

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 MEETING
February 4, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
Milano Civic Center
120 West Ave. E
Milano, Texas

MINUTES

GMA 12 Members Present

Nathan Ausley	POSGCD
Jim Totten	LPGCD
David Van Dresar	FCGCD
David Bailey	METGCD
Alan Day	BVGCD

GMA 12 Members Absent None

Others Present

Entity

Gary Westbrook	POSGCD	Bobby Bazan	POSGCD
Elaine Gerren	POSGCD	Barney Knight	POSGCD
Steve Young	Intera	James Beach	LBG Guyton
John Seifert	LBG Guyton		
David Wheelock	LCRA		
Andy Donnelly	DBS&A		
James Bene	RW Harden		
Monique Norman	BVGCD, FCGCD		
Tim Skoglund	SAWS		
Keith Hansberger	LPGCD		
Steven Siebert	SAWS		
Carmen Cernosek	TWDB		
Stephen Allen	TWDB		
Michael Ganges	Neighbors for Neighbors & League of Ind. Voters		
Micheal J. Simmang	Lost Pines		
Todd Disher	Terrel Firm		
Matt Ulliana	METGCD		
Kodi E. Sawin	Sawin Group		
Brent Covert	Forestar		
Amy Muttoni	BRA		
Steve Box	Environmental Stewardship		
Phil Cook	Sierra Club		
Wesley Bluvstein	Thornhill Group		
Elizabeth Ferry	Thornhill Group		
Billy Sherrill	Lost Pines GCD		

MINUTES

1. Call meeting to order and establish quorum

Chairman Nathan Ausley called the meeting to order and established quorum at 10:05 am.

2. Welcome and introductions

Head table- David Bailey representing METGCD, Alan Day representing BVGCD, Nathan Ausley representing POSGCD, Jim Totten representing LPGCD, David Van Dresar representing FCGCD, and Gary Westbrook from POSGCD serving as secretary.

3. Minutes of December 17, 2015 GMA 12 Meeting

Chairman Ausley asked for corrections or additions to the minutes of the previous GMA 12 meeting of December 17, 2015. None were offered. Alan Day moved and David Bailey seconded the minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Update and report from consultants regarding ongoing evaluations and studies

John Seifert with LBG Guyton gave a presentation entitled "Status Report of Groundwater Modeling Results", including updates to the GMA-12 7B well file, which was used for current DFC's, updates to historical pumping from 2000 to 2010, predictive pumping updates, and comparing results of average drawdowns for 2060 to drawdowns for 2070. Mr. Seifert noted the pumping files had been updated with the exception of the Hooper which was adjusted in Mid-East Texas from 835 AF to 5550 AF bringing the total from 281,914 AF to 286,630 AF.

Mr. Seifert then gave a presentation entitled "Brazos River Alluvium DFCs" on behalf of BVGCD, and stated the Brazos River Alluvium was principally used for irrigation and that pumping had occurred there for decades. His report also included pumping, DFC's, and the development of a reasonable approach for DFC's, as well as the DFCs proposed by the BVGCD Board in this process. Steve Box of Environmental Stewardship and Phil Cook with the Sierra Club asked questions concerning the objectives and methodology of BVGCD in this process, and % of saturation based on the well depth to ratio. Mr. Seifert answered and provided discussion. David Wheelock of LCRA commented on the % of saturation vs. the water level. Mr. Seifert also discussed the use of well depth as opposed to depth to base of aquifer.

5. Receive and discuss comments on Demands and DFC options for GMA 12

Chairman Ausley opened this item and asked if anyone would offer information. No information was offered.

6. Summary of comments received to date from Environmental Stewardship on requirements of Chapter 36.108(d) in adopting Desired Future Conditions

Steve Box with Environmental Stewardship gave a presentation entitled, "GMA-12 DFCs: Summary of ES Comments and Recommendations". Mr. Box spoke on the need for improved predictive capabilities of the current Central QC-Sparta/C-W Groundwater Availability Model with respect to drawdowns, recharge, water budgets, and groundwater-surface water interactions. He further commented on affects of pumping from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifers on the contributions to the Colorado and Brazos Rivers, as well as the need for GMA 12 to identify sustainable pumping in the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer. Mr. Box stated that ES supports re-adoption of current GMA 12 DFCs, and continue to work to establish DFCs for unconfined parts of the aquifers in GMA 12.

Andy Donnelly, of DB Stephens, and Assoc., asked Mr. Box if he understood that continuing to use the current pumping files would not allow the same DFCs to be adopted, as the time frame would be extended to 2070. Mr. Box agreed that this would change the DFCs. Mr. Donnelly asked if ES would be agreeable to extending the current pumping file for the additional 10 year period from 2060 to 2070, and adopt those results as GMA 12 DFCs. Mr. Box stated that he understood the process as discussed and ES would be agreeable to this approach. Mr. Seifert asked Mr. Box if it was acceptable to ES to not increase pumping in the file discussed and extend the period to 2070. Mr. Box stated this was agreeable to ES. Steve Young of Intera asked Mr. Box to identify standards or thresholds in groundwater-surface water interactions ES desired. Mr. Box stated he could not quantify those at this time.

Alan Day of Brazos Valley GCD extended his appreciation to Mr. Box for his presentation, and support for current process GMA 12 is following in adoption of DFCs. Mr. Day then asked for clarification on Mr. Box's request for in depth discussions on certain items which might be better addressed after improvements to the GAM were completed. Mr. Box agreed he did not expect these discussions at this time, because reliable information and data is not available, but rather these discussion should take place after the GAM is updated. Mr. Box then stated he and ES were very supportive and appreciative of the thoroughness of each GCDs efforts and transparency in this process.

