
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 MEETING

This meeting was held in person with virtual attendance and participation.

The meeting recording may be viewed at

<https://posgcd.org/gma-12-agendas-minutes/>

April 2, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

GMA 12 Members Present in Person

Gary Westbrook	POSGCD
Elvis Hernandez	LPGCD
David Bailey	METGCD
Alan Day	BVGCD
David Van Dresar	FCGCD

GMA 12 Members Absent

None

Others Present in person

Nick Lamkey
Gretchen Miller
Jim Totten
Andy Wier
Jean Perez
Herbert Cook
Claire Marks
Nick Textor
Gabriel Collins
Gary Easter
Tom Clapper
Paul Kirby
Steve Young
Deb Healy
Marty Mangum

Entity

Intera
Spheros Environmental
Wellspring
SAWDF
TWDB
Lost Pines GCD
Lost Pines GCD
Lost Pines GCD
Caracal Commodities, LLC
Caldwell City Council
Recharge Water
DBS & A
Intera
City of Somerville
City of Somerville

Others Present online

Chris Drabek
James Beach - AGS
Kathy Polzer - BVGCD
Roxanne
Suzanne Pierce, TACC
+15127961580
Brent Covert
Casey Cooper
Elizabeth Klenz
FCGCD
Gregory Perry
J FISHER

Jaclyn Wise
Jennifer Windscheffel
JM
John Elliott
L Bevis
Liz Ferry
Peggy Campion
PM
Ryan Harmon
Steven Siebert
Tom Arsuffi
Ye Hong Chen

MINUTES

1. Invocation

Alan Day gave the invocation.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

David Van Dresar led the pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas.

3. Call meeting to order and establish quorum

Gary Westbrook called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and noted that all GMA 12 members were present.

4. Welcome and introductions

Each GMA 12 member introduced themselves. Mr. Hernandez introduced Nick Textor and Claire Marks of Lost Pines GCD. Mr. Westbrook introduced Jean Perez with Texas Water Development Board.

5. Public Comment on agenda items

Alan Gardenhire, SLR, made comment on the socioeconomic study produced by Brazos Valley GCD, and encouraged BVGCD, POSGCD, and LPGCD to develop a program to mitigate wells across GMA 12.

Andy Wier, SAWDF, made comment on agenda item 8 and predicted impacts to both surface and groundwater resources in GMA 12, and the Brazos Valley GCD0 socioeconomic impact study. He encouraged maintaining current DFCs as closely as possible for this round of joint planning.

6. Minutes of March 25, 2026 GMA 12 Meeting

Mr. Van Dresar moved to approve the March 25, 2026 GMA 12 meeting minutes. He was seconded by Mr. Day. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

7. Discussion and possible action on establishing Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer in GMA 12 for the fourth round of joint planning including evaluations of requirements of Chapter 36.108(d)

Paul Kirby overviewed a presentation entitled Presentation on the Feasibility of Achieving the DFCs for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer Presented to GMA 12. He answered questions from GMA 12 members. Mr. Kirby also overviewed a presentation entitled Presentation on Socioeconomic Impacts for the DFC Explanatory Report as they Relate to the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer presented to GMA 12 and answered questions on this presentation as well.

8. **Discussion and possible action on activities by consultants of GMA 12 GCDs on modifications and updates made to groundwater availability model (GAM) Run PS4-2 for use in establishing DFCs for the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers in GMA 12, and considerations using requirements of Chapter 36.108 (d-2) in adopting DFCs during the fourth round of joint planning:**

(1) aquifer uses or conditions within the management area, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another;

Dr. Gretchen Miller, Spheros Environmental, overviewed a presentation entitled Factor 1: Aquifer Uses and Conditions: Sparta, Queen City, and Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifers.

Chris Drabek, AGS, overviewed a presentation entitled Hydrological Conditions: Brazos River Alluvium and Gulf Coast Aquifer. He also overviewed a presentation entitled Aquifer Uses and Conditions: Brazos River Alluvium and Gulf Coast Aquifer.

(2) the water supply needs and water management strategies included in the state water plan;

This item is included in a presentation by Intera under the next agenda item.

(3) hydrological conditions, including for each aquifer in the management area the total estimated recoverable storage as provided by the executive administrator, and the average annual recharge, inflows, and discharge;

Dr. Steve Young, Intera, overviewed a presentation entitled GMA 12 Socioeconomic Impacts, Hydrologic Impacts and State Water Plan. He noted that previously, consultants calculated DFCs as long as they were within a couple of feet of drawdown. In this round of joint planning, there was direction from GMA 12 members to be more accurate with drawdown amounts and to show how the numbers were being calculated. In an earlier session, a methodology was agreed upon and consultants have been working on implementing that methodology. He noted that calculations include a grid file in which each grid cell is identified and whether those cells should be calculated as part of DFCs. Cells were assigned to counties based on the location of the middle of the grid cell. A grid file was sent to TWDB approximately a week ago. This grid file was to be used by consultants going forward. Chris Drabek, AGS, noted that using transmissivity weighted calculations, they were able to get numbers that were reasonably close to the other consultants. Dr. Young explained the filters used for these calculations and any differences in results. He stated that the spreadsheet being used is working. Dr. Young answered questions from GMA 12 members regarding several issues in which the GMA 12 consultants needed direction from the GMA 12 members in order to proceed with discussions with TWDB staff.

