies, drought planning, and conservation for each Water User Group (WUG); begin evaluating water management strategies after receiving approval from TWDB.
- Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG): determined through 2060, RWPG must determine 2070 values; three of the Groundwater Management Areas (GMA's) contacted responded to keep 2060 values constant through 2070, the other three did not respond. John Dupnik and Ron Fieseler responded that the values for their GMA's, 10 and 9, respectively, will likely stay the same but need to wait until the next Region K meeting to discuss with their GMA's. David van Dresar noted the difficulty of the GMAs and Groundwater Conservation District (GCDs) to give MAG updated values through 2070 since the next round of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) are not due until May of 2016. David Meeseey said that it is fine to keep the 2060 values constant through 2070 and revisit it in five years (next planning cycle), which is what most GMA's are doing
- Non-municipal revision request submitted to TWDB in October 2012, updated in April 2013, revisions accepted in June, final TWDB approval expected in fall of 2013.

8. Items related to Draft Population and Municipal Water Demand Projections:

- a. Presentation and discussion of Draft Population and Municipal Demand Projections, including revised projections based on comments received from the Water User Groups and recommended by the Population and Water Demand Committee
 - Ronald Gertson introduced this item by reviewing that these projections represent the demands that need to be met over the future decades through 2070. The revision request numbers presented at this meeting have been vetted by the Population and Water Demand Committee for consideration by the group to submit for review by the TWDB. There was an extensive outreach to WUGs to make recommendations for changes. Because of the recent 2010 census, the TWDB may approve changes that would increase the region's population over the projection amounts.
 - Virginia Wilkinson presented the timeline for this item. *In 2013* – draft projections from TWDB received March 5; corrected data received on April 8; WUG input in late Spring, change requests due Aug 16; TWDB approval expected in early Fall.
 - The methodology for arriving at these projections relies on 2010 census, the State Demographer projects county growth based on births, deaths, and migration to 2040. Migration is calculated for three scenarios; 1.0 assumes migration from previous decade will remain constant, 0.5 assumes that migration will be half the rate of the previous decade, and 0.0 assumes no net migration. The TWDB then takes these projections to 2070, splits them into municipalities, and uses 2011 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) values and projected GPCD decreases based on plumbing code changes to arrive at water demand projections by decade for each WUG.

- 41.7% of the region's WUGs participated in the outreach, 6 WUGS requested a downward revision, and 14 requested an upward revision, although not enough data was provided for some. 20 requested no revisions, and of the 56 unresponsive WUGs, most are assumed to not need revisions.
 - David Lindsay asked what goes in to GPCD regarding business, industrial, and manufacturing use. Virginia replied that much of it is in the non-municipal demand projection category, which is a separate set of projections, and areas with high tourism would have high GPCD without being reflected in the population. Teresa added that commercial is included in the municipal demand category, but not manufacturing, which is separate in the non-municipal demand category.
 - Virginia went through each county and explained the changes from TWDB projections recommended by the Committee. Bastrop County requested a 1.0 migration scenario through 2050, and a .75 migration scenario to 2070, which increased projections for all WUGs. In Burnet County, Marble Falls requested a population increase, which was taken out of the County-Other WUG. In Hays County the population was redistributed between some of the WUGs. In Williamson County, Wells Branch MUD was moved entirely into Region K out of Region G, but the totals for the county stayed the same. Haskell Simon asked why the TWDB projections were so far off for Leander and Virginia explained the information provided by the WUG as support for the proposed changes. Brandon Wade commented that Leander has a large footprint in Travis county and has experienced rapid development. Virginia noted that much of its the population is in Region G, Meeseey echoed that it is difficult to estimate due to the fact that it is split by the two regions. Teresa Lutes presented the City of Austin rationale and data to support the recommended change request for the county-level projections for Travis County. Teresa noted that Austin is located in three counties, which is reflected in the projections for those counties. The City of Austin is requesting that the RWPG approve, including: 1) the use of 1.0 migration scenario for Travis county and associated population increases for the main Austin WUG in Travis County, 2) the use of base dry year per capita adjusted for Drought Contingency Plan implementation, and 3) use of revised projected decadal per capita demands incorporating plumbing code and clothes washer savings already achieved.
 - Jim Brasher asked what TWDB is requiring to justify the Region K population increase. Virginia answered that TWDB has not authorized the increase yet, but has shared that they have received feedback from other regions expressing faster growth, and TWDB will need to consider the state-wide totals. Numbers and supporting documentation need to be provided to be considered.
- b. John Dupnik expressed concern over the 140 GPD goal being reached using these projections. Teresa explained that the City's plans reflect reaching this goal by using active conservation and reuse strategies. The baseline water demand projections that the TWDB developed as a baseline for the regional water plans are intended to reflect passive conservation to be achieved over time through plumbing code changes not the active type conservation steps the City is taking over time. These active steps require considerable effort, resources, and funding. Jennifer stated that the first thing the RWPG is supposed to look at for a WUG is that it has a conservation strategy, and we know that Austin will have a management strategy that is conservation-focused. Teresa told the group that what we want to avoid is embedding water conservation strategies that take active investment and policy making so that they are obvious in the water management strategies section of the plan. John Dupnik stated that he would agree if this method is consistent, to which David Meeseey responded that they want every group to start with the State-wide methodology, but one size does not fit all and they want the best information that they can get. If what the WUG has is better than the state-wide methodology and the group agrees, they will look at it. In Austin's case, the City started rebate programs and plumbing code changes before the state required them. He cautioned the group not to over-estimate what Austin can do on the demand side since they are farther ahead than most other places. The City and the committee have spent a considerable amount of time delving into the details, and Teresa is confident that these estimates are accurate, Ronald Gertson confirmed that the committee did spend a lot of time on this, and that the committee even declined one part of the City's adjustment request which was not brought to the group, and that an even more detailed report will go to the TWDB for review. David Meeseey added that before the committee met, the TWDB staff met one-on-one with City of Austin staff to confirm their methodology and make sure they have all the supporting documentation needed. Jim Brasher asked about the 2011 dry year baseline GPCD. It was explained that the, TWDB makes adjustments for emergency responses such as drought or if a water plant goes down. The base dry year GPCD Austin is proposing includes an adjustment for drought contingency plan implementation during the latter part of 2011. Brandon Wade cautioned the group about comparing GPCD values in cities to towns, stating that they are different in that cities have a higher concentration of hotels and commuters, etc. whereas many smaller towns have a large number of secondary homes. Consider possible action to approve the population and municipal

demand projections and authorize the consultant team to submit the revision request and supporting documentation to TWDB.

