

Minutes
Plateau Water Planning Group
REGULAR MEETING
Initiated and Chaired at
Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center (GBNRC)
125 Lehmann Drive - Auditorium
Kerrville, Texas
December 05, 2024
10:00 AM

Notice having duly been given the Plateau Water Planning Group (PWPG) conducted a Regular Meeting on Thursday, December 5, 2024, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was initiated and chaired at GBNRC, 125 Lehmann Drive, Auditorium, Kerrville, TX 78028. **Present in person:** Jonathan Letz, Kerr County; Tara Bushnoe, Kerr County; Jerry Simpton, Val Verde County; Tony Smith, Carollo Engineering; Lann Bookout, Texas Water Development Board; Matthew Wilkinson, UGRA (hosted the meeting); Jody Grinstead, Admin. Asst.; Tammy Thompson, UGRA; Carlos Velarde, Val Verde County; Gene Williams, Kerr County; Jess Erlund, Kerr County; David Jeffery; Bandera County/GMA9; Stuart Barron, Kerr County; Charlie Wiedenfeld, Kerr County, David Mauk, Bandera County. **Present via Zoom:** Jennifer Jackson, Carollo Engineering; Max Martin, Edward/Val Verde/Kinney County; Feather Wilson, Bandera County; Darlene Shahan for Tully Shahan, Kinney County; Jordan Aguilera, Lindsey Elkins (TPWD), Kendria Ray (TSSWCB) and Kinney County Groundwater District.

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Certification of Quorum in Compliance with Texas Open Meetings Law.

Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

II. Public Comments.

No public comments were received.

III. Approval of minutes from the October 17, 2024 Regular Meeting.

Motion by David Jeffery to approve the October 17, 2024 minutes; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. Reports.

a. Report from Chair.

Chairman Letz stated that the current balance in the administrative account is \$10,755.12. He informed the Group that he is retiring as a County Commissioner on December 31, 2024 but will remain on the PWPG as a small business representative.

b. Report from Secretary.

No report was given.

c. Report from Political Entity.

Ms. Bushnoe noted that they are having some issues with the audio/visual for the hybrid meetings. They are currently using a UGRA computer which does not have adequate RAM, so they may request funding in the future, from the administrative account, to purchase additional equipment.

d. Report from Liaisons.

No reports were given.

e. Report from GMA representatives.

No reports were given.

V. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve new invoices.

Motion by Gene Williams to approve the following invoices: GMR Transcription (10/17 meeting transcripts) - \$239.25; Carollo Engineers (9/1/24 – 9/30/24) - \$26,999.10; Carollo Engineers (10/1/24 – 10/31/24) - \$19,851.14; second by Tara Bushnoe. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

- VI. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve administrative expenses, and certify that the expenses are eligible for reimbursements and are correct and necessary.**
Motion by Tara Bushnoe to approve administrative expenses in the amount of \$1,034.42; second by David Mauk. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- VII. Texas Water Development Board Updates.**
Mr. Bookout reminded the Group that the IPP is due on March 3, 2025 and the meeting to approve the IPP requires a 30-day notice. The final plan is due in October 2025.
- VIII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to fill vacancy for Municipalities/Kerr County (to replace Scott Loveland).**
Chairman Letz stated that we received one nomination from the City of Kerrville for Chris Clark.
Motion by Jerry Simpton to appoint Chris Clark to fill the vacancy for Municipalities/Kerr County; second by David Mauk. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- IX. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to fill vacancy Counties/Edwards County (to replace Kenneth Reed).**
Chairman Letz stated that a nomination for Jordan Aguilera was received by the mayor of Rock Springs and a nomination for Marty Graham was received by Judge Shanklin, Edwards County Judge. The planning group agreed that since the vacancy was for a county position, that Marty Graham should fill the vacancy.
Motion by Max Martin to appoint Marty Graham to fill the vacancy for Counties/Edwards County; second by David Mauk. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- X. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to appoint/reappoint officers (Chair/Vice-Chair/Secretary) for a 2-year term; current terms expire on 12/31/24.**
Motion by David Mauk to reappoint Jonathan Letz as Chairman, Genell Hobbs as Vice-Chair and Gene Williams as Secretary; second by Tara Bushnoe. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- XI. Report from Carollo on the schedule of regional water planning.**
Ms. Jackson reviewed what was discussed at the last meeting.
- XII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve the draft IPP Chapters 3, 4 and 7 and authorize Carollo to work with WUGs and/or TWDB on any final modifications.**
Mr. Simpton requested that changes be made to Chapter 3 to include decreasing the MAG from 50,000 acre feet back down to 25,000 acre feet – which was previously approved, but increased again for some reason. Ms. Jackson said she would continue to work with the city to make sure the correct material is in the Plan.
- Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 3 in detail. She noted that it contained 5 major sections and explores the current and future availability of water supply resources including surface water, groundwater and reuse.
- Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 4 in detail noting that it provides the projections of water supply surpluses or deficits for all water user groups by decade. She reviewed multiple tables in the chapter with the planning group.
- Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 7 which examines the specific requirements regarding our drought response information, activities, recommendations, and identifies the significant drought impacts within the region. She noted that the Texas Drought Monitor shows that there are counties inside Region J that are currently inside an extreme drought condition. She pointed out that there are 8 major sections within the chapter including a new subsection called Uncertainty and Droughts Worse than the Drought of Record. A brief discussion ensued regarding the Drought of Record

and Drought Worse than the Drought of Record. She reviewed various handouts and tables in the chapter.

Motion by Tara Bushnoe to approve Chapters 3, 4, and 7 with revisions being able to be incorporated with feedback from the Planning Group and the Water Development Board; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Jackson requested that any additional edits by the planning group members be submitted to her by January 15, 2025.

XIII. Consider, discuss and review draft Chapters 8, 9 and 10 of the 2026 Plateau Water Plan.

Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 8, noting that this chapter allows planning groups to have an opportunity to make recommendations pertaining to the development and management of the groundwater, surface water resources of the State of Texas. She stated that this chapter noted that more funding for data collection in the rural areas is needed to help create an accurate water plan in County Other. The chapter also discusses the new State Flood Plan and ecologically unique stream segments.

Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 9 stating it provides a survey of the level of implementation and identified impediments to the development of the previous plan as well as a comparison of components between that plan and this one. This chapter also addresses the progress of the planning area in encouraging cooperation between water user groups for the purpose of achieving economies of scale and otherwise incentivizing strategies that benefit the entire region. She reviewed a handout and various tables in the chapter. A brief discussion ensued regarding brush management. Ms. Jackson noted that a new subsection is required in this Chapter relating to Economies of Scale and reviewed the information she added to the chapter regarding that topic.

Ms. Jackson reviewed Chapter 10 stating that it contains an overview of the planning group's representation, the group's commitment to public involvement, and specific activities that ensure that the public was informed and involved in the planning process and the implementation of the plan. It's also contains information regarding the rural outreach efforts that the planning group has done.

Ms. Jackson requested that any requested modifications by the planning group members be submitted to her by January 15, 2025.

XIV. Report from Carollo on other regional planning efforts.

Ms. Jackson stated that she still needs to update Chapter 5, Appendix 5A and Chapter 6 and requested that the next meeting be held mid to late January and the meeting to adopt the IPP be set for late February.

X. Set next meeting.

The next meeting was set for January 30th at 10:00 a.m. in Kerrville. The meeting to adopt the IPP was set for February 20th at 10:00 a.m. in Kerrville.