

Joint Planning for Groundwater Management Area # 2
Wednesday, October 19, 2016
10:00 A.M.
Brownfield City Hall
201 W. Broadway, Brownfield TX

CALL TO ORDER

Administrative Officer Jason Coleman called the Groundwater Management Area # 2 (GMA # 2) meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. He thanked the City of Brownfield and the South Plains Underground Water Conservation District for hosting today's meeting.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Coleman conducted a roll call of the Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) participating in the joint planning meeting. A quorum was present with all GCDs in GMA # 2 represented.

The GMA # 2 voting representatives in attendance were:

- Ferrel Wheeler, Garza County UWCD.
- Ronnie Hopper, High Plains UWCD.
- Jud Chevront, Llano Estacado UWCD.
- Matt Farmer, Mesa UWCD.
- Donna Springer, Permian Basin UWCD.
- Amber Blount, Sandy Land UWCD.
- Matt Hogue, South Plains UWCD.

Others signed in at today's meeting were: Lori Barnes; John Boren; Robert Bradley; Ray Brady; Amy Bush; Craig Collier; Katherine Drury; Rickey Dunn; Harvey Everheart; Lindy Harris; Bill Hutchison, P.E.; Layne Marlow; Carmon McCain; Victoria Whitehead; and Deanya Williams.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Coleman asked if there were any comments from the public at today's meeting. There were none.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 19, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Coleman presented the April 19, 2016 meeting minutes. The minutes were provided to the member districts for review in advance of today's meeting. Mr. Coleman gave attendees time to review the minutes and then asked if there were any additions or corrections. Hearing none, a motion was made by Mr. Chevront and seconded by Mr. Farmer to approve the minutes as

presented. **All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.** The approved minutes will be posted to the GMA # 2 website.

CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND INFORMATION DUTIES/ASSIGNMENTS

With the minutes approved, Mr. Coleman asked the group if this would be a good point in the meeting to discuss the administrative/public information duties for GMA # 2. Everyone agreed and the later agenda item was moved forward to this point in the meeting.

Mr. Everheart noted that Mesa UWCD has handled the public information duties for GMA # 2 for the past 10 years. This includes taking minutes of the various meetings and maintaining the information website at www.gma2.org. He told the group that he believed it was time for another district to assume these responsibilities.

Ms. Williams told the group that the GMA # 2 website maintenance and updates are conducted through the website builder provided by GoDaddy. The web editing program is outdated and will expire on December 10, 2016. Ms. Williams said she is unable to access the files previously uploaded to the site. She has asked Gray Sanders, HPWD Information/Technology Administrator, for assistance/guidance.

After brief discussion, Ms. Blount made a motion to transfer the information responsibilities for GMA # 2 from Mesa UWCD to High Plains UWCD. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer. Mr. Coleman asked for other discussion. Hearing none, **all member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Mr. Coleman thanked Mr. Everheart and Ms. Williams for their dedicated service as the information coordinators for GMA # 2 during the past 10 years. Mr. Carmon McCain of the HPWD staff will serve as recording secretary for today's GMA # 2 meeting.

APPOINTMENT OF GMA # 2 REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGION F PLANNING GROUP

In accordance with Chapter 16 of the Texas Water Code, Groundwater Management Area representatives can appoint full voting members to the regional water planning groups. Raymond Straub Jr. currently serves as the GMA# 2 representative to that regional water planning group, according to the Region F website. Ms. Springer said Mr. Straub is willing to continue in that position. A motion was made by Mr. Hopper and seconded by Mr. Chevront to reappoint Mr. Straub as the GMA # 2 representative to the Region F Planning Group. **All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.**

DISCUSS COMMENTS ON PROPOSED DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS (DFCs) RECEIVED DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Coleman noted that each of the member districts voted to propose the Desired Future Conditions for adoption at the April 19, 2016 GMA # 2 meeting in Lamesa. A 90-day public

comment period began on April 21, 2016. During this time, each district had to hold a hearing to receive public comments on the proposed DFCs. At the completion of the public comment period, the districts must submit a summary report of all relevant comments received and any recommended changes to the proposed DFCs.

Each district, with exception of High Plains UWCD, reported no public comments.