- Teresa Lutes made a motion to authorize the consultants to send the municipal population and water demand revision request to the TWDB staff for consideration, including the items discussed at this meeting and captured on the 11X17 hand-out sheet, and to authorize the consultants to continue discussions with the TWDB on behalf of the RWPG to determine final projections, with an addition from Ronald Gertson to include that the consultants would refer to the Population and Demand Committee in case there is a need for TWDB follow-up. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Items related to the draft TWDB Manufacturing Demand Projections for discussion and possible action

Jaime presented manufacturing demand projections. A new manufacturing facility in Matagorda County is expected to open in 2016, Tenaris, which will use about 3,000 acre-feet/year. This amount will be taken from water previously used for irrigation on the site. Ronald Gertson motioned to submit the water use change of 3,000 ac/ft from irrigation to manufacturing; the motion passed unanimously. Haskell asked how precise we need to be in this estimation; David Meesey responded that the projections do not have to be precise as long as they are an even substitution.

10. Presentation and discussion of draft surface water availability results from the updated Region K Cutoff Model. – John Burke initiated the discussion, Jaime Burke said they met with the Modeling Committee and decided that preliminary draft results will likely be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Other Committee Reports, none

12. Discuss and take possible action regarding Hays County representation

Hays County requested that Ray Whisenant be added to the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG). The LCRWPG would have to vote to amend the bylaws by a 2/3rds vote to increase the membership to 26 and advertise for the position. After 45 days the group would need to vote to elect a new member. Ray Whisenant addressed and thanked the group, and stated that he could contribute his experience to the group and be of service to his county by being a direct representative for the County.

13. Discuss and take possible action as appropriate to change by-laws to increase the Region K Planning Group to 26 voting members.

- Haskell Simon asked Mr. Whisenant what water challenges Hays County is facing, to which he responded that they mirror other central Texas counties, including dealing with rapid growth effects. Ron Fieseler gave some background on the representation of Hays County in the RWPG; previous representation has been through residents of the county that were representing groundwater districts. However currently the only representatives in the group are an alternate and a member who has previously lived in Hays County. John Dupnik affirmed that there would be value in having Mr. Whisenant on the group based on his experience. Ron Fieseler made a motion to amend the bylaws to increase membership to 26, with the additional member representing Hays County. The motion was later changed to not include specifying which county the member would represent. The motion was voted on after the following discussion with 10 voting yes, the motion needed a 2/3rds vote, so it did not pass.
- John Burke stated that the only opening right now is Llano County and that the GMA 8 nomination has to come from GMA 8. Barbara Johnson read from bylaws that the only option would be to increase the number of members, without specifying the County. Jennifer suggested taking time to look at how members were elected in the past. Barbara agreed with a suggestion to have the Bylaws Committee present to the group. Ronald Gertson added that there will always be people that could contribute to the group, but that the size of the group has grown considerably and it has been more and more difficult to have in-depth discussion and accommodate such a large group. He suggested assigning a current member as a Hays county representative on the website. Ronald also noted that in other regions, sometimes a person will represent multiple counties. The Bylaws Committee is to review the issue.

14. Presentation and discussion of drought research study done by Intera Geosciences and Engineering, Inc. and commissioned by Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC)

- David Lindsay introduced the presentation; telling the group that recent changes in inflows into the Highland Lakes led the CTWC to hire Intera to research the topic, and this presentation is a brief overview of their findings.

- Dr. Singh introduced himself and stated that the core of their research was to look at trends in inflows to the Highland Lakes. Dr. Singh highlighted three main conclusions of his research: 1) inflows to the Highland Lakes have decreased by 31% on average when comparing 1999-to-Present with the Pre-1999 period; 2) the current WMP does not protect firm water supplies in the Highland Lakes, at least not without needing emergency orders; and 3) the Firm Yield of the Highland Lakes needs to be re-calculated. The report and data that Intera used is available on request.
- Ron Fieseler asked if population increases since the 1950's were considered in the streamflow calculations. Dr. Singh answered that the flows used were naturalized and may be off by some amount that would be difficult to calculate. John Dupnik commented that there is a need to more strongly link surface water and groundwater management processes, due to the degree to which they impact one another. Jennifer pointed out that the TCEQ WAM goes through 1999, while the WAM Region K uses goes through 2009. David Lindsay commented that TCEQ is updating their water availability model (WAM) to bring naturalized data up to current dates.

15. Discuss and take possible action regarding request by CTWC to consider recreational and other economic impacts when developing water management strategies for the regional water plan.

