

*Meeting of the*  
**Groundwater Management Area 8**  
*June 23, 2011 in Cleburne, 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 Thursday, June 23, 2011*, in the Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne, Texas.

*Groundwater District Representatives Present:*

Central Texas GCD: Richard Bowers	Post Oak Savannah GCD: Gary Westbrook
Clearwater UWCD: Judy Parker	Prairielands GCD: Joshua Grimes
Fox Crossing WD: None	Red River GCD: George Olson
Middle Trinity GCD: Joe Cooper	Saratoga UWCD: None
North Texas GCD: Eddy Daniel	Southern Trinity GCD: Glen Thurman
Northern Trinity GCD: Fiona Allen	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 Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne, TX. Mr. Daniel welcomed the new members, took roll and established that a quorum was present. Ten Districts were present at the time of roll call, with Fox Crossing GCD and Saratoga GCD absent.

**3. Welcome and introductions.**

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

**4. Public Comments.**

Mr. Charles Sides, citizen near Sand Flat explained that he moved out of the city and into the country to escape government control and high taxes. However, he is now experiencing high taxes from the County and will not be able to drill a well due to control from the groundwater conservation district. He currently uses cooperative water, which includes a \$31 base fee. Mr. Sides explained that he would like to drill a well, but cannot afford to due to the control of the groundwater district. Mr. Sides expressed that he should be able to improve his property without incurring additional fees from government entities.

**5. *Approve minutes of April 27, 2011 GMA 8 meeting.***

Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD provided two corrections on page 2 of the minutes.

Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD, moved to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2011 GMA 8 meeting, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 10-0.

**6. *Discussion and possible action to revise the desired future conditions for the Nacatoch Aquifer.***

Mr. Daniel explained this item has been on the last several agendas. In April, the Committee did not have a resolution available to revise the desired future conditions for the Nacatoch Aquifer. Scenario 4 was discussed for approval. A resolution was provided to revise the desired future conditions based on Scenario 4. Mr. Massey questioned whether the resolution expressed Scenario 4. Mr. Daniel reviewed the resolution and verified that the resolution would need to be revised to reflect the drawdown Scenario 4 in Appendix "A". Change each section in the resolution to reflect Scenario 4 of Appendix "A". The Nacatoch Aquifer is not covered by any groundwater conservation district, but is located within GMA 8. The Committee wanted to address the issue to provide for citizens utilizing the water from the Nacatoch Aquifer. Dr. Bill Hutchison from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) explained that this resolution would make the Managed Available Groundwater (MAG) numbers consistent with the State Water Plan.

Joshua Grimes, Prairielands GCD, moved to approve the Resolution to revise the desired future conditions for the Nacatoch Aquifer, subject to the language being changed to reflect Scenario 4 of Appendix "A", seconded by Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 10-0.

**7. *Discussion and possible action to revise the desired future condition for the Trinity Aquifer.***

Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD reported that his District and Clearwater UWCD have not reached an agreement at this time. This item was tabled until a later date.

**8. *Discussion and possible action on making the Brazos River Alluvium in Milam County non relevant.***

Agenda items 8 and 9 were combined. A resolution was provided to the Committee for review. Mr. Westbrook reported that the Brazos River Alluvium in Milam County is not utilized and no permits are issued. To drill monitoring wells in the Alluvium to measure water levels would cost the Post Oak Savannah GCD money that cannot be recovered since no permits for water use are issued for that area. The resolution provided will make the Alluvium non relevant in Milam County. The resolution also includes the Woodbine Aquifer in the Southern Trinity GCD.

Glen Thurman, Southern Trinity GCD reported that the hydrologist hired by his District issued a report that the Woodbine Aquifer does not exist within his district. It would be required for his district to drill wells to monitor the conditions of the aquifer. He asks that that the resolution be approved to make the Woodbine Aquifer non relevant in the Southern Trinity GCD.

Mr. Daniel asked Mr. Hutchison to provide further explanation on the relevance of the aquifers and the effect on any other districts. Mr. Hutchison explained that the desired future conditions adopted previously included these aquifers. By this action, the MAG reports would be amended to remove the

non relevant aquifers from the districts. For the Brazos River Alluvium, it would still exist, just not in Milam County. Mr. Daniel clarified that these actions would be specific to each district and would not affect the others.

The resolution would rescind the desired future conditions previously adopted by GMA 8 for the Woodbine Aquifer in the Southern Trinity GCD and the Brazos River Alluvium in Milam County and would make them non relevant for join planning purposes.

Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD motioned to approve the resolution, second by Fiona Allen, Northern Trinity GCD. The vote to make the Woodbine Aquifer in the Southern Trinity GCD non relevant was 10 ayes, 0 nays. The vote to make the Brazos Alluvium non relevant in Milan County was 10 ayes, 0 nays. The motion carried unanimously 10-0.

***9. Discussion and possible action on making the Woodbine Aquifer in the Southern Trinity GCD non relevant.***

Discussion and action on this item took place under Item 8.

***10. Discussion and possible action regarding funding and a budget for GMA 8.***

Mr. Daniel indicated at the last meeting that he would provide a draft budget for consideration. He does not expect action, but would like discussion. The 2011 proposed budget includes administrative costs, legal assistance, and is broken down by all twelve districts for approximately \$440 for each District for the year. The 2012 estimated budget is similar and is approximately \$700 for each District. Ms. Allen requested more information on costs being incurred to provide administrative services so that the District providing the services is adequately compensated. Mr. Daniel agreed to provide this information at the next meeting. Mr. Cooper thanked Mr. Daniel for putting the budget together. He requested that hydrology services be incorporated into the draft budget for 2012. Mr. Westbrook expressed concern that the budget seemed too conservative. Mr. Grimes asked if the Committee would like action to approve the 2011 budget and review the 2012 budget? Mr. Daniel responded that he expected at least one more meeting in 2011, which could be used to approve the 2011 and 2012 budgets. Ms. Allen requested more time to review the budget and take it to her Board for review. Mr. Bowers agreed that he would like to take the proposed budget to his Board before taking any action.

Joshua Grimes, Prairielands GCD motioned to approve the 2011 budget. The motion was seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD motioned to table the item until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Fiona Allen, Northern Trinity GCD. The motion passed unanimously to table the item until the next month 10-0.

Mr. Westbrook requested Ms. Catterson send email and request feedback from the Committee to amend the budget if needed. Ms. Catterson agreed to send the budget electronically for review.

***11. Discussion regarding officers for GMA 8***

Mr. Daniel explained that this is a Committee and the North Texas GCD has taken over the role of administering the Committee. Mr. Daniel recommended electing a chair and a vice chair to prepare agendas and correspondence. Mr. Bowers explained that when he began the same process in the Panhandle, the first step to operate the Committee was to elect a chair and co-chair. Mr. Bowers

recommended restructuring the Committee to include officers. Mr. Daniel suggested creating bylaws for the Committee to develop procedures.

Fiona Allen, Northern Trinity GCD nominated Eddy Daniel, North Texas GCD as chair. Richard Bowers, Central Texas GCD seconded the motion. Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD motioned to cease nominations, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. The motion to nominate Eddy Daniel, North Texas GCD as chair passed unanimously 10-0. Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD motioned to nominate Joe Cooper, Middle Trinity GCD as Vice Chair, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. Gary Westbrook, Post Oak Savannah GCD motioned to cease nominations, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. The motion to nominate Joe Cooper, Middle Trinity GCD as Vice Chair passed unanimously 10-0.

***12. Discuss agenda items for next meeting.***

The Committee discussed and agreed to include on the next agenda the Minutes, the budget for 2011 and 2012, bylaws, an update on legislation and possibly the Trinity Aquifer.

Mr. Hutchison took a moment to review the legislation. 660 and 737 have impact on GMAs. The posting of notices is a big issue, since it will impact the budget for administrative costs by lowering the guidelines for posting agendas Mr. Chapman explained that fourteen issues were explored by the groundwater committee he served on and all of them passed through the legislature. Mr. Westbrook explained that the administration will only have to post with the Secretary of State and at the administrative office and will not nullify the meeting if districts do not post correctly. DFCs requirements will be more stringent. All paperwork will need to be submitted to the TWDB on the Nacatoch before September 1<sup>st</sup> to make sure to avoid the new guidelines.

The Committee requested that a legislative update be considered routine at all meetings and maybe have one meeting right after the first when DFCs are being modified.

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

The Committee agreed to host the next meeting on Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM at the Cleburne Conference Center.

***14. Closing comments.***

Mr. Daniel thanked the Committee for attending the meeting. Cooper thanked Daniel for helping with admin support.

***15. Adjourn.***

Judy Parke, Clearwater UWC motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 10-0 and the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

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

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Recording Secretary