

Meeting of the
Groundwater Management Area 8
January 21, 2014 in Cleburne, TX

Minutes

The Groundwater Management Area 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, Fox Crossing Water 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 (GCD), held a *Joint Planning meeting at 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, January 21, 2014*, in the Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne, Texas.

Groundwater District Representatives Present:

Central Texas GCD: Charles Shell	Post Oak Savannah GCD: Gary Westbrook
Clearwater UWCD: Judy Parker	Prairielands GCD: Charles Beseda
Fox Crossing WD: None	Red River GCD: David Gattis
Middle Trinity GCD: Joe Cooper	Saratoga UWCD: None
North Texas GCD: Eddy Daniel	Southern Trinity GCD: Scooter Radcliff
Northern Trinity GCD: Craig Schkade	Upper Trinity GCD: Mike Massey

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 10:08 AM at the Cleburne Conference Center in Cleburne, TX. Mr. Daniel welcomed the new members, took roll and established that a quorum was present. 9 Districts were present at the time of roll call, with Fox Crossing WD, Red River GCD and Saratoga UWCD absent.

3. Welcome and introductions.

The members present introduced themselves. Mr. Daniel introduced Mr. Jerry Chapman, Mr. Drew Satterwhite and Mrs. Carmen Catterson who work with the North Texas GCD and Red River GCD. Mr. Daniel also introduced representatives from Lloyd Gosselink, Sledge Fancher, PLLC, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the USGS. Mr. Daniel thanked all visitors for attending the meeting.

4. Public Comments.

No public comments were received.

5. Approve minutes of September 24, 2013 GMA 8 meeting.

The minutes were provided for review. No changes were proposed.

Charles Beseda, Prairielands GCD moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2013 GMA 8, seconded by Mike Massey, Upper Trinity GCD. The motion carried unanimously, 10-0.

6. Additional information/clarification on regional draw down concerns presented by MTGCD at the September 24, 2013 GMA 8 meeting

Joe Cooper, Middle Trinity GCD explained that at the previous meeting he provided information on Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) and felt recommending any changes was very premature. Mr. Cooper explained that he would like to comment on DFCs that are causing conflict. Mr. Cooper explained that the information provided were not McLennan County studies, but were predictive studies. He apologized if it caused any conflict due to his mislabeling the slides.

7. Southern Trinity GCD – Conservation Efforts, Scientific Investigations, and Modeling of Aquifer Conditions

Scooter Radcliff, Southern Trinity GCD explained that they have an all-volunteer Board and operates without taxes. Dr. Al Blair, the engineer for Southern Trinity GCD provided a presentation on their permitting and enforcement procedures.

8. Update and possible action on the Northern Trinity/Woodbine Aquifer GAM Overhaul Project and the development of proposed Desired Future Conditions (DFCs)

Bill Mullican provided an update on the GAM overhaul project. The project is currently on time and in budget. He explained that the project is being overseen by representatives from the four funding groundwater districts, as well as the TWDB. Last June the draft conceptual model was released for review and comment. A review of the comments was conducted after the previous GMA 8 meeting. The model has now largely been constructed and a calibrated simulation has been conducted. The model is now being refined with a historical pumping package and because of the size of the model some of the modeling scripts are being refined to be as efficient as possible. The draft model will be delivered on April 30th and the next meeting of Technical Advisory Group should be held immediately thereafter. The TWDB review of the model should occur by August 2014. Hopefully their approval will be secured.

Mr. Mullican also explained that the GAM overhaul contract was formed with the possibility of two predictive scenarios to help the GMA 8 understand how the DFCs will be revised. For this to happen, information must be provided to the contract management team by April 30th. Mr. Daniel clarified that the first scenario will be based on the existing Modeled Available Groundwater (MAG) numbers.

David Gattis, Red River GCD arrived at 10:56 AM.

Mr. Mullican recommended that each District would be provided within the next month or so a list of data requested for consultants to review and provide as much information as is possible by April 30th to utilize in the one or two predictive scenarios. The first item provided would be historical information on a county by county basis. A second item for consideration is the total water use in the 2011 regional water plan and the ratio of surface to groundwater. Mr. Mullican recommended that each district take advantage of the opportunity being provided. Any further scenarios would need to be paid for by the requesting district.

Mr. Daniel explained that the project committee will put together a letter requesting specific information. The estimated date of delivery of the letter should be by mid-February.

The model will not differentiate between exempt and non-exempt use. The model will include all available groundwater, which will be separated by the districts. Mr. Daniel recommended that the districts provide a reasonable estimate of exempt use to make sure that the use is included in the model. Each district must determine their own amount of exempt use. The committee discussed different methodology for determining exempt use.