- Cindy Smiley asked, on behalf of CTWC, that the Highland Lakes be recognized in the Region K Plan for their recreational and economic impacts, and suggested several places in the plan to include the lakes in water management strategies. There was a letter sent to the group on April 6th with suggested language. Jo Karr Tedder addressed the group and said that the counties surrounding the lakes are being economically devastated.
- Jennifer Walker and David Lindsay discussed the specific request. David Lindsay said that an operating level implemented using WAM RUN67 would indicate a level for a stable lake with historically low inflows. It was clarified that CTWC is asking for a 200,000 acre-feet demand to be considered in the plan to address this issue. David Lindsay commented that the presentation by Intera was appropriate today because it illustrated that without a historical average, there is no back-up, and this need should be included in the plan. David Van Dresar suggested that the group should urge voters and legislators of Texas to pass the funding to implement water management strategies. Jennifer Walker suggested that the group encourage all communities to implement their drought contingency plans as the City of Austin has done and aggressively conserve.
- Bill Neve asked if there is a process set up in case someone asks for a new demand category to be added. David Meesey replied that yes, and they have gone through the process and the TWDB responded to the CTWC saying that the RWPG cannot consider it a new demand because it is not consumptive. However, there are several ways to address this item in the water plan. Chairman Burke suggested that if the group would like to bring forward ideas of how to accomplish saving 200,000 ac/ft in the Highland Lakes including a mechanism to pay for it, the RWPG could consider incorporating such a strategy. Jim Barho commented that how the RWPG can spend its funding in its planning efforts is defined by the TWDB and how it is somewhat restrictive. He suggested presenting strategies to the RWPG; the process for which was outlined at the January 9th meeting, and is in the minutes.

16. Agenda items for next meeting

- Ronald Gertson suggested that John Dupnik be recognized as the official Hays County representative and post it on the website accordingly. It was assigned to the Bylaws Committee to research the topic of membership representation before the next meeting and report back on October 9th in Bay City.
- Jennifer Walker asked when a presentation on drought contingency plan requirements and the new drought chapter should be made. Jaime Burke sent out information on a Webinar on this topic, which is still on the TWDB website.
- Meeting dates for next year will be determined.

17. New / Other Business - none

18. Public Comments - none

19. Adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

MINUTES

Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

April 10, 2013

LCRA Dalchau Service Center

3505 Montopolis Drive

Austin, Texas

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

Barbara Johnson, Industries

Joe King, Electric Generating Utilities

James Kowis, River Authorities

Teresa Lutes, Municipalities

Bill Neve, Counties

Doug Powell, Recreation

Mike Reagor, Municipalities

Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Haskell Simon, Agriculture

James Sultemeier, Counties

Byron Theodosios, Counties

Paul Tybor, GMA 7

David Van Dresar, Water Districts

Jennifer Walker, Environmental

Patricia Bennett, alternate for Karen Haschke, Public

Lauri Gillam, alternate for Brandon Wade,

Municipalities

Charles Shell, Alternate, GMA 8

David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD

Richard Eyster, Non-voting, TDA

David Meeseey, Non-voting, TWDB

Voting Members Absent

Joe Cooper, GMA 12

Karen Haschke, Public, alternate attended

Brandon Wade, Municipalities, alternate attended

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other

Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm

John Hoffman, South Texas Project NOC

Brenton Lewis, City of Llano

Bob Rose, LCRA

Meghan Roussel, USGS

Bill Luedecke, Central Texas GCD

Izzy Neusch, CTWC

Jamie Burke, AECOM

Virginia Wilkinson, AECOM

Bill Mullican, citizen

David Lindsay, Recreation Alternate, CTWC

Tom Koch, CTK

Mary McAllister, Water Power Nexus Consulting

David Wheelock, River Authorities Alternate, LCRA

Danielle Martin, City of Austin

Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate, City of Austin

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. Motion to approve minutes from the January 9, 2013 meeting, as amended, was passed.
2. Motion to remove 2,500 acre-feet/year demand for White Stallion from steam-electric demand projections was passed.
3. Motion to send letter to WUGs requesting review and input on the TWDB draft population and municipal demand projections with suggestions made by Barho, Gertson, Johnson, and Kowis was passed.
4. Motion to authorize consultant to submit an initial scope of work for analysis of four potential water management strategies presented was passed.

5. Motion to send letter to TWDB outlining surface water modeling approach to be used during the upcoming regional planning cycle was passed.
6. Motion to include four minor changes to the Region K bylaws was passed.

Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order :

John Burke called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions :

Joe King introduced John Hoffman, Environmental Consultant at the South Texas Project, as his new alternate and announced Rick Gangluff's retirement. Mike Reagor announced Brenton Lewis, City Manager of Llano, as his alternate.

3. Recognition for service to Region K :

John Burke recognized James Kowis for his service to the Region K planning group. James is resigning from the group and retiring from LCRA.

4. Attendance Report :

John Burke called the group's attention to the attendance report for the January 9, 2013 meeting that was included in the meeting materials packet.

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes from the January 9, 2013 meeting :

Motion to approve minutes, as amended, was passed.

- b. Financial/Budget Report :

James Kowis reported that as of February, the balance of the Region K account is \$2,008, the TWDB grant balance is \$50,346.

6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications :

David Meesey addressed several regional planning process items:

- a. Update on population and demand projections:

David Meesey reported that TWDB has released the population and municipal demand projections; the planning group is now in the review process. Revision requests and discussion to be submitted to the TWDB by August and approved by TWDB by October. The Technical Memorandum is due May 2014, and the initially prepared plan is due May 2015. Bill Neve asked how a local boom in population during the summer months is considered. It was discussed that it is common in many areas to be counted on the water demand side in the summer boom area and as population in their county of residence. Water use survey estimates by local areas are used to demonstrate temporary water use booms. David Meesey offered to have a projections specialist give a presentation to the group and take questions at a future meeting. Haskell Simon recalled this subject coming up during the previous planning cycle, and LCRA had an extensive investigation at that time with a session to look at population proxies.

- b. How rule revisions will affect the 2016 regional water plan:

Revisions of drought requirements are designed to help small entities plan, and emphasize the importance of drought response and contingency plans. A separate chapter for all drought information will be included in the plan. There is a new requirement for entities which serve less than 7,500 and rely on a single source of water supply to identify potential alternative water sources to be considered for emergency use. New model drought plans designed for entities in the region include triggers, analysis and recommendations for next steps to address situations when supply drops below key triggers.

c. Process for amending a regional water plan:

There are three ways to amend the plan: 1) Substitute water management strategies that have already been fully evaluated. 2) A minor amendment process can be done in a public meeting, but cannot over-allocate water supply, be a new reservoir, have significant adverse effect on instream or environmental flows, or change or delete any legal requirements. 3) A major amendment process requires a public hearing and a 30 day comment period, taking several months.

