

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 MEETING
December 19, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.
Milano Civic Center
120 West Ave. E
Milano, Texas

MINUTES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Entity</u>
Alan Day	BVGCD
Pat Reilly	Blue Water
Steve Box	Environmental Stewardship
Shirley Wade	TWDB
Chelsea Weatherford	TWDB
Matt Uliana	METGCD/Martin Geologic
Dave Coleman	City of College Station
Andy Donnelly	DBS&A
Sarah Backhouse	TWDB
David Van Dresar	FCGCD
Monique Norman	BVGCD & FCGCD
James Beach	LBG Guyton
Gary Westbrook	POSGCD
Nathan Ausley	POSGCD
David Bailey	METGCD
Bobby Bazan	POSGCD
Keith Hansberger	LPGCD
Travis McPhaul	LPGCD
B. Sherrill	LPGCD
Meng Tia	Intera, Inc.
Steve Young	Intera, Inc.
John Seifert	LBG Guyton Associates
Joe P. Cooper	LPGCD
Ross Cummings	Blue Water
Bob Harden	R W Hardin, & Assoc.
Terry Zrubek	Landowner
Brian Ellis	CH2M Hill
Jackie Scott	BRA
Cutis Chubb	Central Texas Aquifer Coalition
Kodi Sawin	Sawin Group

1. Call meeting to order and establish quorum

The meeting was chaired by Nathan Ausley, President of the Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District (GCD). Chairman Ausley called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. and noted that a quorum was present as all Districts in GMA 12 were represented at the meeting, including himself representing Post Oak Savannah GCD (POSGCD), David Bailey of Mid-East Texas GCD (METGCD), Alan Day of Brazos Valley GCD (BVGCD), Jim Totten of Lost Pines GCD (LPGCD), and David Van Dresar of Fayette County GCD (FCGCD).

2. Welcome and introductions

Chairman Ausley welcomed all to the meeting and invited the head table to introduce themselves to those in attendance. All representatives of GCDs mentioned above and Gary Westbrook of POSGCD, serving as secretary, introduced themselves.

3. Minutes of July 25, 2013 GMA 12 Meeting

After reviewing the draft minutes of the July 25, 2013 meeting, David Van Dresar moved, and David Bailey seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Update from Groundwater Conservation Districts of GMA 12 on joint planning and compliance with Chapter 36.108, State Water Code

Chairman Ausley asked the consultants of the Districts in GMA 12 for a report on progress made toward the work previously tasked to them by the Districts of GMA 12 concerning the process facing the GMA during the current round of joint planning. John Seifert presented an outline of work to be completed by the GMA in the process of adopting DFCs for the current round of planning, including work to be completed by the District's consultants, development of DFCs, refinement of water demands, meetings to receive stakeholder input, etc., with a target completion date for the process of March 2016. He also stated that a more complete schedule would be completed soon. Mr. Seifert also addressed the explanatory report needed to be submitted to TWDB with the Desired Future Conditions. Monique Norman provided a brief overview of the statutory requirements placed on the GMA and each District during the process. Questions and discussion ensued about the report presented, with staff from the Texas Water Development Board providing clarification on several issues. After further discussion, David Van Dresar moved, and Alan Day seconded, to task the consultants to complete the schedule and timeline for all work to be completed by the GMA during this round of joint planning by the end of January 2014. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Desired Future Conditions of aquifers in GMA 12

Chairman Ausley opened this item and asked if any of the District's or consultants had any discussion on DFCs for GMA 12. After brief discussion, Robert Bradley of TWDB provided clarification that during this and future rounds of joint planning, any aquifer declared to be non-relevant has a list of qualifications to be satisfied. David Van Dresar asked if TWDB had completed studies of mapping of brackish water in the aquifers of GMA 12. Mr. Bradley stated that he would check to see if TWDB was involved in this process, and if so, where in the process they might be.