Mr. Coleman said HPWD conducted one public hearing in Amarillo and one public hearing in Lubbock. No comments were received at the Amarillo meeting and only one—thanking the district for their methodology—was received at the Lubbock meeting. A written comment was e-mailed to HPWD by J. Collier Adams Jr., who opposes setting any desired future condition other than zero. There was no other discussion relating to the public comments.

CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL A RESOLUTION REGARDING NON-RELEVANT AQUIFERS FOR JOINT PLANNING PURPOSES IN GMA# 2

Dr. Hutchison discussed Draft Resolution 16-02 which declares the Edwards-Trinity (Plateau) and Pecos Valley aquifers as being non-relevant for purposes of joint planning in Groundwater Management Area # 2. Approval of this resolution eliminates the need to establish Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for these aquifers as well as determination of Managed Available Groundwater (MAGs) for these aquifers in GMA # 2. A motion to approve Resolution 16-02 as presented was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Hogue. *All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.*

CONSIDER FOR APPROVAL A RESOLUTION ADOPTING DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS (DFCs) FOR RELEVANT AQUIFERS IN GMA# 2

Dr. Hutchison noted that the member districts in GMA # 2 have received and considered groundwater modeling information and other technical advice to guide them in the adoption of the proposed DFCs. There were 16 scenarios of the model that were run. In addition, there was consideration of the impacts of increased/decreased pumping of using the current "50/50" DFC. He said pumping rates would decline over time as a result of the declining groundwater levels. Therefore, restrictions under the current "50/50" DFC would not make a difference in the outcome for the 50-year horizon. There is no need to intrude onto private property rights by continuing the current "50/50" DFC.

Resolution 16-01 states that "the desired future condition for the Ogallala and Edwards-Trinity (High Plains) aquifers is average drawdown of between 23 and 27 feet for all of GMA # 2. The drawdown is calculated from the end of 2012 conditions to the year 2070."

In addition, the resolution states that "the desired future condition for the Dockum Aquifer is average drawdown of 27 feet for all of GMA # 2. The drawdown is calculated from the end of 2012 conditions to the year 2070 and is based on Scenario 16."

There being no other comments or discussion, a motion to approve Resolution 16-01 as presented was made by Ms. Blount and seconded by Mr. Hogue. **All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.**

CONSIDER EXPLANATORY REPORT FOR ADOPTED DESIRED FUTURE CONDITIONS

Dr. Hutchison said the draft explanatory report was reviewed and discussed by the member districts last spring. He has updated it with relevant public hearing information and it should be ready to submit to the Texas Water Development Board—along with the models.

Mr. Coleman asked each member district to review the draft explanatory report and provide any non-substantive changes to Dr. Hutchison by October 31. He will make any necessary edits and forward the final report to the administrator. There being no other discussion, a motion to authorize the administrator to submit the final explanatory report and associated models to the Texas Water Development Board was made by Mr. Hopper and seconded by Mr. Farmer. **All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.**

Dr. Hutchison outlined the next steps in the DFC process.

A statutory 60-day period begins with today's adoption of the DFCs.

During this time, the Technical Memoranda and the Explanatory Report will be finalized.

The TWDB and each member district will receive the following:

- Copy of the posting for the October 19 meeting.
- Resolutions.
- Explanatory Report.
- Technical Memoranda w/documentation of non-relevant aquifers.
- Name of the GMA # 2 designated representative.
- Model files to TWDB only.

After the documentation is submitted, the TWDB will review for administrative completeness. The GMA # 2 administrator will be notified if the submission is complete or if it has deficiencies. If deficiencies are noted, GMA # 2 must correct them within 90 days of notification.

Section 36.108 (d-4) states that "As soon as possible after a district receives the desired future conditions resolution and explanatory report under Subsection (d-3), the district shall adopt the desired future conditions in the resolution and report that apply to the district."

It was consensus of Dr. Hutchison and the member districts that the above statute is interpreted to mean that once the DFC is determined to be administratively complete by the TWDB, then the districts may adopt the applicable DFCs.

DISCUSS ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

It was noted that GMA # 2 must meet a minimum of once a year. A future meeting date will be announced—contingent upon the TWDB's determination whether or not the DFC report is administratively complete or not.

ADJOURN

There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Chevront. ***All member districts voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.*** The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason Coleman, P. E.
Administrator, GMA # 2