7. Receive comments on requirements of Chapter 36.108(d) in adopting Desired Future Conditions

Chairman Ausley opened this item and asked if anyone would offer information. No comments were received.

8. Review and Discuss Previous Presentations and Comments received on requirements of Chapter 36.108(d) in adopting Desired Future Conditions:

Chairman Ausley opened this item and asked if anyone would offer information. No comments were received.

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

Gary Westbrook noted that POSGCD had tasked Intera to perform evaluations on all wells with water columns between 100 and 600 feet and return to the POSGCD Board with recommended changes to the definition of the shallow management zones of the District, and to analyze monitoring data for the period from 2000 to 2014. GM Westbrook further encouraged other GCDs in GMA 12 to continue to develop shallow management zone DFCs, and to work together to develop consistent standards for identification of model layers for monitor wells throughout GMA 12.

Mr. Day agreed, and reported on BVGCDs progress in developing shallow management zones in the District.

10. Desired Future Conditions of aquifers in GMA 12

Mr. Day submitted proposed DFCs approved by he BVGCD Board, and noted that BVGCD supported adoption of GMA wide DFCs. Mr. Seifert clarified the GMA wide DFC for the Yegua-Jackson was 64 feet. These DFCs were as follows:

Sparta- 12 feet in BVGCD, 16 feet aquifer wide

Queen City- 12 feet in BVGCD, 16 feet aquifer wide

Carrizo- 61 feet in BVGCD, 75 feet aquifer wide

Calvert Bluff- 125 feet in BVGCD, 114 feet aquifer wide

Simsboro- 295 feet in BVGCD, 228 feet aquifer wide

Hooper- 207 feet in BVGCD, 168 feet aquifer wide

Yegua- 70 feet in BVGCD

Jackson- 114 feet in BVGCD

Yegua-Jackson- 64 feet aquifer wide

Additionally, BVGCD proposed both District and GMA-wide DFCs be adopted with an allowable 10% variance for the Sparta, Queen City, Carrizo, Calvert Bluff, and Hooper aquifers, with a 5% variance allowable for the Simsboro.

Mr. Day also stated that BVGCD proposed DFCs for the Brazos Alluvium, and those DFCs are based on a percent of saturated thickness of 30% in all of Robertson County and northern Brazos County and 40% saturated thickness for southern Brazos County.

Mr. Ausley then stated the POSGCD Board approved adopting GMA-wide DFCs in GMA 12, and adoption of DFCs as predicted in GAM Run PS5 with a 10% range of variance for all aquifers in the QC-Sparta/Carrizo-Wilcox GAM, with the exception of the Simsboro, which would be held within 5% variance of the GAM Run. Mr. Ausley also added POSGCD shallow Management Zone restrictions would be maintained by POSGCD. Mr. Ausley also stated that POSGCD approved maintaining current DFCs in the Brazos Alluvium of 5 feet in Milam County and 6 feet in Burleson County.

Other members stated their Board would meet prior to the next GMA 12 meeting to discuss DFCs.

11. Content and process of Explanatory Report of GMA 12

Mr. Seifert reported the consultants would be prepared to address this issue at the next meeting. David Wheelock, representing LCRA, asked about timeliness of submitting comments. After discussion, it was agreed that GMA 12 would continue its policy of accepting comments throughout the entire process, but also recognized that there would soon come a point in time where comments would be submitted too late to include in considerations due to time restraints and deadlines imposed by statute.

12. Improvements to the current Central Queen City-Sparta/Carrizo-Wilcox Groundwater Availability Model

Steve Young with Intera gave a brief update on the process.

13. Public Comment

Chairman Ausley invited public comment.

Michelle Ganges stated she represented the League of Independent Voters and Neighbors for Neighbors, and summarized her comments which were also handed out to each member of GMA 12. Mrs. Ganges stated the two groups she represented supported the work, conclusions, and recommendations of Steve Box and Environmental Stewardship, including his statements made at this meeting.

Stephen Allen of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) presented a handout to the members of GMA 12 and the public entitled, "TWDB Updates- GMA 12".

Carmen Cernosek, TWDB Ag and Rural Ombudsman asked for suggestions concerning applications for agricultural and rural projects for TWDB SWIFT funding.

14. Agenda items and Date for next meeting

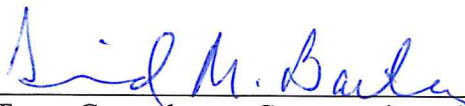
The meeting was set for March 24th, 2016 at 10am.

15. Adjourn

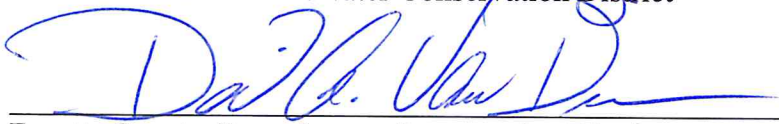
The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

THE ABOVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 HELD ON DECEMBER FEBRUARY 4, 2016, WERE APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY GMA 12 AT A MEETING ON MARCH 24, 2016.


ATTEST:



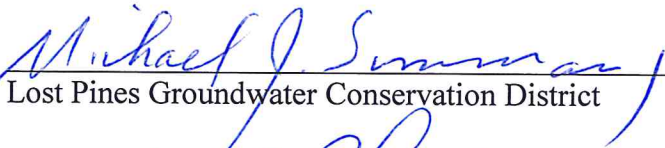
Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District



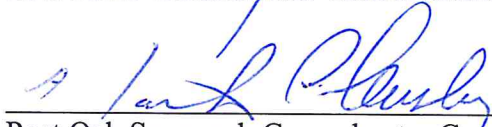
Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District



Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District



Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District



Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District