6. Process for addressing requirements of Chapter 36.108 in adopting Desired Future Conditions

Chairman Ausley opened this item and invited discussion. Gary Westbrook noted that POSGCD had just completed another round of monitoring of water levels in the District and provided a report to the POSGCD Board and that the results of the monitoring were available on the District's website. After evaluation of the report, the Board saw no need to change management at this time. Alan Day noted that BVGCD was beginning the process of updating their Management Plan, due in early 2015. Also BVGCD has ongoing monitoring of water levels as well. Mr. Day also noted that BVGCD and POSGCD were cooperating in an educational effort concerning Brazos Alluvial water production for irrigation and the effects of some water quality issues, on January 7, 2014. David Van Dresar noted that FCGCD's management plan had recently been completed, including the DFCs adopted in the last round of joint planning. David Bailey reported that METGCD is also in the process of updating and readopting their management plan, due by the end of 2014. Jim Totten reported on the monitoring work of LPGCD, including use of SCADA technology to monitor the Simsboro aquifer, and that they are looking to add monitoring wells in the shallow parts of their aquifers.

7. Improvements to current Queen City-Sparta (Central Carrizo) Groundwater Availability Model

Chairman Ausley opened this item for discussion and asked for any updates on progress towards this effort. John Seifert gave a brief update on the process necessary to accomplish this, and if the entire model would not be improved, what improvements could be allowed and the process for including some minor or local improvements during modeling for the next round of joint planning. Mr. Seifert and Wade Oliver gave brief discussion on a recent meeting with TWDB staff on this item, and noted that a handout with notes from that meeting was available. Chairman Ausley returned to agenda item # 7 after finishing with item agenda item #8 at the request of John Seifert to discuss GMA 12 efforts to update the Central Queen City/Sparta Groundwater Availability Model (GAM). Mr. Seifert and Mr. Day stated that Brazos Valley GCD felt that the time was at hand to move forward with efforts to update the GAM as had been discussed over the past several years. Mr. Ausley agreed and noted that Post Oak Savannah GCD was also ready to move forward as well. Mr. Ausley asked Mr. Bradley to comment on the process required to update the GAM. Mr. Bradley outlined the public process needed to update a state GAM so that the GAM would be the state's GAM. Wade Oliver of Intera, Inc. also offered comment. Funding of updating the GAM was discussed. David Van Dresar moved, and Alan Day seconded, to task the consultants to bring back to the GMA within six months a scope of work and time frame with costs and state requirements with amounts of available state participation in those costs for updates to the Queen City/Sparta GAM. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Representation for GMA 12 on Regional Water Planning Groups

Chairman Ausley opened this item and noted that this item was specific to Region K. He noted that it was necessary to appoint a representative from GMA 12 to Region K due to Joe Cooper stepping down from this appointment. Chairman Ausley asked for nominations for this position.

David Van Dresar moved, and Alan Day seconded to appoint Jim Totten of LPGCD to this position. Jim Totten stated that he would abstain from voting on this item. The motion carried 4-0 with Mr. Totten abstaining. Chairman Ausley returned the meeting to agenda item #7.

9. Brazos Alluvium Groundwater Availability Model

Wade Oliver of Intera, Inc. provided an update on efforts from the Texas Water Development Board to complete the groundwater Availability Model for the Brazos River Alluvium.

10. Public Comment

Chairman Ausley invited anyone who wished to give public comment to state their name and address the representatives of the GMA. Keith Hansberger, Board member from LPGCD, addressed concerns with GMA 12 making changes to the GAM. Steve Box, Executive Director of Environmental Stewardship, addressed items contained in his written comments, filed with the GMA, which included addressing groundwater-surface water interaction and availability of water in the region. Curtis Chubb of the Central Texas Aquifers Coalition addressed the importance of the use of recharge, DFCs and Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) in management of the aquifers, as well as conflicts of interest in the GMA. Bob Harden of R.W. Harden and Associates commented on the process and methods which might be used to update the GAM.

11. Agenda items for next meeting

Chairman Ausley invited input from the representatives of the Districts of GMA 12 for items to be included on the next GMA 12 Agenda. Items 6, 7, and 8 from today's agenda were mentioned, as well as any other items which might be identified at a later date. The date for the next GMA 12 meeting would be determined at a later date and upon completion of the scope of work approved under item 7 of today's agenda.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 HELD ON DECEMBER 19, 2013 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY GMA 12 AT A MEETING ON JUNE 6, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District

Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District

Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District

Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District