*Meeting of the*

# Groundwater Management Area 8

*May 27, 2015 in Cleburne, TX*

## *Minutes*

The Groundwater Management Area 8 (GMA 8) district representatives (referred to herein collectively as "the Committee" for easy reference), which consists of representatives from the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District, Clearwater Underground Water Conservation 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, held a ***Joint Planning meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, May 27, 2015,*** in the Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne, Texas.

*Groundwater Conservation District Representatives Present:*

Central Texas GCD: Charles Shell
Clearwater UWCD: Judy Parker
Northern Trinity GCD: Bob Patterson
North Texas GCD: Eddy Daniel
Post Oak Savannah GCD: Bobby Bazan
Prairielands GCD: Charles Beseda
Red River GCD: David Gattis
Middle Trinity GCD: Joe Cooper
Upper Trinity GCD: Mike Massey
Southern Trinity GCD: Rodney Kroll

*Groundwater Conservation District Representatives Absent:*

Saratoga UWCD: Jason Jones

### *1. Invocation*

Eddy Daniel, North Texas GCD, presided over the meeting and provided the invocation.

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

The Groundwater Management Area 8 (GMA 8) meeting was called to order at 10:07 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 represented at the time of roll call, with one absent (Saratoga UWCD).

### *3. Welcome and introductions.*

The members present introduced themselves. Mr. Daniel thanked all visitors for attending the meeting.

### *4. Public Comments.*

Brian Sledge addressed the representatives regarding model runs 7 & 8 discussed at previous meetings. There are currently several Districts interested in performing runs 7 and 8 in some capacity. Mr. Sledge stated if any Districts think they may have interest in participating they would need to notify Drew Satterwhite at North Texas GCD, by Friday, June 5th. If there is an interest, the Districts will be given more time to discuss with their boards the possibility of participating.

### *5. Approve minutes of March 25, 2015 GMA 8 meeting.*

The draft minutes were provided for review. Motion was made by Judy Parker, seconded by Bob Patterson, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2015 GMA8 meeting.

***6. Consideration and possible action regarding the designation of a Chair and Vice-Chair for the GMA8 for 2015 in accordance with the adopted administrative procedures.***

Chairman Daniel stated that it is time to elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the GMA8, and stated the floor was open for nominations. Representative Bob Patterson asked Eddy Daniel if he was willing to serve another term as Chairman and Joe Cooper if he was willing to serve another term as Vice Chairman. Both parties indicated a willingness to serve another term. Judy Parker then nominated Eddy Daniel as Chairman and Joe Cooper as Vice Chairman. Motion was made by Judy Parker that nominations cease and Eddy Daniel be elected Chairman and Joe Cooper be elected Vice Chairman by acclamation, seconded by Bobby Bazan and passed unanimously.

***7. Consideration and possible selection of representative to serve as an alternate on the Region B Water Planning Group.***

Motion was made by Mike Massey to select Doug Shaw as an alternate on the Region B Water Planning Group. The motion was seconded by Judy Parker and passed unanimously.

***8. Update and discussion of groundwater issues and legislation at the Texas Legislature.***

Brian Sledge provided an update on groundwater issues and legislation.

***9. Briefing and discussion of the socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur, as required by the Texas Water Code, Chapter 36.108(d)(6).***

Bill Mullican discussed the considerations required to be addressed regarding socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur in adopting the Desired Future Conditions ("DFC"). He outlined multiple socioeconomic impacts examined by the Regional Water Planning Groups including (1) Sales, income and tax revenue, (2) jobs, (3) population, and (4) school enrollment. The results of the research are included in the final Regional Water Plans. Mr. Mullican next discussed a list of potential socioeconomic impacts that may result for potential DFC options. GMA8 has six (6) Regional Water Planning Groups to consider in preparation of proposed DFCs.

Mr. Mullican next discussed the absence of quantitative analysis of socioeconomic impacts of potential DFC options in non-agricultural areas, especially in areas such as Region C and GMA 8, due to the dominance of surface water as a primary water supply in most urban areas. He also discussed the positive and negative socioeconomic impacts from a qualitative perspective that must be considered prior to adopting proposed DFCs.

As a hypothetical example, Mr. Mullican offered that if the currently adopted DFC for the Woodbine Aquifer is to have 75 feet of decline in the aquifer, and the DFC were to be changed to either 50 or 100 feet of decline, then the challenge would be to articulate in the explanatory report what the social and economic impacts of that change would be from a quantitative perspective.

Discussion among the representatives ensued regarding additional qualitative issues to consider such as: the value of land and ability to develop land; the effects on schools and tax bases; the effects of decline in the aquifers, how to characterize difference with respect to land valuation; impacts of the DFC vs. benefits as best can be determined; and positive impacts of the proposed DFC.
Chairman Daniel stated the GMA8 representatives need to give additional thoughts to the socioeconomic impacts of the DFC being considered for GMA8 and to provide information for discussion by the Board of Directors of each District.

***10. Briefing and discussion on the impact on the interests and rights in private property, as required by the Texas Water Code, Chapter 36.108(d)(7).***

Next Bill Mullican addressed protecting landowner rights with the GMA8 representatives. Discussion ensued regarding management plans and any rules adopted to protect private property rights with respect to existing use and future use. Management plans and adopted rules may change with respect to the adoption of the DFC.

Mr. Mullican suggested to the representatives that a letter or resolution from each Board of Directors represented in GMA8 for inclusion in the explanatory report would be a good way to address how the proposed DFC will affect private property rights.

The representatives discussed each District's rules directly applicable to the protection of private property rights, including spacing rules, and how rules and management plans protect investment-backed expectations.,

Mr. Mullican requested that the representatives provide information on how their District address property rights in their management plans and rules. Representative Shell asked Mr. Mullican if he had a template that would suffice for each Board's consideration of protecting property rights. Mr. Mullican stated he would work to develop such a template for later consideration.

Chairman Eddy Daniel asked the representatives to consider their management plans and rules and give Mr. Mullican information from them addressing property rights and how the DFC will affect them and how property rights will be protected.

***11. Set date, time and place of next meeting and discuss agenda items.***

The next meeting was tentatively set for Wednesday, August 5, 2015.

***12. Closing comments.***

Chairman Daniel asked that the representatives provide the non-relevant aquifer information to Bill Mullican by the end of June, and to let Drew Satterwhite know by June 5th whether or not their District has interest in participating in Runs 7 and 8.

***13. Adjourn***

The GMA-8 Membership unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 12:11pm

The GMA 8 Committee unanimously approved the minutes on this 2nd day of September, 2015.

Carolyn Bennett
Recording Secretary

Eddy W Daniel
Chairman