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**GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA 12 MEETING**  
**November 15, 2019 – 10:00 am**  
**Post Oak Savannah GCD Offices**  
**310 East Avenue C**  
**Milano, Texas**

**GMA 12 Members Present**

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

**GMA 12 Members Absent**

None

**Others Present**

**Entity**

Elaine Gerren	POSGCD
Bobby Bazan	POSGCD
Doug Box	POSGCD
John Seifert	WSP
Steve Young	Intera
James Bene'	RW Harden
Rebecca Batchelder	Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA)
Steven Wise	POSGCD
Paul Kirby	DBSA
Blaire Parker	SAWS
Sheril Smith	LPGCD
Natalie Ballew	TWDB
Bill Riley	Self
Andy Donnelly	DBS&A
Steve Box	Environmental Stewardship
Jennifer D. Nations	City of College Station
Ross Kushnereit	Intera

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## MINUTES

### **1. Invocation**

The invocation was given by Gary Westbrook.

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

Alan Day lead the pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas.

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

Gary Westbrook, serving as chair for this meeting, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and noted that all voting members of GMA 12 were present.

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

Each of the five District voting representatives introduced themselves.

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

Mr. Westbrook invited public comment on agenda items. Steven Wise, Chair of the Post Oak Savannah GCD DFC Committee said it is evident to him that there will be challenges in adopting DFCs during this round of DFC planning. He stated that he hopes all districts will have consideration of their neighbors and have cooperation at all levels. There will be tough decisions to be made in management of the aquifers in GMA 12.

### **6. Minutes of September 24, 2019 GMA 12 Meeting**

The minutes of the May 30, 2019 meeting were presented. After brief discussion, a motion was made by David Van Dresar to approve the minutes. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alan Day. The motion passed unanimously.

### **7. Update from Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) of GMA 12 on joint planning, water level monitoring, and compliance with Chapter 36.108, State Water Code**

Mr. Westbrook stated that the Post Oak Savannah GCD had no update to add to previous meeting report. Alan Day stated that the Brazos Valley GCD had start their Summer measurements and that they were about 60% complete. He also noted recent amendments to BVGCD Rules. David Bailey with the Mid-East Texas GCD stated METGCD will conduct their annual measurements in November and December. Jim Totten stated the Lost Pines GCD Board voted to make the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer non-relevant for this round of joint planning in GMA 12. David Van Dresar noted that the Fayette County GCD Board voted to make the Wilcox Aquifer non-relevant for this round of joint planning in GMA 12. No action was taken.

### **8. Review White draft paper on efforts of GCD's of GMA12 in use of Groundwater Availability Modeling and Best Available Science in consideration and adoption of Desired Future Conditions (DFC's) and management of shared Aquifers.**

Alan Day presented a draft of work completed to date and asked for comments. All agreed it was important to finish this document so that legislators and their staff, as well the general public would have it as a resource. Mr. Day noted the length of the current draft and difficulty to adequately cover this topic with the necessary details in one page. Mr. Totten suggested finishing the current document with necessary details and crafting an executive summary to fulfill the need to have a concise document. Then both documents could be used. It was agreed all would consider the draft document and send any comments by December 15, 2019, to Mr. Day who would incorporate the comments into the document and return to the GMA for discussion.

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**9. Discussion on expressions of Desired Future Conditions (DFC's) and compatibility between GCD's in GMA 12**

Mr. Westbrook noted this item would be opened with agenda items 11-13.

**10. Discussion of comments received from stakeholders**

No new comments were received from stakeholders since the last GMA 12 meeting. After discussion, all agreed to be sure the current GMA 12 Stakeholder Submission form, entitled, "Proposed Desired Future Condition(s) for Aquifer(s) in GMA 12" was posted to their websites.

**11. Discussion and instruction to consultants concerning Joint Planning in GMA 12 for the Yegua-Jackson Aquifer**

Items # 11-13 were opened together. This presentation was given by members of the GMA 12 Consultant team.

**12. Discussion and instruction to consultants concerning Joint Planning in GMA 12 for the Brazos River Alluvium Aquifer**

This presentation was given by members of the GMA 12 Consultant team. Differences between the Brazos River Alluvium GAM and the new Central Queen City-Sparta/Carrizo-Wilcox GAM were discussed along with differences in accuracies. Steve Box inquired as to accounting of river cells. Ross Kushnereit of Intera clarified surface water features were included in layer 1. After discussion it was agreed by Mr. Day and Mr. Westbrook to continue to work with their consultants and TWDB to make necessary corrections to yield more reliable information for joint planning.

