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**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/>

**October 26, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.**

**GMA 12 Members Present in Person**

Gary Westbrook	POSGCD
Jim Totten	LPGCD
David Bailey	METGCD
Alan Day	BVGCD
David Van Dresar	FCGCD

**GMA 12 Members Absent**

None

**Others Present in person**

Kit Worley	<b><u>Entity</u></b> POSGCD Board
Neil Wettstein	Master Naturalists
Carlos Rubinstein	RSAH2O/EDF
Steve Young	Intera
Robert Bradley	TWDB
John DeGomez	Lee County Landowner
Scott Carlson	MetWater
Billy Sherrill	LPGCD
Phil Cook	LPGCD
Kayla Schnell	Lee County Landowner
Brent Covert	TGI
Andy Wier	SAWDF
Courtney Gentry	POSGCD
Doug Box	POSGCD
Michael Redman	POSGCD
Gregory Perry	POSGCD

**Others Present online**

979-676-0523  
Blair Parker  
Chris Drabek  
Craig Andrews  
Elvis Hernandez  
Jaclyn Wise  
JAYSON BARFKNECHT  
Jennifer Nations  
Linda Bevis  
Liz Ferry  
Mike Orosco

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ML  
Neil Blandford  
Nicole Jackson  
Sheril  
Stefan Schuster  
Steve Box  
Steven Siebert

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Invocation**

The invocation was given by David Van Dresar.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Gary Westbrook led the pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas.

### **3. Call meeting to order and establish quorum**

Mr. Westbrook called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and noted that all five voting members of GMA 12 were present in person.

### **4. Welcome and introductions**

Mr. Westbrook recognized the District representatives by name and invited them to introduce any person they desired. Mr. Westbrook introduced POSGCD Board Member, Kit Worley. Jim Totten introduced LPGCD Board Members Billy Sherril and Phillip Cook. Mr. Westbrook thanked everyone for their attendance.

### **5. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Mr. Westbrook welcomed anyone attending online or in person to make public comment on agenda items.

Andy Wier urged the GMA 12 Members to have their consultants create shape files in order to map drawdowns and make these files available to the public.

Neil Wettstein, a Milam County Master Naturalist of the El Camino Real Chapter, stated there are Chapter members in Lee, Burleson, Williamson and Milam Counties and that he would like to gather information, data and expertise to share with his Chapter Members.

John DeGomez owns a well in Lee County and made comment regarding the drawdown in his well since 2014.

### **6. Minutes of August 24, 2023 Groundwater Management Area (GMA 12) Meeting**

Mr. Van Dresar moved to approve the Minutes of the August 24, 2023 GMA 12 Meeting. He was seconded by Alan Day. The approval of the August 24, 2023 GMA 12 Meeting Minutes was unanimous of all present.

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**7. Presentation from Carlos Rubinstein and Vanessa Puig-Williams on the relationship between Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) and State Water Planning**  
Mr. Rubinstein and Mrs. Puig-Williams overviewed a presentation entitled Improving Water Planning in Texas. They discussed and answered questions from GMA 12 Members concerning the presentation and how DFCs are used in State Water Planning as well as the nine factors required to be considered in adoption of DFCs. Discussions also focused on socio-economic impacts of DFCs and the balancing language contained in Chapter 36.108.

**8. Discussion of first 3 factors of Chapter 36.108(d) to be considered in adoption of Desired Future Conditions:**

- a. **Aquifer uses or conditions within the management area, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another;**
- b. **The water supply needs and water management strategies included in the state water plan;**
- c. **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.**

With agreement from all GMA 12 members, Mr. Westbrook opened agenda items 8-12 simultaneously.

Mr. Westbrook overviewed a presentation entitled Discussion Regarding GMA 12 Process for Appropriate Consideration of the Nine Factors During the Development of DFCs, which was presented to, and approved by, the POSGCD Board, earlier this month. GMA 12 Members discussed the presentation.

Andy Wier made comment requesting the GMA define sustainability for aquifers in GMA 12.

