

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
of the  
REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP "I"  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2009 – 10:00 a.m.**  
Nacogdoches Recreation Center  
1112 North Street, Nacogdoches, Texas

1. Call to Order – Chair Kelley Holcomb called the regular meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.
2. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – Kelley Holcomb led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Worth Whitehead gave the invocation.
3. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum – The roll was called by Lila Fuller and a quorum was determined as follows:

**Voting Members Present (13 of 21)**

Kelley Holcomb  
David Alders  
David Brock  
George P. Campbell  
Josh David  
Chris Davis  
William Heugel  
Bill Kimbrough  
Glenda Kindle  
Monty Shank  
Darla Smith  
Worth Whitehead  
J Leon Young

**Voting Members Absent (8)**

Jeff Branick  
Jerry Clark  
Michael Harbordt  
Duke Lyons  
Ernest Mosby  
Dale R Peddy  
Hermon Reed  
Robert Stroder

**Proxies:**

Kelley Holcomb for Jerry Clark  
George Campbell for Duke Lyons  
George Campbell for Herman Reed

**Non-Voting Members Present:**

Temple McKinnon, Texas Water Development Board  
 Terry D. Stelly, Texas Parks and Wildlife  
 Rex Hunt, Alan Plummer Associates  
 Walter Glenn, SETGCD  
 Mendy Rabicoff, Gregg County Region D  
 Bobby Praytor, City of Dallas

**Other Guests Present:**

Lauren Gonzalez, APAI  
 Bob Bowman, Bowman and Associates  
 James Beach, LBG-Guyton Associates  
 John Martin, Southeast Texas GCD  
 Terry D Stelly, TPWD-CF  
 Phil Yocom, Toledo Chronicle  
 Bill Tetley, Sierra Club  
 Tom Gooch, Freese and Nichols  
 Clay Evers, Freese and Nichols  
 Robert & Terrie Gonzalez, Cherokee/Herald Paper  
 Rick Bourque, Schaumburg and Polk, Inc

4. **Consideration and Approval of the Minutes for the February 11, 2009 meeting.** Chair Kelley Holcomb referenced the minutes in the packet. Glenda Kindle moved to approve as presented. The motion was seconded by Chris Davis and unanimously passed.
5. **Report from City of Nacogdoches** – Lila Fuller asked those in attendance to review the Draft Membership Directory if they were not at the last meeting and notify her of any corrections. She also stated that the application for funding for reimbursement of expenses from the Diboll Amendment had been submitted to TWDB.
6. **Reports from adjoining regions activity:**
  - A. **Region C** – Tom Gooch reported that Region C met in March and was moving forward with their new plan. Temple McKinnon stated the Studies Commission would be meeting in June in Austin to review all studies. She stated she would update the group when she had more information.
  - B. **Region D** – Mendy Rabicoff stated that things were going well. Next meeting was scheduled for May 27.
  - C. **Region H** – David Alders stated Region H would meet May 6.
7. **Reports from Standing Committees:**
  - A. **Executive Committee** – No report.