After discussion, Mr. Day moved to make all outcrop cells active in GAM runs and was seconded by Mr. Van Dresar. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

After discussion, Mr. Day moved to make the variance value necessary to consider comparisons between GAM Runs by the consultants consistent to be within one foot and was seconded by Mr. Van Dresar. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

After discussion, Mr. Day moved to use the latest version of GAM Run 4-2 Modified and forward to TWDB to check the consultant's methodology only and was seconded by Mr. Hernandez. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

After discussion, Mr. Day moved to adopt an allowable variance for verification from TWDB among results as long as consistency is within one foot and was seconded by Mr. Van Dresar. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

Dr. Young then discussed sustainable pumping across GMA 12, including impacts on aquifer storage, and groundwater and surface water resources, including Total Estimated Recoverable Storage (TERS). He then discussed impacts on wells in GMA 12 over a period of 500 years. He also included a comparison of pumping included in the PS4-2-Mod GAM Run as compared to amounts water permitted and amounts included in the State Water Plan by formation and GCD.

Chris Drabek overviewed a presentation entitled Hydrological Conditions: Brazos River Alluvium and Gulf Aquifer.

Alan Gardenhire asked Dr. Young whether GMA 12 members should be considering 15% of TERS or 3-4%. Dr. Young clarified he did not give a recommendation of 3-4% TERS and was just using that value as an example of results at that level of production.

(4) other environmental impacts, including impacts on spring flow and other interactions between groundwater and surface water;

Mr. Westbrook asked if anyone had anything to offer the GMA on this topic. No comment was offered.

(5) the impact on subsidence;

Mr. Westbrook asked if anyone had anything to offer the GMA on this topic. A presentation entitled "Subside" will be presented at the next GMA 12 Meeting.

(6) socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur;

Sharlene Leurig and Harry Seely of WestWater overviewed a presentation entitled Brazos Valley GCD Socioeconomic Impact Study. They answered questions from GMA 12 members. Mr. Hernandez noted that Brazos Valley GCD had a prior best estimate run that was presented through September 2024 and that run differed from the Potential PS4-3 Gam Run, which is not a GAM Run performed by GMA 12.

Mr. Hernandez asked if the increased water from Potential PS4-3 was included in the State Water Plan. Mr. Day indicated it is not. Mr. Hernandez noted that this report did not

include considerations of alternate sources of water and instead showed the Simsboro Aquifer as the sole source for water supply growth for BVGCD to realize economic benefits. He asked if the economic benefits could still occur if alternate sources of water were used. Mr. Seely agreed.

Mr. Van Dresar asked for clarification on whether the water is only going to be used within the District or sold to help another city. Mr. Day noted that data centers are going to be coming to Robertson County in the future. Mr. Van Dresar discussed the effects of the growth and additional water use in Brazos and Robertson Counties and how that could de-water other counties and make it difficult for land owners to use the water under their property and the economic loss his county will experience from the amount of pumping in Brazos Valley GCD. He asked Mr. Seely what the socio-economic impacts would be for those other affected landowners. Mr. Seely stated he was not tasked to evaluate that. He noted his concern for the people in Fayette County GCD and the conservation of groundwater.

Mr. Day stated this study is specifically about the Simsboro Aquifer and that Fayette County GCD does not, to his knowledge, have Simsboro irrigation wells. Mr. Van Dresar stated there is communication between aquifers and his county is not benefitting economically from the pumping in the Districts around him.

Mr. Hernandez stated that the Socioeconomic Study is Brazos Valley GCD specific and fails to include opportunity costs and economic loss that will affect the other GCDs as a result of the increasing of DFCs and associated pumping. He noted that LPGCD has spent over \$800,000 mitigating wells in Lee County due to production from these aquifers and that a significant amount of the additional water contemplated to be produced would come from Burleson and Lee Counties. He also noted that in July of 2024, Lost Pines GCD asked other GMA 12 members about funding a joint socioeconomic study but that discussion did not result in a GMA 12 wide study. He said that Lost Pines GCD would be happy to discuss that proposal for the next cycle.

Mr. Hernandez then noted that the report stated that neither PS-19 nor PS4-2 allowed for additional large scale or industrial production. He also stated that at the July 31, 2024 GMA 12 meeting, he was asking about including assumptions about future permits to be included in pumping files. Mr. Day stated PS-1 included every permit and that Mr. Hernandez requested to continue with PS-2 and include curtailment of permits, while all other GCDs performed their own evaluations which included BVGCD's best estimate for their pumping, which included additional pumping. He also noted TWDB extended the process through 2080, so they had to add ten years of pumping and all GMA 12 members wanted to keep pumping the same during that final decade. Mr. Hernandez noted a significant amount of BVGCD permits which had been included in PS4-2 which were not being used. Mr. Day stated the status of those permits may be changed in September 2026.