7. Presentation by Bob Rose

Bob Rose, LCRA Meteorologist noted that our region is now in the third year of drought, with no indication that it will be ending soon. 2011 and 2012 for most of Texas had much less rain than normal. Two rain events have put most of Texas near normal amounts of rainfall so far this year; however soil moisture is still below normal. The drought monitor is showing a deepening and spreading drought. La Nina dissipated last year, but the weather pattern has stayed dry, and we have not moved in to an El Nino period. Ocean temperatures indicate that we will not move into El Nino by fall. We are currently in the negative phase of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, similar to the 1950's, and this will likely be the dominant feature of the 2013 weather patterns. Rainfall through the summer is predicted to be at normal, with temperatures being predicted above normal. The Palmer Drought Index shows it would take at least 9-15 inches of rain in 3 months to bring our region out of a drought. Warm Atlantic temperatures and lack of El Nino indicate an active tropical weather season, with more storms coming inland. Historically, however, hurricanes have not brought large amounts of rainfall to our region.

8. Consultant Status Report :

- Jaime Burke with AECOM reviewed the work progress report since the January 9th meeting which included: Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) Chair's conference call held on February 12; draft population and municipal demand projections have been sent out to members; TWDB Drought Chapter webinar held on March 4; Water Modeling Committee Meeting held on March 26; and preparations for Chapters 1 and 7 of the plan have begun.
- Deliverable schedule: Technical Memo due May 1, 2014; Task 4D scope of work due March 1, 2014; Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) due May 1, 2015; Final adopted Plan due Nov 2, 2015.
- Upcoming Task Work: further review of draft population and municipal demand projections with feedback from WUGs and RWPG members, surface water availability modeling after Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Water Availability Model (WAM) release, continue updating chapters 1 and 7, task 4D scope of work partial submittal and strategy evaluations.
- Jennifer Walker asked for more information on chapter updates. Virginia Wilkinson with AECOM has been working on Chapter 1; to date, work includes identifying what sections need to be updated and what could be added to the chapter, such as recent regional economic conditions and population updates, and information on events such as Bastrop fire. Jaime noted that Chapter 7 work includes moving drought information throughout the plan into this new chapter. More details on these updates forthcoming, John Dupnik requested a future agenda item on this topic.
- Jaime noted that TWDB wants the 2070 Managed Available Groundwater (MAG) values included in the planning process. Jaime noted that most of the MAG values stay relatively constant for Region K, and that one option is to keep the MAG values constant from 2060 to 2070, or the group may consider options on how to address 2070 values. No action is needed at this time from the group but the approach will have to be discussed by the group in the future.
- John Dupnik commented that some Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) with updated Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the 2070 planning period may be able assist with the RWPG timing deadlines and provide any updated DFCs where appropriate or known. David Van Dresar noted that draft legislation in the current legislative session may address syncing up the planning cycle DFC process with the regional planning group timelines. Mr. Dupnik commented that the process of getting them synchronized will be complicated. James Kowis suggested getting feedback from each GMA representative on the Region K planning group to come back to the group and give recommendations

on how to approach these MAGs for their respective GMA. Ron Fieseler agreed that the timeline is complicated and getting them synced during this planning cycle could be challenging.

- In January Region K received a memo from the Texas Water Alliance requesting Region K include the Texas Water Alliance as a wholesale water provider to Region K. AECOM looked into this and since they are located in Region L and principally serve customers in Region L, they cannot be listed as Region K wholesale provider, but they can be included in the Region K Plan as a Region L wholesale water provider that sells water to some customers in Region K. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) has asked if there are any new wholesale water providers in the Lower Colorado Region.
- Non Municipal Demand Projections: in October 2012 a demand revision request was submitted to TWDB including Irrigation, Livestock, Mining, and Steam-Electric demands. The Bureau of Economic Geology updated mining projections in mid-January, with significant changes in Colorado and Fayette Counties, however, it was determined that the changes did not require updating the Region K demand revision already submitted. TWDB has asked for additional documentation for steam-electric demand revisions and when to expect submittal of manufacturing demand changes. Region K should be prepared to approve any revisions at the July meeting, as submittals are due to TWDB by August 16, 2013, and TWDB plans to request approval of all demands in October of this year. The revision request to TWDB included steam-electric demand of 2,500 ac-ft/yr for the proposed White Stallion Energy Center in Matagorda County. This project is no longer moving forward. Jim Barho motioned to remove the projected White Stallion steam-electric demand from the non-municipal demand projections. This motion passed.

9. Presentation and Discussion of Draft Population and Municipal Demand Projections:

- Jaime said updated data on draft population and demand data was received from the TWDB in April, any changes to projections are due to TWDB by August 16th; with TWDB consideration for approval planned for fall 2013.
- The City of Fredericksburg has confirmed concurrence with their projections. Jim Barho reported that Marble Falls had concerns over two projects that were not included in estimates; they have provided documentation related to their populations numbers which was handed out to members. Bill Neve announced that there is another meeting scheduled for other municipalities to discuss their demands, since only Marble Falls and Burnet representatives were present at the first meeting.
- A letter to WUGs requesting feedback has been drafted, which will help provide information to the county/other water user groups. The timeline for the letter is to be distributed April 24th, receive feedback by June 7th, discuss at next Region K meeting, July 10th, and submit revisions to TWDB August 16th. TWDB is expected to make their approval of the revisions in October 2013. Jim Barho suggested clarifying in the letter that the data is provided by TWDB, and it is the responsibility of the WUGs to prepare any recommendations and document those recommendations with supporting data for Region K to submit to TWDB. Ronald Gertson recommended including, with the letter, a complete list of WUGs and list of planning group members. Barbara Johnson suggested letting the group know which WUGs do not respond to the letter so members can try to contact them. James Kowis advised removing "if Necessary" from title and stating "review and respond" in the letter. Jaime provided the group with the WUG contact mailing list and asked for any suggested changes. Ronald Gertson motioned to send the letter with the corrections and additions discussed at this meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Haskell Simon asked how will small water suppliers within county/other be notified and whether the County Judge will be responsible for sending the notification to the other water providers in their county. Ronald Gertson suggested calling attention to what falls into the county/other category in the letters being sent to County Judges. Robert Ruggiero asked why some of the WUGs were removed from this planning round. David Meeseey suggested that they were probably counted as part of a larger another WUG but specific examples as be looked into, as needed.

