

Meeting of the
Groundwater Management Area 8
April 27, 2011 in Woodway, TX

Minutes

The Groundwater Management Area 8 consisting of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District, Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District, Fox Crossing Water District, Middle Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, North Texas Groundwater Conservation District, Northern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District, Prairielands Groundwater Conservation District, Red River Groundwater Conservation District, Saratoga Underground Water Conservation District, Southern Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, and Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) held a *Joint Planning meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, April 27, 2011*, in the City of Woodway City Hall in Woodway, Texas.

Groundwater District Representatives Present:

Central Texas GCD: Richard Bowers	Post Oak Savannah GCD: Gary Westbrook
Clearwater UWCD: Leland Gersbach	Prairielands GCD: Charles Beseda
Fox Crossing WD: Jed Garren	Red River GCD: Butch Henderson
Middle Trinity GCD: George Bingham	Saratoga UWCD: Asa Langford
North Texas GCD: Eddy Daniel	Southern Trinity GCD: Glen Thurman
Northern Trinity GCD: Craig Schkade	Upper Trinity GCD: Mike Massey

1. *Invocation*

Mr. Eddy Daniel, North Texas GCD, presided over the meeting. Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD, gave the invocation.

2. *Call meeting to order and establish quorum.*

The Groundwater Management Area 8 (GMA 8) meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM at the Woodway City Hall in Woodway, TX. Mr. Daniel welcomed the new members, took roll and established that a quorum was present. Eleven Districts were present at the time of roll call, with the Central Texas GCD representative absent. Richard Bowers with the Central Texas GCD arrived at 10:07 AM.

3. *Welcome and introductions.*

Mr. Daniel asked members of the audience to introduce themselves.

4. *Public Comments.*

There were no public comments.

5. *Approve minutes of February 22, 2011 GMA 8 meeting.*

Butch Henderson, Red River GCD, moved to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2011 GMA 8 meeting, seconded by Charles Beseda, Prairielands GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 12-0.

6. Discussion and possible action to re-adopt the current desired future conditions for the major and minor aquifers within GMA 8 to include some or all of the following: Edwards BFZ, Trinity, Blossom, Brazos River Alluvium, Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, Marble Falls, Nacatoch, and Woodbine.

The resolution to re-adopt the desired future conditions for aquifers in GMA 8 was approved at the last meeting. However, the agenda was not posted properly in all counties, so all actions taken are considered invalid. The resolution is unchanged from the last meeting and only needs to be reapproved.

Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD, moved to approve the Resolution to re-adopt the current desired future conditions for the major and minor aquifers within GMA 8, seconded by Charles Beseda, Prairielands GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 12-0.

7. Discussion and possible action to revise the desired future conditions for the Nacatoch Aquifer based on TWDB Scenario 4.

Mr. Bill Hutchison with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) explained that this was discussed at the last meeting and action was taken. The Nacatoch Aquifer desired future conditions that were developed and re-adopted in Item 6 did not include provisions to reflect the current groundwater usage and possible droughts in the next few years. The TWDB was requested to create a report with scenarios to reflect a variety of possibilities. The TWDB provided a series of scenarios and the Committee approved Scenario 4 at the past meeting. However, due to incorrect posting all actions taken at that meeting need to be re-approved.

The resolution language was available at this time. Mr. Hutchison recommended that a resolution after further consultation and be provided at the next meeting for review. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

8. Discuss results of Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) Run 11-005 for Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District in Burnet County

Mr. Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD, provided the Committee with a copy of GAM Run 11-005. The Trinity GAM Run 11-005 shows a current usage of 3,600 acre feet for the Central Texas GCD. The possible scenarios included in the report include options for 10,000 acre feet of production, 20,000 acre-feet of production and 32,000 acre-feet of production. Mr. Bowers stated that the Central Texas GCD would like to see the last scenario adopted since it provides for possible drought conditions. The current desired future conditions do not allow for extreme drought conditions.

The change in the desired future conditions for Burnet County would change the amount of available groundwater for the Clearwater GCD. Leland Gersbach, Clearwater GCD, explained that their District is in the process of collecting information to determine a position on the different scenarios. Ms. Cheryl Maxwell, Clearwater GCD, stated that the District discussed the additional 20-feet of drawdown that would result in a loss of almost 2,000 acre-feet of groundwater to maintain the desired future conditions in their District. The Clearwater GCD would like to meet with the Central Texas GCD and the TWDB to consider possible options or alternatives.