Chris Drabek overviewed a presentation entitled Discussion of Socioeconomic Impact. He noted this information was derived from the 2026 State Water Plan and focused on GCDs

in GMA 12. He introduced the TWDB Interactive Data Dashboard and answered questions from GMA 12 members.

Gabriel Collins, Caracal Commodities, LLC, overviewed a presentation entitled The Desired Future Condition Affects GMA-12 and Region G's Long-Term Economic Capacity. Mr. Hernandez noted that this evaluation was completely dependent on groundwater and included no other alternate sources of water. Dr. Collins discussed the effects on economics of certainty of water supply. Mr. Hernandez noted that he deals with water uncertainty of landowners in LPGCD due to production of Vista Ridge project.

Mr. Westbrook asked Dr. Collins when would municipalities and industrial users become more efficient with available water supplies and be able to accomplish more with the same amounts of water instead of continuing to claim need for additional water to grow or increase productivity? Dr. Collins noted that a combination of policy and price would lead to these kinds of efficiencies.

Mr. Hernandez noted the balancing requirements of 36.108, Texas Water Code, including long term management of the resource. Mr. Westbrook noted that much of what Dr. Collins addressed is being introduced at GMA 12 by considering longer terms of production and impacts, such as up to 500 years as included in the Intera presentations. He also noted the importance of communication and echoed Dr. Collins point of policy being a part of changing water usage which could lead to greater efficiency. He noted that data centers could find water from different sources and still fit within the current management structures of GCDs without assuming that additional water must be made available and simply added to the demands and production.

Mr. Hernandez also appreciated Dr. Collins for his disclaimer and disclosure that he received compensation for his efforts from UW Brazos Valley Farm, LLC. He answered questions from GMA 12 members.

Nick Lamkey overviewed 500-year simulations for hydrogeological conditions and social-economic considerations for long term production. Mr. Westbrook noted parts of this presentation had been updated since having been given to GMA 12 during the previous year. Mr. Lamkey then reviewed a slide with total permits issued by aquifer and by GCD as compared to supply or strategies included in the State Water Plan. He then answered questions from GMA 12 members.

Mr. Hernandez reminded the GMA that it had decided three times to move forward with current DFCs for GMA 12, voting twice unanimously, first in October 26, 2023, and then again Feb. 21, 2025. Then in Nov. 2025 by a vote of 4-1 the GMA decided to evaluate PS4-2 to establish DFCs for GMA 12, and it is too late in the process to introduce the socio-economic reports discussed today.

Mr. Hernandez, as part of the socio-economic discussion, introduced Dr. Miller, Spheros Environmental, who overviewed a presentation entitled Well Mitigation Cost Analysis. In the presentation Dr. Miller highlighted mitigation efforts of LPGCD due to production in the Carrizo Aquifer. Mr. Westbrook noted that anyone interested in POSGCD's efforts in well

assistance could review the information on the POSGCD website as it is posted every month and included in Board Meeting agendas. Dr. Miller answered questions from GMA 12 members.

- (7) the impact on the interests and rights in private property, including ownership and the rights of management area landowners and their lessees and assigns in groundwater as recognized under Section 36.002;**

Mr. Westbrook asked if anyone had anything to offer the GMA on this topic. No comment was offered.

- (8) the feasibility of achieving the desired future condition; and**

This agenda item was table until the next GMA 12 meeting.

- (9) any other information relevant to the specific desired future conditions.**

Mr. Westbrook asked if anyone had anything to offer the GMA on this topic. No comment was offered.

- 9. Discussion and possible action regarding existing DFCs, alternate DFC methods and parallel tracks, and expression of DFCs including methodology for determining and calculating DFCs from GAM runs and possible use of variances in GMA 12 for the fourth round of joint planning**

This agenda item will be included in the next GMA 12 meeting.

- 10. Update from Texas Water Development Board**

Jean Perez, TWDB, gave updates. He noted that the TWDB data interactive is having some formatting changes implemented and to contact Heather Dodson directly for assistance. He stated a Board Subsidence Presentation will be given at the next GMA 12 meeting.

- 11. Public Comment on items not included on the agenda**

Jim Totten provided comment regarding efforts to carrying forward the current DFCs with the updates which have been incorporated into the PS4-2-Mod. GAM Runs. Mr. Westbrook answered that information was posted to the GMA 12 page on the website under today's meeting.

- 12. Agenda items and date for next meeting**

The next GMA 12 meetings are scheduled for April 16th and April 27th. Agenda items at the next GMA 12 meeting will include discussion on items tabled today, non-relevant aquifers and action on proposed DFCs.

- 13. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 HELD ON APRIL 2, 2026 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY GMA 12 ON April 16, 2026.

ATTEST:


Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District


Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District


Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District


Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District


Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District