

Meeting of the
Groundwater Management Area 8
On June 20, 2006 in Belton, TX

Minutes

The Groundwater Management Area 8 consisting of the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District (GCD), Clearwater Underground Water Conservation District (UWCD), Fox Crossing Water District (WD), Middle Trinity GCD, Post Oak Savannah GCD, and Saratoga UWCD held a meeting on Tuesday, June 20, 2006 in Belton, TX at the Clearwater UWCD Conference Room, Building A of the Bell County Courthouse Annex, located at 550 E. 2nd Avenue.

Groundwater Districts:

(Committee Representative shown in bold text)

Central Texas GCD: John Simmons

Clearwater UWCD: Horace Grace

Judy Parker, Leland Gersbach, John Mayer,
Cheryl Maxwell, and Chris Ramser

Fox Crossing WD: Jerry Priddy

Sam Beaumont

Post Oak Savannah GCD: Gary Westbrook

Middle Trinity GCD: Joe B. Cooper

Boyd Waggoner

Saratoga GCD: Lee Hoffpauir

T. P. Wingo, R.A. Wright, and Dave Hamilton

Others Present:

Rima Petrossian, Texas Water Development
Board (TWDB)

David Parkhill, Randy Williams and Ted Way,
Turner Collie & Braden, Inc. (TCB)

Marc Hildenbrand, Denton, TX

Stephanie Griffin, Freese and Nichols

Judge Fred Cox, Hamilton County

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Horace Grace, Board President of Clearwater UWCD.

1. Welcome and introductions.

Mr. Grace welcomed all in attendance and explained that this committee is made up of six groundwater conservation districts. Introductions were given by all in attendance. After all introductions, Mr. Grace gave an invocation.

2. Public Comments.

No public comments were made. Mr. Grace explained that drinks and sandwiches would be provided for lunch for those who wished to stay.

3. Approve minutes of the May 23, 2006 GMA meeting.

Mr. Grace summarized the outcome of previous meetings and said that the committee had selected one firm to help establish the Desired Future Conditions (DFC). The goal is to have these figures set by the end of 2007 to meet the deadline for inclusion in the next regional water plans. Mr. Grace explained how the process works and Joe Cooper added a few more details.

Gary Westbrook made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2006 GMA meeting, seconded by Joe Cooper. The Committee unanimously approved the motion, 6-0.

4. ***Discuss and take appropriate action on proposed scope of work and cost estimate from TCB to assist GMA 8 in developing Desired Future Conditions (DFC) for the major and minor aquifers within the GMA 8 boundary.***

David Parkhill of Turner, Collie, & Braden, Inc. thanked the committee for selecting TCB as the firm to work with on the DFCs. Mr. Parkhill gave the members of the committee a document that contained the cost estimates, scope of work and schedule for deliverables. He said the project would minimize the cost to the individual districts yet still meet the state requirements.

John Simmons asked what consideration would be made for areas interested in creating groundwater districts. Mr. Westbrook said the process to establish a District and to get it up and running usually takes a few years. The joint groundwater planning process must be considered every 5 years, so there will be an opportunity for future revisions to the DFC and managed available groundwater (MAG). The group briefly discussed the mandate given by the legislature.

Randy Williams gave a presentation on the details of the proposed program. The schedule of work was presented as starting in August 2006 and ending in June 2007. Mr. Williams said that the approach would attempt to minimize the amount of conflict in the numerous areas without a groundwater district while maintaining the sovereignty of the Districts to make decisions about the aquifers in their boundaries. Mr. Williams briefly described the project tasks. Committee members talked about the proposal and the implications of the tasks. The timeframe and schedule was also discussed. Rima Petrossian, TWDB, gave the committee a flow chart that shows the TWDB review process for the DFC and the calculation process for the MAG.

The cost of the proposed project was \$15,400. The committee briefly discussed the funding options for the task. The cost divided among 6 districts would be approximately \$2,500. The group discussed submitting a grant proposal to the TWDB and the RWPGs.

Mr. Simmons made a motion that each District approach their Board at their next meeting to request participation in funding the study if there is no grant money received from the TWDB or the RWPGs, seconded by Mr. Cooper. The committee discussed the date of their next individual district board meetings. Discussion also occurred on how soon the proposal needed to get started. The board unanimously approved the motion, 6-0.

5. ***Discuss next steps in determining GMA 8 DFC's, ie. interlocal agreements, fiscal agents, etc.***

Mr. Grace called for discussion on the interlocal agreements and fiscal agents. He said that Clearwater UWCD or the Central Texas Council of Governments could handle the task as fiscal agent. Members of the committee felt that it was necessary to have interlocal agreements once funding from each district is involved. Sample interlocal agreements were passed out and Mr. Westbrook suggested each district read over the agreement (possibly have legal staff review if resources are available) and provide comments by the next meeting.

6. ***Discuss submitting grant request to TWDB for funding to determine DFCs in GMA 8.***

The committee discussed grant requests during agenda item 4. It was determined that the Clearwater District would work with TWDB staff on getting an unsolicited grant application submitted to the

Water Development Board. Also, it was suggested that the GMA look at getting funds from the regional water planning allocations for groundwater studies.

7. *Presentation on transmissivity between GMA 8 aquifers.*

The agenda item was postponed until the next meeting in the interest of time.

8. *Discuss agenda items for next meeting.*

At the next meeting, the GMA will discuss and act on the status of the TWDB grant application and the RWPGs. Also, each district should provide an update on their individual board meeting discussions on providing funds for the task. The districts will bring back comments on the sample interlocal agreements and consider what should be included in GMA 8's agreement. Additionally, the fiscal agent should be set by vote, as it will be necessary for a legal entity to serve as the party responsible for payment. The committee will also hear the postponed presentation on transmissivity.

9. *Set date, time and place of next meeting.*

The next GMA meeting will be on September 20, 2006 in Burnet County at 10:00 am. The location will be determined by the Central Texas GCD.

10. *Closing Comments.*

Rima Petrossian said that there is a class at the University of Texas that will focus on GMA planning process as a case study. It was decided that Ms. Petrossian would invite them to the next meeting.

11. *Adjourn.*

Horace Grace adjourned the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

(A compact disc of this meeting is available upon request.)

The GMA 8 Board unanimously approved the minutes on this _____ day of _____, 2006.