9. Discussion and possible action on desired future condition statements and managed available groundwater for Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District, Burnet County

The Committee does not currently have a resolution to re-adopt the desired future condition statements for Burnet County, but will work with Mr. Hutchison to develop the resolution in time for the next meeting. This item was tabled until the next meeting, pending further discussion.

10. Discussion and possible action on making the Brazos River Alluvium in Milam County irrelevant.

Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD, stated that the wording is inaccurate, since the Brazos River Alluvium is non-relevant, not irrelevant. Mr. Westbrook stated that he would like to have a resolution drafted to have the Brazos River Alluvium declared non-relevant to the Post Oak Savannah GCD to save the District the cost of constructing monitoring wells and maintaining records on the Brazos River Alluvium. Mr. Hutchison clarified that this would mean that the Brazos River Alluvium is non-relevant for joint planning. This would be a way to fix a problem with a Groundwater Monitoring Plan. This can also be a step taken for water that is completely localized within a District.

Glen Thurman, Southern Trinity GCD, requested that the Woodbine Aquifer be removed from his District for joint planning purposes. Mr. Daniel recommended that all GCDs take action on any aquifer formations that they desire be removed from their District to take action and then address the GMA 8 Committee at the next meeting. This item was tabled pending development of a resolution.

Mr. Daniel requested that Mr. Hutchison provide an update from the TWDB perspective on the Legislature and the groundwater model. Mr. Hutchison reported that a meeting was held last month to discuss modifications planned for several minor aquifers in the Trinity. The planned model will also include updates to the Woodbine and Trinity Aquifers. The stakeholder meeting was for planning since no information on budget or staff is available at this time. More information will be available within the next six to ten weeks. Many groundwater bills are in Legislature currently. Several involve the desired future conditions process and groundwater modeling. There is also a proposed bill to streamline the posting process for Groundwater Management Areas. Mr. Hutchison recommended modifying any desired future conditions that need modification prior to September 1st to avoid any additional guidelines approved by the Legislature.

11. Discussion and possible action regarding funding, administrative support, and a budget for GMA 8 activities

Mr. Daniel stated that at the last meeting a budget was discussed. Ultimately, GMA 8 will need funds. The North Texas GCD has agreed to take on the costs for administrative activities for GMA 8. He expressed gratitude to the Greater Texoma Utility Authority for their assistance in this matter. He offered to begin drafting a budget to develop an idea of what kind of costs will be needed. Glen Thurman with the Southern Trinity GCD stated that this would be very beneficial to all Districts to help them with their financial planning. Mr. Daniel requested that Carmen Catterson itemize her time for GMA 8 to better determine how much time is needed for each meeting.

12. Discuss agenda items for next meeting.

Nacatoch desired future conditions, Burnet County desired future conditions, non-relevance of Brazos River Alluvium for Milam County, Southern Trinity non-relevance of Woodbine Aquifer, budget.

At this time, Jerry Chapman with the Greater Texoma Utility Authority questioned which Districts had well exemptions above 25,000 gallons per day. 5 of the 12 Districts set the exemption levels above 25,000 gallons per day. Mr. Hutchison stated that the TWDB is still waiting to receive feedback on exempt uses and requested that each District provide feedback to the TWDB stating that the District agrees with the provided numbers or a request to modify them.

13. Set date, time, and place of next meeting.

Prairielands GCD is located in the central part of GMA 8. Mr. Daniel recommended hosting the meeting near their location. The Committee agreed to host the meeting near Prairielands in mid to late June to provide planning time.

14. Closing comments.

Mr. Daniel thanked the Committee for attending the meeting. Leland Gersbach, Clearwater GCD, introduced Mr. Dirk Aaron. Mr. Aaron will be taking Ms. Maxwell's position beginning in June. Mr. Daniel thanked the North Texas GCD for taking control of the administrative duties for GMA 8. Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD, requested that the Committee provide donations to the Woodway City Hall to help pay for the refreshments used.

15. Adjourn.

Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD, motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 12-0 and the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The GMA 8 Committee unanimously approved the minutes on this _____ day of _____, 2011.