- B. **Finance Committee** – Darla Smith, finance committee chair referred to the financial report handout. She stated the Budget-to-Actual report did not include city service expense and that she asked the city to bill for this expense in May. She reviewed that Allocation request letters would go out in July, with a follow-up in October and phone contact in December if payment had not been received.
  - C. **Bylaws Committee** – No report.
  - D. **Technical Committee** – Monty Shank stated the Technical Committee held a teleconference on March 16 and met again today. He referred to Rex Hunt and his staff who would be giving details later in the meeting.
  - E. **Nominations Committee** – George Campbell, nominations committee chair stated the committee would give a report later in the agenda.
8. **Reports from other state agencies:**
- A. **Texas Parks & Wildlife Department** – Terry Stelly with TPWD Port Arthur provided copies of the DVD “Texas The State of Flowing Water” produced by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. He also commented on the draft report of the Ecologically Significant River and Stream Segments of the Region I Water Planning area.
  - B. **Texas Department of Agriculture** – No report.
9. **Report from Texas Water Development Board Staff** – Temple McKinnon with TWDB stated they were reviewing the prepared reports and anticipate Region I final report to go smoothly. Ms. McKinnon commented on legislative issues currently being considered and specifically pointed out HB 2722, SB 1406 and SB2006 as bills to follow.
10. **Report from Consultant Team** – Rex Hunt provided a report from the consultant team. Eleven New Water User Groups (WUGs) have been identified in 6 counties in Region I: Anderson, Jasper, Shelby, Angelina, Nacogdoches, and Smith. In order to incorporate the new WUGs into the Regional Plan, population estimates were determined by multiplying the number of connections in each WUG by 3 (i.e. estimate of the number of persons per household). These population totals were subtracted from each county’s “County Other” category in the 2006 Regional Water Plan. This approach worked in all but Smith County, which had a relatively small “County Other” category. The new WUG population estimate exceeded the previous population total. In order to overcome the “County Other” deficit caused by the new WUGs, population would need to be shifted from other counties and water demand reassessed for counties modified. The recommended course is to not include its population estimates and water demands for the new Smith County WUGs in the plan at this time. The new WUGs in the other 5 counties did not exceed the “County Other” category and will be included in the Water Plan population and water demand projections.

Bill Heugel asked what the benefit was for having all new WUGs. Mr. Hunt stated if we looked specifically at water demands in the future and if they have a shortage, it would be known.

Temple McKinnon stated the utilities had been identified, but there was not good census numbers for determining thresholds this round.

There was some discussion on identification of water users and the need for consistency in identifying them.

Mr. Hunt stated Unique Stream Segments (USS) designation means that a state agency or political subdivision may not finance actual construction of a reservoir in a designated unique stream segment. The RWPG may recommend potential USS based on the following criteria: Biological Function, hydrologic function, riparian conservation areas, high water quality/exceptional aquatic life/high aesthetic value, and threatened or endangered species/unique communities. If the RWPG elects to recommend stream segments for designation as USS, a recommendation package is prepared and submitted to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) with a description of each stream location, maps, photographs, and site description. The TPWD prepares a written evaluation of each recommended stream segment for the RWPG. The RWPG makes a final decision on which segments to include in the Regional Water Plan and adopts the plan. The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) then approves the Regional Plan and incorporates it into the State Plan. The Legislature receives the state water plan from the TWDB with the recommendations for designating unique stream segments, and may choose to designate USS by enacting legislation. Once stream segments have been designated as unique by the Legislature, the RWPG must assess the impacts of the Regional Water Plan on the USS.

Designation of a Site for potential construction of a reservoir means a state agency or political subdivision may not obtain a fee title or an easement preventing construction of a reservoir. The RWPG identifies unique reservoir sites for potential construction based on the following criteria: recommended as a water management strategy, uniquely suited for reservoir development to supply water needs in the current planning period or beyond the 50-year planning period. Recommended sites are included in the Regional Water Plan. The Legislature receives the state water plan from the TWDB with the recommendations for designating unique reservoir sites, and may choose to designate such sites by enacting legislation.

11. **Educational Presentation**: James Beach of LBG-Guyton, Austin, Region I's groundwater consultant, reviewed the history of groundwater management in Texas. He said that groundwater permitting and management are rapidly changing in the State and in Region I. This evolution will continue as Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) continue to be identified in Texas and as the development of GMA regulations play out. He recommended that Region I continue to work with groundwater conservation districts in East Texas, summarize the desired future conditions for each district and develop groundwater availability estimates for the Region's GMAs.

12. **Public Comments**: None

13. **Unfinished Business**: None

14. **New Business**:

A. **Consideration and approval of the resignation of Robert Stroder.**

Nominations Committee Chair George Campbell stated he had received a letter of resignation from Robert Stroder who served in the category of River Authority.

