

Groundwater Management Area 15

Meeting Minutes

The Groundwater Management Area 15 meeting convened in the Pattie Dodson Health Center, 2805 N. Navarro St., Victoria, Texas, Classroom 108 at 9:30 AM on December 9, 2015.

Members GCD Representatives Present:

1	Aransas County Groundwater Conservation District	Lynn Wildman
2	Bee Groundwater Conservation District	Lonnie Stewart
3	Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss
4	Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District	Neil Hudgins
5	Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation District	Neil Hudgins
6	Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District	Jim Brasher
7	Corpus Christi ASR Conservation District	Brent Clayton
8	Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District	Russell Labus
9	Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District	David Van Dresar
10	Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District	Art Dohmann
11	Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District	Charlotte Krause
12	Refugio Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss
13	Texana Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss
14	Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss

Agenda Item 1: Call to order and welcome guests.

Mr. Andruss called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. A quorum was present.

Attached to these minutes is a copy of the meeting sign-in sheet.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 2: Receive public comment.

Mr. Andruss offer to accept any public comments.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 3: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the minutes of the previous meeting.

Mr. Andruss explained that the minutes of the previous meeting were sent to the GMA 15 representatives prior to this meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Hudgins moved to approve the meeting minutes as drafted. Mr. Dohmann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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Agenda Item 4: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to budget and financial reports of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained that the financial reports for the GMA 15 joint planning funds as of November 25, 2015 were sent to the GMA 15 representatives prior to this meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Van Dresar moved to accept the financial reports for the GMA 15 joint planning funds as of November 25, 2015 as provided by Ms. Krause. Mr. Hudgins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agenda Item 5: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to professional services for the development and adoption of desired future conditions for Aquifers within Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained that the Committee, via VCGCD, has received the following invoices:

INV #09-15-114 - INTERA	\$155.00
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MOTION: Mr. Brasher moved 1) to authorize Ms. Krause of Pecan Valley GCD as the GMA 15 Committee Treasurer to issue a disbursement to Victoria County GCD from the GMA 15 joint planning funds in the amount of \$155.00; 2) request that VCGCD issue payment to INTERA for invoices INV #09-15-114 in the amount of \$155.00 upon receipt of funds from PVGCD in the same amount. Mr. Hudgins seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Andruss explained that term for the Interlocal Cost Sharing Agreement for Groundwater Management Area 15 ended on July 14, 2015 and that the agreement includes provisions for extending of the term of the agreement beyond July 14, 2015.

MOTION: Mr. Hudgins moved to extend the Interlocal Cost Sharing Agreement for Groundwater Management Area 15 until August 1, 2016 and request that the GMA 15 administrator to transmit a letters to each party of the agreement providing notice of the extension. Mr. Dohmann seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration of and possible action on reports and communication from Groundwater Management Area 15 member districts and Groundwater Management Area 15 representatives to Regional Water Planning Groups.

No action was taken.

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Agenda Item 7: Consideration of and possible action on reports from Texas Water Development Board representatives to Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Bradley of TWDB informed the committee of developments and activities at the Texas Water Development Board related to water planning with specifics regarding state water plan adoption, funding programs, and exempt use groundwater production estimates.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the review of management plans and accomplishments of member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 9: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the joint planning efforts, including the development of Desired Future Conditions, of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained that GMA 15 and individual districts have a significant number of steps remaining to be completed as part of the adoption process as prescribed by Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code. The distinct steps are listed below. Given the statutory deadline for proposing desired future conditions and the time required to complete the prerequisite tasks, GMA 15 must take action to complete tasks immediately. A proposed schedule has been prepared for consideration.

Remaining DFC Adoption Steps:

1. GMA 15 Representatives vote to designate final provisional DFC language as the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15, per 36.108(d);
2. GMA 15 Representatives consider "factors" specified in items 1 through 9, per 36.108(d);
3. GMA 15 Representatives vote to distribute the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 (Requires approval by 2/3 of all district representatives), per 36.108(d-2);
4. GMA 15 Administrator mails the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 and supporting materials;
5. Districts accept public comments on the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 for at least 90 days commencing on date GMA 15 Administrator distributes the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 (i.e., the public comment period), per 36.108(d-2);
6. Districts make available a copy of the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 and supporting materials in its office