10. Presentation and Discussion of Potential Water Management Strategies and Initial Task 4D (Evaluation and Recommendation of Water Management Strategies) Scope of Work: – AECOM / Jim Barho & James Kowis:

- Jaime noted that the group needs to review all the possible water management strategies, which were covered at the January 9th meeting. However, TWDB has specific guidelines for the planning groups to consider, including expanding the use of existing supplies, development of new supplies, drought management and conservation measures, reuse of wastewater, and inter-basin and emergency transfers. Region K must develop a comprehensive list of strategies potentially feasible for meeting a need in the region. A draft of the list has been started, grouped into 7 categories, and handed out to members. David Meeseey stated that the more detail included when listing specific strategies, the better, especially concerning appropriating state funding, because the strategy has to be included in the plan rather than just consistent with the plan.

Jennifer Walker and Ronald Gertson indicated interest in identifying other agricultural conservation strategies to be included, such as those that had been part of the LSWP project but would still potentially be useful strategies. James Kowis recalled that some agriculture strategies were previously part of the LSWP are not listed under conservation, but instead are included in the alternative strategies. Jennifer Walker recommended the State Water Conservation Advisory Council's Best Management Practices Guide as a resource for agriculture and industrial conservation. Jennifer asked about the scope of work for the strategies.

Jaime said the group needs to have reviewed all their strategies by March 1, 2014. Ron Fieseler requested "Delivery of Water from Gonzales County to Blanco County" strategy under Potential New Strategies from Strategy Sponsors be changed to read "Delivery of Water from Gonzales County to portions of Blanco and Hays Counties". John Dupnik suggested including direct potable reuse. Teresa Lutes suggested including "Strategies List for 2016 Planned Development" in the title, and under City of Austin Direct Reuse bullet, striking "direct" and adding "...- Direct and Indirect". Mr. Kowis and Ms. Lutes discussed striking "and Recommended" from "Strategies Considered and Recommended in the 2011 Region K Water Plan" or listing indirect reuse as other or additional strategy, or creating a new other bullet. Haskell Simon wanted to be sure that a brackish groundwater strategy for Matagorda County is included in the plan since they are already spending money studying the concept.

- Jaime said the entire scope of work is to be submitted to TWDB by March 1, 2014, however, a partial scope of work for particular strategies can be submitted before the deadline. Strategies can be submitted as soon before March 1, 2014 as possible, and can be removed from consideration at any time before May 2015. Potential strategies for an initial partial scope of work include drought management for all WUGs conservation, existing DCP information, existing studies on water restrictions, possible coordination of regional and sub-regional drought triggers, expanded groundwater use, and LCRA new off-channel reservoir(s). Jaime said the off-channel reservoir (OCR) evaluation would include a WAM model run, coordination with LCRA, permitting requirements, and impacts, preparation of exhibits and strategy potential. The 2011 plan did include an OCR concept but this would be looked at as a new strategy. Jaime said the groundwater strategy for a WUG that is already using groundwater, and would be expanding this use strategy.

Teresa Lutes commented on availability analysis and assumptions and where those will be incorporated in the process, requesting that AECOM note where that will be included in the process. Jaime noted that in the 2011 plan, conservation was 37% of the 2060 water management strategies volume and stressed the need to explore additional conservation, where appropriate. David Meeseey recalled that in addition, reuse was over 20%. Haskell Simon asked whether in the future, as conservation is implemented, would there be less potential for further conservation. David Meeseey said new conservation technology may play a role in furthering conservation potential. Jennifer Walker asked about areas like Bastrop where permitted groundwater is significantly more than actual current pumping – should the permitted or actual pumped amounts be used? Jaime said this will need to be studied more. John Dupnik commented that permitting in other areas may not be commensurate with the Managed Available Groundwater (MAG), since some Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) may permit at values higher than the MAG.

Barbara Johnson asked about a change in the approach on conjunctive use. Jaime said it will not be used as an overdraft strategy, but this should not be an issue since the LSWP strategy will not be part of this plan. Billy Roeder discussed the concept of investing in conservation strategies and who benefits from a specific water conservation investment and who ultimately benefits if the water is made available to another WUG. James Kowis motioned to authorize the consultants to submit an Initial Task 4D Scope of Work for the four potential strategies discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

11. Water Modeling Committee update :

James Kowis gave a Water Modeling Committee update and described the process. TWDB approved use of the Region K WAM in October. TWDB asked for a clarification of how the models will be used. A letter and attachment has been drafted to clarify the planning group's intent and how the TCEQ WAM Run 3 and cutoff model will be used. The letter has been handed out to the group and James Kowis made the motion to approve sending the letter to TWDB outlining the surface water modeling approach to be used during the upcoming regional planning cycle. The motion passed unanimously. David Meeseey commented that this process has been beneficial for clarifying the use of the cutoff model. Jennifer Walker suggested replacing James Kowis as chair of Water Modeling Committee since Kowis is retiring, John Burke recommended Teresa Lutes as chair of the Water Modeling Committee.

12. Bylaws Committee :

Barbara Johnson noted that after major changes to the Region K bylaws were approved at the January 9th meeting, four additional minor changes have been recommended. The first change is to strike "called" under section 2 on page 1. Second, strike "will be" and add "is" under section 2 on page 13. Third, strike "the previous are" and add "a meeting is" under section 8 on page 15. Finally, strike "whom" and add "which" under article XIV on page 20. Barbara moved to adopt these minor changes. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Other Committee Reports: No other committee reports.

14. Letter from Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC):

CTWC raised the issue of a possible consultant conflict of interest of Laura Raun, who is on the Region K Consultant Team, working for other clients, primarily rice farmers. Jo Karr Tedder of CTWC expressed concern about the appearance and possibility of an ethics conflict in representing multiple clients on related issues. Ms. Raun wrote a letter and made a statement to Region K explaining how her work for Region K is not compromised by her work for the Colorado Water Issues Committee and her roots in the rice farming industry. Copies of the letter were handed out. Ronald Gertson stated that the Colorado Water Issues Committee also employs Joe Trungale; and that the consultants Mr. Gertson spoke with did not with consider this to be a conflict of interest.

15. Agenda items for next meeting, July 10th in Burnet:

Chairman Burke said a replacement for James Kowis as the River Authority interest category representative is to be advertised and there will likely need to be an item on the next agenda to elect a replacement.

16. New / Other Business (time permitting)

The Population and Water Demands Committee will schedule a meeting. David Meeseey suggested having Kevin Kluge with the TWDB speak at a future meeting about the draft projections. The July meeting is planned to be held in the upper part of the region. The October meeting is planned to be held in the lower part of the region.

17. No public comments were received.

18. The meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm.

MINUTES

**Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
January 9, 2013
LCRA Dalchau Service Center
3505 Montopolis Drive, Austin, Texas**

Members Signing In

Jim Barho, Environmental
Jim Brasher, GMA 15
John Burke, Water Utilities
John Dupnik, GMA 10
Joe Cooper, GMA 12
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Ronald Gertson, Small Business
Karen Haschke, Public
Barbara Johnson, Industries
Joe King, Electric Generating Utilities
James Kowis, River Authorities
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Bill Neve, Counties
Charles Shell, Alternate, GMA 8

Doug Powell, Recreation
Mike Reagor, Municipalities (Elected)
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business
Haskell Simon, Agriculture
James Sulzemeier, Counties
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Brandon Wade, Municipalities (Elected)
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Bradsby, Non-voting, TPWD
David Meeseay, Non-voting, TWDB

Voting Members Absent

Richard Eyster, Non-voting, TDA
Billy Roeder, Agriculture

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Others

Jaime Burke, AECOM
Sam Marie Hermitte, TWDB
Larry Hoffmann, self
Andy Johnston, HALFF Associates
Mary McAllister
David M. Lindsay, Recreation Alternate, CTWC
Ashley S. Harper, TX State Student, Geo-Water Resources
Kodi Sawin, Sawin Group
Tommy Koch, Texas Water Alliance, HH Ranch
Karen Bondy, River Authorities Alternate, LCRA
Don Kiser, LCRA
Phillip Spenrath, Wharton County Judge
Lauri Gillam, City of Pflugerville

Cindy Smiley, Smiley Law Firm for CTWC
Izzy Neusch, CTWC
Jo Karr Tedder, CTWC
James Miller, City of Bastrop
David Wheelock, River Authorities, Alternate, LCRA
Jeff Fox, Municipalities Alternate, City of Austin
Danielle Martin, City of Austin
Gary N. Oradat, Oradat & Associates, for City of Pflugerville
Randy Wilburn, Randall Wilburn Law
James Totten, Lost Pines GCD
Matt Webb, TAMU

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. Approved Nominating Committee Recommendations for the Executive Committee (See item 3., below)
2. Approved election of Mike Reagor and Brandon Wade to represent the Municipalities Interest category. (See items 4 and 5., below)
3. Approved the minutes from the October 10, 2012 meeting, with noted corrections. (See item 7., below)
4. Approved Bylaws Committee recommended changes to the Bylaws with changes as noted during the meeting. (See item 9, below)
5. Approved the process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies as presented and discussed. Additionally, as part of the process, hold three Region K meetings at locations up and down the basin to provide additional opportunities for public input on proposed water management strategies.

Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order:
John Burke called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Welcome and Introductions:
Joe Cooper (GMA 12) introduced Jim Totten as his potential future replacement and designated him as his alternate. Brandon Wade (Pflugerville City Manager) introduced himself and Gary Oradat (consultant for the City of Pflugerville) and Lauri Gillam (Assistant City Manager). Mike Reagor (Llano City Mayor) introduced himself. John Burke introduced James Miller (City of Bastrop Director of Water and Wastewater) as his new alternate.
3. Report on Nominating Committee Recommendations:
A memo from James Kowis on Nominating Committee Recommendations was provided in the member packet. The committee recommended that John Burke, Jim Barho, and Teresa Lutes remain Chairman, Vice Chairman, , and Secretary, respectively. The committee also recommended Joe King, James Sultemeier, and James Kowis be elected as Executive Committee "at large" members. James Kowis motioned that the recommendations be approved, which was seconded and unanimously passed.
4. Discuss and take action on election of voting member representative for the Municipal Interest category (small cities) and 5. Discuss and take action on election of voting member representative for Mills County:

Recommendation letters for Mike Reagor and Brandon Wade were provided in the member packets. Mike Reagor, Mayor of Llano introduced himself and expressed his interest in serving as a Municipalities Interest representative. Mr. Reagor has been Mayor for four years in Llano, which has water rights on the Llano River. He worked with Natural Resources Conservation Service for 35 years, most recently on the Llano River from Junction to Llano, and has recently retired. He expresses appreciation for the group's consideration. Brandon Wade, Pflugerville City Manager, expressed his interest in being elected to serve on the Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group. Wade has worked for municipal government for 27 years, is a licensed professional engineer, and appreciates the group's consideration.