**9. Discussion of process of development of Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) in GMA 12**

At the last GMA 12 Meeting, it was decided to proceed with evaluating currently adopted DFCs during this round of planning. It will save time and funding. Mr. Westbrook asked the GMA 12 Members if everyone is still in agreement with moving forward with the current DFCs. Mr. Van Dresar moved to perform preliminary evaluations on the currently adopted DFCs using the 9 factors. He was seconded by Mr. Day. The motion passed unanimously of all present.

**10. Discussion and comparison of Management Plans, Rules, and Management Strategies of the Districts in GMA 12 as required by Chapter 36.108**

Mr. Day stated BVGCD changed 24 Rules in their Management Plan at their September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. Their Management Plan is almost ready for final approval and adoption at their November 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Van Dresar stated FCGCD is still awaiting review from TWDB for their Management Plan.

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Mr. Totten stated LPGCD approved an update to their Management Plan to bring them into compliance.

Mr. Westbrook stated that the POSGCD will consider updates to their Rules and Management Plan in November to bring POSGCD into compliance as well.

**11. Discussion of requirements of Chapter 36.108 in adopting DFCs**

No further discussion on this agenda item was held.

**12. Evaluation and discussion of past and future pumping files and scenarios using the Sparta/Queen City/Carrizo-Wilcox Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) and results, including predicted water levels and water budgets**

Mr. Totten stated that Bill Hutchison finished a draft post processor report on for use on the GAM. Comments from consultants are welcomed.

David Bailey asked if there was a need to have Yegua-Jackson referenced for the future. Mr. Westbrook stated that topic will be added as an agenda item for the next GMA 12 Meeting.

Dr. Steve Young made note of the earlier public comment about shape files for runs for S19 and advised GMA 12 Members that they may want to consider asking consultants to prepare shape files and putting them on their websites. Mr. Day moved to have consultant teams create the shape files and make them available to the public on their websites. He was seconded by Mr. Totten. Approval of the motion passed unanimously of all present.

**13. Discussion of possible groundwater summit for GCDs in GMA 12**

Mr. Day stated the BVGCD Board Members would like a formal discussion. The GMA 12 Members discussed who the target audience would be, where the event would be held, and what will be presented. Mr. Totten stated a virtual meeting among Board Members and General Managers would be the quickest option to develop ideas for a GMA 12 Summit. All agreed and Mr. Westbrook will coordinate this meeting.

**14. Discussion on sharing of responsibilities and expenses of cost of work performed by each GCD in recent rounds of joint planning**

Mr. Westbrook noted this agenda item was requested by one of the districts in GMA 12 and asked if anyone had performed an evaluation of what each GCD spent in the last round of joint planning. At this time, that evaluation has not been completed. He recommended each GCD perform an evaluation to get a total dollar amount from the previous round of joint planning and an average for each year, along with a brief list of activities involved in expenses.

**15. Discussion and possible action of use of MAG Peak Factor for water users during this and previous round of joint planning**

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Mr. Westbrook stated that no requests have been presented to the GMA and no requests have been presented to Region G either from other entities or from GMA 12. He asked for any discussion. Mr. Totten asked if this agenda item could be dropped from future agendas until it is needed again. Mr. Westbrook stated he would like to see when Region G actually handles this item and it may need to remain on agendas for 3-5 months.

**16. Public Comment on non-agenda items**

No comments were offered.

**17. Update from Texas Water Development Board**

Robert Bradley with Texas Water Development Board gave updates. TWDB has a new Groundwater Gazette, which is a newsletter for groundwater districts, or anyone interested in groundwater.

He noted that Texas Natural Resources Information System has changed its name to Texas Geographic Information Office.

A new data analyst position has been added at TWDB, as well as a contract specialist position.

Mr. Bradley encouraged GMA 12 Members to invite non-district areas to a GMA 12 Summit as it is policy of the state to encourage participation in the process in non-district areas of the GMA per Chapter 35 of the Texas Water Code.

**18. Agenda items and date for next meeting**

The next GMA 12 Meeting will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**19. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

**THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 2023 WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY GMA 12 ON JANUARY 18, 2024.**

ATTEST:

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Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District

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Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District

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Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District

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Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District

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Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District

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