**13. Evaluation and discussion of future pumping scenarios using the Sparta/Queen City/Carrizo-Wilcox GAM and results, including predicted water levels and water budgets**

This presentation was given by members of the GMA 12 Consultant team. Questions and discussion was encouraged during this presentation. Consultants noted when considering results of this work, there are choices to make moving forward. Those choices deal with the uncertainty of the predictions and the allowances adopted into DFC statements, improvements to hydraulic properties of the GAM, and effects on conditions at the boundaries of the GAM. Mr. Westbrook clarified and echoed the need for flexibility to add accuracy as it is accepted not all pumping included in the future predictive scenarios will take place in the areas and in the amounts anticipated. John Seifert asked what kinds of DFCs and variations would be acceptable to the GCDs. Mr. Day noted BVGCD asked how other GCDs felt about the PS9 GAM run for establishing DFCs. Mr. Westbrook noted concerns with the values for the Carrizo and Sparta aquifers and stated his directors are concerned about increases in values for DFCs. Mr. Wise echoed these concerns and stated the POSGCD DFC Committee had a very high preference to avoiding any increases in drawdowns as DFCs. Mr. Day stated he did not believe BVGCD was contributing to impacts in the Carrizo and noted most of the pumping in the simulations was in POSGCD. He also noted the need for flexibility as he did not feel like there was enough information on when permitted production in LPGCD would realized. Mr. Day assured everyone that BVGCD would work cooperatively with all GCDs in GMA 12. Mr. Wise addressed the possibility of increasing values of DFCs and asked if DFCs continue to be changed when would the GMA members take a stance?

David Van Dresar stated that reductions and restrictions on production in FCGCD as outlined in the review of PS9 would not be acceptable as FCGCD is dependent on the availability of that water. David Bailey questioned if these restrictions in PS9 were realistic. Mr. Westbrook stated PS9 was presented at the request of POSGCD to begin earnest discussions about the process and projected impacts on the aquifers across the GMA. Steve

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Young reminded the GMA 12 representatives of the need to evaluate the GAM in terms of accuracy of hydraulic conditions in their own GCDs.

James Bene inquired about the concerns of DFC numbers increasing or decreasing, and noted the DFC of 318 feet for the Simsboro for POSGCD was based on an evaluation from a now obsolete model, and that the GMA now has improved data and an improved model to work with.

Steve Box expressed concerns about the DFCs being based on demands and how aquifers would perform. He asked how available water would be accounted for with an increase in MAG.

Mr. Westbrook encouraged each GCD to consider the results of each of these GAM runs with respect to the impacts on their aquifers and the shallow parts of those aquifers in each of their districts, as well as to producers who depend on these aquifers.

Mr. Box reminded of the need to consider in stream flows in these GAM runs. Mr. Westbrook then reminded of the need to consider the impacts of the GAM runs from the new GAM as compared to previous GAM runs from the previous GAM and determine whether different results indicate a similar aquifer condition. Mr. Day noted that BVGCD was okay with S7 results for establishing DFCs. Jim Totten stated LPGCD desired no change in DFCs at this time.

It was agreed all would return to their GCD boards to consider the new information and discuss further at the next GMA 12 meeting.

#### **14. Update from Texas Water Development Board**

Natalie Ballew of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) noted that Rebecca Storm had been named as new Groundwater Monitoring Director. She also stated the current GMA 12 Stakeholder Submission form, entitled, "Proposed Desired Future Condition(s) for Aquifer(s) in GMA 12" could be posted to the TWDB website page dedicated to GMA 12. Mr. Westbrook agreed to forward that document. Ms. Ballew also noted the State Water Plan subsequent to the one now being prepared would extend to the year 2080, and that GMAs across the state might give some consideration to developing DFCs through the year 2080.

#### **15. Public Comment on non-agenda items**

Mr. Westbrook invited comment from the public. No comment was offered.

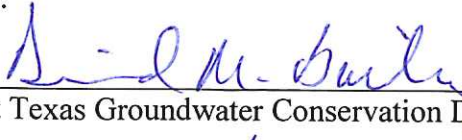
#### **16. Agenda items and Date for next meeting**

#### **17. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:22 pm.



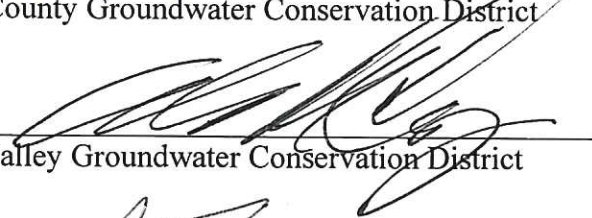
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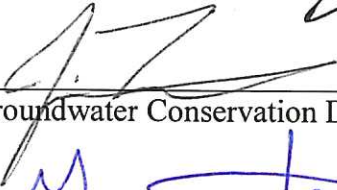
Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District



Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District



Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District



Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District



Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District