Mr. Campbell moved to accept the resignation of Robert Stroder. The motion was seconded by David Alders and passed unanimously.

B. **Consideration and possible approval of the appointment of Scott Hall.**

Nominations Committee chair George Campbell stated that the Lower Neches River Authority was recommending Scott Hall be appointed to fill the vacancy left by Robert Stroder.

Mr. Campbell moved to accept Scott Hall with the Lower Neches River Authority to fill the vacant position of Robert Stroder. The motion was seconded by Glenda Kindle and passed unanimously.

Mr. Campbell explained the process for the small business vacancy and moved to recommend John Windham of Shelby County to fill the vacancy left in that category. David Alders seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. **Consideration and final approval of Round III, Phase I Special Studies.**

Rex Hunt stated that each of the four studies were revised based on the comments of TWDB staff. Mr. Hunt stated it was recommended that they be accepted as amended and approved by the Technical Committee.

The four studies are as follows:

1. Inter-Regional Coordination on the Toledo Bend Project
2. Regional Solutions for Small Water Suppliers
3. Study of Municipal Water Uses to Improve Water Conservation Strategies and Projections
4. Liquid Natural Gas and Refinery Expansions in Jefferson County

David Alders moved to approve the four Special Studies as recommended and presented. The motion was seconded by Glenda Kindle and unanimously passed.

D. **Consideration and possible approval of population and water demand projections for Region I.**

Rex Hunt stated this item would not be considered until July due to new figures not being received in time to give the proper two-week notice. He reviewed the options to

be considered in July and reviewed the four options of inclusion of the new WUGs. He stated Option 2 was their recommendation with the exclusion of Smith County, which would be included in the Plan, with more specifics after the 2010 census.

It was the consensus of those members in attendance that the consultant pursue Option #2 as recommended.

**E. Consideration and possible approval of steam electric water demands for Region I.**

Rex Hunt explained that the new steam electric water demand projections, developed by the Bureau of Economic Geology for the TWDB, were significantly lower than those originally in the 2006 Regional Water Plan. Both the BEG and 2006 Water Plan projections did not include the additional demands for the Aspen Power Facility being developed in Angelina County. Mr. Hunt recommended that the projections remain the same as in the 2006 plan and add Angelina County's additional demand of 1,000 acre-ft per year.

Glenda Kindle moved to approve the Steam Electric Water Demands for Region I as recommended. The motion was seconded by Monty Shank and unanimously passed.

**F. Committee Appointments.**

Chair Holcomb stated he recommended the same slate of officers as are currently serving. Those officers are as follows:

**NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairman: George Campbell  
Hermon Reed  
Monty Shank  
David Alders  
Josh David  
Ex-Officio: Kelley Holcomb

**BY-LAWS COMMITTEE**

Chairman: David Alders  
Bill Kimbrough  
George Campbell  
Dale Peddy

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Darla Smith  
Jerry Clark  
Jeff Branick  
Duke Lyons  
William Heugel

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

Chairman: Dr. Michael Harbordt  
Monty Shank  
George Campbell  
Chris Davis  
Glenda Kindle

*No action was needed on this item.*


15. **Chairman's Report** – No report.

16. **General discussion** – George Campbell commented on the professional look of the agenda packets and commended Darla Smith and the finance committee for their work on the financial report. Chair Holcomb stated the proposed date for the next meeting was Wednesday, July 8, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the Nacogdoches Recreational Center.

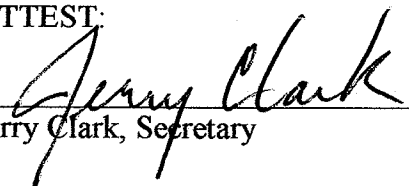
17. **Adjournment:**

Adjourned 12:05 p.m.

APPROVED THIS 8th DAY OF JULY 2009.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kelly Holcomb, Chair  
ETRWPD – Region I

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Clark, Secretary