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- during the public comment period, per 36.108(d-2);
7. District s hold a public hearings, per 36.108(d-2),
 1. during the public comment period, and
 2. after the District posts notice as required by 36.063;
 8. Districts compile, after the public comment period, a summary of relevant comments received, any suggested revisions to the proposed desired future conditions, and basis for the revisions, per 36.108(d-2);
 9. Districts submit their public comment period summaries to GMA 15 Administrator, per 36.108(d-2);
 10. GMA 15 Representatives review the public comment summaries and consider any suggested revisions to the Proposed Desired Future Conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15 upon receipt of all summaries or the expiration of the public comment period, per 36.108(d-3);
 11. GMA 15 Representatives proposes for adoption desired future conditions for GMA 15, per 36.108(d-3) (STATUTORY DEADLINE: May 1, 2016, per 136.108(d-5));
 12. GMA 15 Representatives vote to adopt the desired future condition for GMA 15 by resolution (Requires approval by 2/3 of all district representatives), per 36.108(d-3);
 13. GMA 15 Representatives produce a desired future condition explanatory report, per 36.108(d-3);
 14. GMA 15 Administrator sends to TWDB and Districts the following, per 108(d-3):
 1. proof that notice was posted for the joint planning meeting,
 2. a copy of the resolution adopting the desired future condition, and
 3. a copy of the explanatory report:
 15. Districts adopts the desired future conditions and explanatory report after receiving the resolution adopting the desired future condition and a copy of the explanatory report, per 36.108(d4).

Mr. Andruss proposed the following schedule for completing the remaining DFC adoption steps:

Proposed Schedule;

Remaining Step 1; January 14, 2016

Remaining Step 2; January 14, 2016

Remaining Step 3; January 14, 2016

Remaining Step 4; January 15, 2016

Remaining Step 5; January 15, 2016 - April 13, 2015

Remaining Step 6; January 15, 2016 - April 13, 2015

Remaining Step 7; April 14 -18, 2016

Remaining Step 8; April 18-22, 2016

Remaining Step 9; April 25 - 27, 2016

Remaining Step 10; April 29, 2016

Remaining Step 11: April 29, 2016

Remaining Step 12: April 29, 2016

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Remaining Step 13; May 12, 2016 *

Remaining Step 14: May 13, 2016

Mr. Dohmann of the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District questioned the variable value used for average recharge in the different GAM runs performed for Groundwater Management Area 15 and requested that Texas Water Development Board address the issue. Mr. Bradley of the Texas Water Development Board agreed to review the matter and provide a response to Mr. Dohmann.

MOTION: Mr. Hudgins moved to accept and approve the proposed schedule for adopting desired future conditions for Groundwater Management Area 15 and request that INTERA prepare a preliminary draft of the explanatory report. Mr. Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agenda Item 10: Consideration of (1) aquifer uses or conditions within the management area, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another; (2) the water supply needs and water management strategies included in the state water plan; (3) hydrological conditions, including for each aquifer in the management area the total estimated recoverable storage as provided by the executive administrator, and the average annual recharge, inflows, and discharge; (4) other environmental impacts, including impacts on spring flow and other interactions between groundwater and surface water; (5) the impact on subsidence; (6) socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur; (7) the impact on the interests and rights in private property, including ownership and the rights of management area landowners and their lessees and assigns in groundwater as recognized under Section 36.002; (8) the feasibility of achieving the desired future condition; and (9) any other information relevant to the specific desired future conditions.

Mr. Andruss explained that GMA 15 Representatives are required to consider nine specific factors before voting to adopt any proposed desired future condition. GMA 15 has previously considered, to some extent, the factors of 36.108(d), with the exception of 36.108(d)(3), with the the development, response and subsequent consideration of responses to the GMA 15 Development Survey. In summary, Groundwater Management Area 15 solicited input from GMA 15 representatives regarding certain factors specified under 36.108(d) on March 27, 2015 with the transmittal of the GMA 15 DFC Development Survey. The GMA 15 Representatives considered the GMA 15 DFC Development Survey at the meeting held on April 9, 2015. Through the DFC Development Survey, GMA 15 specifically solicited input from member districts related to TWC 36.108(d)(1), 36.108(d)(2), 36.108(d)(4), 36.108(d)(5), 36.108(d)(6), 36.108(d)(7), 36.108(d)(8), and 36.108(d)(9). Calhoun County GCD, Coastal Bend GCD, Fayette County GCD, Goliad County GCD, Pecan Valley GCD, Refugio GCD, Texana GCD, and Victoria County GCD provided responses to the survey. On July 15, 2015, GMA 15 representatives considered