Chairman Burke reported that no one had applied for the Mills County opening and recommended that, Mike Reagor, the Llano County Mayor represent both Llano and Mills counties. Additionally, Brandon Wade, City Manager of Pflugerville, could also represent Municipalities resulting in two small city Municipality Interest representatives.

Ron Fieseler, noted that GMA 8 could possibly cover Mills county since Mills County is included in GMA 8. Teresa Lutes also noted that if Mayor Reagor is elected, Llano County would be represented, and the GMA 8 representative could represent Mills County. Teresa Lutes made a motion to elect both nominees, Brandon Wade and Mayor Reagor as Municipalities Interest representatives. Brandon Wade will also represent Williamson County.

Ron Fieseler asked whether the planning group needed to have an "Other" Interest category representative. John Burke indicated that the "Other" category is not a required interest category. Representation for a county can come from any interest category, so if the GMA 8 member can represent Mills County, that would not add another member. The motion to elect Brandon Wade (Williamson County) and Mayor Reagor (Llano County) as Municipalities Interest representatives was seconded and passed unanimously.

6. Attendance Report:

Teresa Lutes called the group's attention to the attendance report for the October 10, 2012 meeting and asked members to report any attendance corrections.

7. Consent Agenda:

a. Approval of Minutes from October 10, 2012 Meeting:

James Kowis provided several corrections, mostly spelling and syntax. It was noted that Visitor Mary McAllister's name had been misspelled. Bill Neve made the motion for approval of the minutes with suggested changes, which passed unanimously

b. Financial/Budget Report:

James Kowis reported that the current balance for the Region K collected funds is \$2,040.13 (a balance sheet is available). Balance sheet for expenses and reimbursements from State Grant Funds is also available.

8. Bylaws Committee Report:

Barbara Johnson reported on language and changes made to the bylaws. The Bylaws Committee members that worked on this include Barbara Johnson, John Burke, James Kowis, Teresa Lutes, David Meesey, Rob Ruggiero, and Paul Tybor, with support from Martina Bluem of LCRA. Refer to proposed changes to Bylaws in the January 9th meeting materials packet. Barbara outlined the 4 major types of changes which included:

- 1) The process for establishing the Region K Group is no longer relevant, so that language was removed.
- 2) Language was changed to better align the bylaws to some of the group's current practices.
- 3) Clarification of the meaning of "open meetings" and the circumstances when the Open Meetings Act applies when there is a quorum, according to the Texas Open Meetings Act. It doesn't apply when there is not a quorum, for example, when committees meet, and therefore, meetings do not have to be posted, which is a significant cost savings to the group.

- 4) Updating references, for example the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) is now the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Barbara recommended that the Bylaws changes be approved if possible by the planning group today.

9. Discuss and take action on approval of proposed Bylaws changes:

Haskell Simon made suggested changes on pages 4, 6, and 18:

- 1) Article V, Section 4: strike “as appropriate” before the words “County Judge” on the fourth row of text
- 2) Article V, Section 6 (a) (2) ii.: add the word “immediate” before the word “family”
- 3) Article X, Section 2 (a): bottom row of text change “may” to “should” to result in “The process of building consensus should involve the development of...”

Teresa Lutes commented on preserving the intent of working towards consensus versus a simple majority, and the committee process and other options that take place beforehand to ensure that all interest concerns are heard. Teresa noted that there are some things that require a consensus process, some requiring a simple majority vote while others require a two-thirds vote. Bill Neve noted that finding a consensus is a goal but that ultimately the majority rules. Jim Barho stressed that a consensus does not necessarily mean unanimity and he appreciates the work the committee did in updating the Bylaws. Jennifer Walker suggested that it might warrant noting that not all items are decided by a consensus decision and that there may be times when a minority report would possibly be in order. James Kowis pointed out that the Bylaws specify in many cases a decision requires a simple majority, a two-thirds vote, or consensus process may be in order. Ron Fieseler appreciated the concerns raised by Haskell Simon and noted that the consensus process is a good alternative where a unanimous vote cannot be achieved. John Dupnik suggested this might be an opportunity to spell out in the Bylaws a process to record a dissenting opinion. John Burke and others expressed that recording a dissenting opinions in the minutes has worked in the past.

John Burke called for a vote. Barbara Johnson made a motion to approve the revised bylaws as submitted (by the Bylaws Committee) with Haskell Simon’s changes as noted above. James Kowis seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

10. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications:

- a. Discussion on draft TWDB population and municipal demand projections:
David Meeseey reported that the TWDB projections are not complete, but hopes to have projections for water user groups available next month.
- b. Other regional planning issues:
David Meeseey offered to make a presentation to the group on new planning requirements. With the Legislative session underway, additional regional water planning process funding may become available. The TWDB Water Planning Rules booklet is available. Grant funding for the Water Plan is available via a contract amendment, which becomes effective January 17th. Ron Fieseler explained that changes made by TWDB in the chapter 356 rules will affect the GMA planning process, shortening the desired future condition petition process.

11. Consultant Status Report:

a. Work progress for September through December 2012:

Jaime Burke reviewed AECOM progress through December 2012 (Refer to Agenda Item 11, Consultant Status Report in the packet materials or the website for details). The Public Involvement Committee met via conference call. The meeting included discussion on website changes, ways to engage the public during the planning process, and planning for the Planning 101 presentation to be made by Mr. Meesey following today's meeting. Additional recent consultant work included preparation of materials for today's presentation on the process of identifying feasible water management strategies.

b. Schedule and future task work:

Jaime reviewed upcoming work and the revised planning schedule, which is included in the packet materials. Jaime noted that the contract amendment is now signed and becomes effective on January 17, 2013. Grant funding is available for Tasks 1, 4D, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11. The due date for a planned technical memorandum, which is a summary of Tasks 2, 3, and part of 4, has been pushed back to May 1, 2014. The Task 4D Scope of Work is due before March 1, 2014. The Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) is due May 1, 2015, and final adopted plan is due November 2, 2015. The TWDB population and municipal demand projections are expected within a month. Planned near term work activities include moving forward with surface water availability modeling, and beginning work on Chapters 1 (Planning Area Description) and 7 (Drought Response), and preparing the Task 4d Scope of Work.

12. Present and receive public comments on the proposed "Process for Identifying Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies":

John Burke noted that the planning group will receive public comments on water management strategy identification process but first Jaime Burke outlined the TWDB requirement that a planning group hold a public meeting to determine the process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies and receive public comments. See packet materials Agenda item 12 (pages 16 through 20) outlining the proposed documentation and evaluation process. Jaime reviewed an example screening table, a rating criteria matrix (same as the one used in the last planning cycle) and a template to assist in evaluating and documenting which strategies are feasible for particular WUGs.

13. Discuss and take possible action on the proposed "Process for Identifying Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies":

Jim Barho suggested holding three meetings upstream, central, and downstream to allow public for additional involvement opportunities. Ron Fieseler and Jim Barho discussed providing a timeline or agenda item outlining for members and the public when they can suggest strategies, for example when meetings specifically for this process are held to take public input.

Jaime Burke noted that there are agenda items in each meeting for public comment and a space on the website to submit suggestions, and that the group is still early in the process noting that there are still two years before the plan is to be submitted. Jim Barho reiterated the need for scheduling public meetings early on to solicit public input on strategies. Jennifer Walker suggested enumerating shortages and demands before identifying strategies. James Kowis suggested identifying for the public what strategies are already being looked at by the group before asking for input on additional strategies. David Meesey reminded the group about the linear process of analyzing demand and shortages data, which is to be presented in further detail in the Planning 101 presentation to be held immediately after the meeting. David Van Dresar stated he liked the process of strategy evaluation the group has used in

the past. John Burke invited comments from the public. John Dupnik suggested that comments from consultants would also be useful, due to their knowledge of the process. Jaime Burke responded that the current guidelines are updated from the last planning process, having additional studies and discussions with groups that will be implementing these strategies are all excellent sources of information, and noted that in the past, at times, it has been difficult to get feedback, but there is more time this cycle to focus on getting more responses from WUGs. Jennifer Walker suggested working with Joe Trungale to simplify the process of performing the Water Management Strategy (WMS) environmental evaluation process. Ron Gertson emphasized the importance of the members of the group populating the screening table. Teresa Lutes asked whether the TWDB Table E Template for documenting should be followed closely, specifically, if each WMS needs to be identified as potentially or not potentially feasible for meeting shortages for each WUG. David Meesey discussed gathering input from WUGs on potential WMS but many will be easily identified as not feasible and are not expected to require a significant amount of detailed evaluation. Additional WMS may be considered and the template, which is a tool that can and should be modified for Region K, can be used in the consideration process for strategies for WUGs. David Van Dresar asked whether each strategy determined to be potentially feasible has to be evaluated. David Meesey indicated that for each WUG with a need the group would have to address the statutorily required strategies along with any others strategies that may be deemed feasible to meet the WUGs need.

Public Comments on the proposed Process for Identifying Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies:

Ron Fieseler - Provided a comment on request of Tommy Koch, consulting P.E. in Blanco County. Mr. Fieseler handed out a proposed Water Management Strategy for Region K to consider. Region L has a water management strategy which includes extending a pipeline to city of Blanco. The request is for Region K to consider this supply strategy and coordinate with Region L to supply additional water to southern Blanco County and part of Comal and Hays Counties.

Andy Johnston - citizen from south Austin: Asked if a line could be added for reuse of rainwater in the list of feasible strategies for the regional water plan.

Larry Hoffman - Expressed concern about competition for limited water resources. Asked whether the planning group is using *firm* yield (based on the drought of record)? On Water Management Strategies, suggested feasibility only may not be a good way to view strategies, stakeholder involvement should be considered. Benefit-cost analysis should be used to examine who benefits and who pays. Also need to consider the environmental requirements.

Jim Barho made the motion to adopt the proposed process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies as presented by the consultant. Additionally, as part of the process, the committee recommended holding three Region K meetings at locations up basin, central and down basin to provide additional opportunities for public input on proposed water management strategies. The Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

14. Other Committee Reports:

Karen Haschke presented minutes from the Region K Public Information and Participation Committee meeting on Nov. 26th. The members of the committee are Karen Haschke, chair, John Burke, James Kowis, Haskell Simon, Teresa Lutes, Jennifer Walker, and David Meesey. They were joined by consultants Jaime Burke, and Laura Raun, and Krystal Cantu and Martina Bluem from LCRA. Website improvements were

discussed, a glossary and a media page are to be added, and Committee meetings and documents will be posted.

15. Review projected 2013 Calendar:

Upcoming meeting dates: April 10th, July 10th, October 9th

Public meeting dates and locations for presenting and gathering input on water management strategies will be determined. A quorum will not be necessary for these public meetings.

16. Agenda items for next meeting

Jim Barho suggests a presentation from LCRA on proposed off-channel reservoirs for the next meeting. John Burke suggests a presentation from LCRA Meteorologist Bob Rose.

17. New / Other business

Jennifer announced the Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium to be held on February 19th in the Woodlands (see flier). On February 26th, the annual Central Texas Water Conservation Symposium will be held at LCRA in Austin.

Ronald Gertson passed out letter from rice producers regarding LCRA emergency order drought relief request at TCEQ.

18. Additional Public Comments:

Dave Lindsay - Central Texas Water Coalition: noted a suggested clarification on Slide 6 ("Summary of Major Items from October 2012 Meeting") as presented in AECOM's January 9, 2013 meeting presentation. Mr. Lindsay requested that the bullet be broadened to more closely match the minutes reflecting a request for a new demand category, which was submitted, as part of the public input process, with a number of endorsements.

19. Adjourn:

John Burke adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Note that a Regional Planning 101 session, presented by David Meeseey, was held immediately after the regular meeting.