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the survey responses and related topics. Below is a draft write-up regarding the consideration of the factors:

Under 36.108(d)(1), member district are required to consider aquifer uses or conditions within the management area, including conditions that differ substantially from one geographic area to another. The aquifer uses and conditions differ substantially across Groundwater Management Area 15. Groundwater production is generally greater in the northeastern portions of GMA 15 in Colorado, Wharton, Matagorda, and Jackson Counties. Groundwater in northeastern portion of GMA 15 is predominately used for irrigation purposes. Groundwater production in the central portion of GMA 15 in Victoria County is predominately used for irrigation, municipal, and industrial uses. Groundwater production in the north central portion of GMA 15 in DeWitt County and Karnes County is predominately used for domestic and livestock purposes as well as supporting oil and gas production in the Eagle Ford Shale. Groundwater production in the southwestern portions of GMA 15 is predominately used for domestic, livestock, and agricultural uses. The condition of the Gulf Coast Aquifer differs significantly geographically. Generally, the capacity of the Gulf Coast Aquifer to produce groundwater increases to the northeast and decreases to the southwest as well as increase down dip relative to up dip portions of the Gulf Coast Aquifer. The adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact aquifer uses or conditions during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(2), member district are required to consider the water supply needs and water management strategies included in the state water plan. Based on a review of the a summary of the water supply needs and water management strategies of the 2012 Texas State Water Plan, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact the water supplies, water supply needs, or water management strategies of the 2012 Texas State Water Plan during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(3), member districts are required to consider hydrological conditions, including for each aquifer in the management area the total estimated recoverable storage as provided by the executive administrator, and the average annual recharge, inflows, and discharge. The Texas Water Development Board published total estimated recoverable storage for aquifers within GMA 15 in a report titled GAM Task 13-038: Total Estimated Recoverable Storage for Aquifers in Groundwater Management Area 15. The total estimated recoverable storage

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for the Gulf Coast Aquifer within GMA 15 ranges between 92,200,000 acre-feet and 276,600,000 acre-feet. Based on a review of the total estimated recoverable storage and simulated water budgets associated with the Baseline (Option 1) and High Production (Option 1) model runs, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact the hydrological conditions within GMA 15 during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(4), member districts are required to consider other environmental impacts, including impacts on spring flow and other interactions between groundwater and surface water. Based on a review of the simulated water budgets associated with the Baseline (Option 1) and High Production (Option 1) model runs, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact environmental conditions during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(5), member districts are required to consider the impact on subsidence. Based on a reports developed by INTERA for member districts related to subsidence within GMA 15, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact subsidence during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(6), member districts are required to consider socioeconomic impacts reasonably expected to occur. Based on a review of the water management strategies of the 2012 Texas State Water Plan associate with supplies from the Gulf Coast Aquifer within GMA 15 and the anticipated impact on groundwater resources caused by groundwater production in the future, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact socioeconomic conditions within GMA 15 during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(7), member districts are required to consider the impact on the interests and rights in private property. The member district recognize that the regulation of groundwater production, including the adoption of desired future

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conditions, could significantly impact interests and rights in private property. Based on estimations of existing groundwater production, existing groundwater regulations, and the proposed water management strategies of the 2012 Texas State Water Plan, the adoption of the desired future conditions of GMA 15 are not anticipated to significantly impact interests and rights in private property within GMA 15 during the planning horizon and would provide a balance between the highest practicable level of groundwater production and the conservation, preservation, protection, recharging and prevention of waste of groundwater, and control of subsidence in the management area.

Under 36.108(d)(8), member districts are required to consider the feasibility of achieving the desired future condition. Based on predictive groundwater availability modeling conducted by GMA 15, the achievement of the desired future conditions are considered feasible and physically compatible.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 11: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the methods and approaches to evaluate compliance and achievement of desired future conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 12: Consideration of and possible action on the matters related to proposals of member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15 to adopt new or amend existing desired future conditions.

No action was taken.

Agenda Item 13: Consideration of and possible action on identification and scheduling of future agenda items and meetings.

No public comment provided.

Agenda Item 14: Receive public comment.

Agenda Item 15: Adjournment.

MOTION: At 10:37 AM, Mr. Stewart moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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Prepared by: Tim Andruss

The above and foregoing minutes were considered and approved on this the

14th day of JANUARY a.d. 2016.



Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative

ATTEST:

Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative