

**Minutes
Plateau Water Planning Group
Regular Meeting – Brackettville, Texas
August 11, 2011 at 11:00 A.M.**

Notice having been duly given, the Plateau Water Planning Group (PWPG) conducted a Regular Meeting on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at the Slator Memorial Hall, 210 James Street, Brackettville, TX. Present at the meeting were: Ray Buck, Kerr County; Howard Jackson, City of Ingram; Lee Sweeten, Counties; Connie Townsend, Texas Water Development Board; Feather Wilson, Bandera County; Jonathan Letz, Kerr County; Jody Grinstead; John Ashworth; Joel Pigg, Real-Edwards; Charles Wiedenfeld, representing utilities; Stuart Barron, City of Kerrville; Jerry Simpton, Val Verde County; Otila Gonzalez, Val Verde County; Thomas Qualia, Del Rio County; Ken Carver, Kinney County; Roland Trees, Real-Edwards; Zack Davis, Kinney County; Tully Shahan, Kinney County; David Jeffery, Bandera County; Grant Jackson, Naismith Engineering; Lynda Conlin; Souli Shankin, Edwards County Judge; Otilia Gonzalez, Val Verde County; Scott McWilliams;

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

Roll call was taken. Mr. Letz noted that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

II. Public Comments.

Mr. Sweeten stated that he knew the Group was aware of the drought and he believes that information really needs to be pushed out into the public. The public needs to be made aware that this is probably the worst drought ever.

III. Approval of Minutes.

Motion by Lee Sweeten to approve the minutes from the May 25, 2011 Public Meeting in Del Rio; the Public Meeting held on May 26, 2011, in Kerrville and the Regular meeting held on May 26, 2011, in Kerrville; second by Howard Jackson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. Reports.

a. Report from Chair - Jonathan Letz.

Mr. Letz informed the Group that the ending balance in the bank account for July was \$27,985.73. It was noted that Kinney County and the City of Del Rio still had not submitted their assessments fees to the PWPG.

b. Report from Secretary - Ronnie Pace.

Mr. Pace was not present. No report was given

c. Report from Political Entity – Ray Buck.

No report was given.

d. Report from Liaisons.

No report was given.

e. Report from TWDB.

No report was given.

V. Consider, discuss and approve invoices.

Motion by Ray Buck to approve mileage reimbursement for Thomas Qualia, Otilia Gonzalez and Lee Sweeten as well as transcript reimbursement for the May 26th meeting transcripts; second by Jerry Simpton. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

VI. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to appoint new members to the PWPG to replace members Perry Bushong and Kent Lowery

Mr. Letz stated one nomination, for Roland Trees, was received for Perry Bushong's replacement; and he was expecting a formal nomination for Ken Carver to replace Kent Lowery. **Motion by Lee Sweeten to appoint both Roland Trees and Ken Carver to the PWPG; second by Howard Jackson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

VII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to choose technical consultant for the 4th Regional Water Planning Cycle.

Mr. Letz informed the Group that the Executive Committee, which consisted of Ray Buck, Ronnie Pace, Jerry Simpton and himself, interviewed the two entities that submitted applications. Those being LBG Guyton and Naismith. He said the main criteria the Executive Committee considered was the lack of budget the Group has to work with and the amount of work that had to be done for the Scope of Work. Mr. Letz said the Executive Committee was very impressed with Naismith's presentation. Naismith reviewed some of the problems the PWPG has been having with the seasonal demand issues and stated they had done a lot of work in the region. Mr. Letz said the Executive Committee's recommendation is to stay with LBG Guyton as the lead consultant and use Naismith as the consulting engineering firm.

Mr. Ashworth thanked the Group for their vote of confidence and briefly reviewed the contract amounts. He suggested that the Group meet with the Water Development Board and express their concerns about the budget to see if something can be worked out in terms of how to best utilize the contracted funds to address the areas that the Group believes are most important to this region and at the same time meet the contract and scope of work.

Mr. Jackson highlighted some of the things that Naismith can assist with. He stated they have a tremendous amount of experience with the TWDB; that they have done numerous projects with them are very a familiar with their processes. He believes Naismith can bring some good things to the project that will effectively get the Group some strategies that can be implemented for the benefit of the region.

Mr Jackson shared some of the information they have regarding the population numbers and seasonal demand. He stated that it's often difficult to get information regarding specific population numbers. Most of those numbers come from the census or from various projections of the Texas State Data Center; but currently there really is no good mechanism in the population planning process to look at these transient populations. He briefly spoke regarding various ways to account for transient populations.

Motion by Lee Sweeten accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee and use LBG Guyton as the lead consultant and use Naismith as the consulting engineering firm; second by Howard Jackson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

VIII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to authorize the Executive Committee and Political Subdivision to negotiate final contract with technical consultant for the 4th Regional Water Planning Cycle in accordance with the proposed Scope of Work and budget.

Motion by Lee Sweeten to authorize the Political Subdivision to negotiate the contract, with the approval of the Executive Committee, with the technical consultant for the 4th Regional Water Planning Cycle; second by Tully Shahan. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the budget the Planning Group has been given for the contract. It was agreed that as much money as the Water Development Board would allow needed to be shifted to help determine accurate demand numbers. Mr Buck stated that the way it is currently divided up there's not enough money in any task to fully address that task; so the Planning Group needs to prioritize the tasks. Mr. Letz agreed that the first task is figuring out how much money the Planning Group has for each task. He suggested that maybe some of the funds from the administrative account could be used to supplement the money the Planning Group gets from the Water Development Board. Mr. Ashworth suggested that he get together with Naismith and together they would come up with a plan on how address the Water Development Board regarding the demand issue. He stated the Board will want specific reasons on why the money is needed and how it will be used. He stated they would develop a plan and get back to the Group with their recommendations.

IX. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to authorize the Political Subdivision to execute the final contract with technical consultant for the 4th Regional Water Planning Cycle and forward same to TWDB.

Motion by Howard Jackson to authorize the Political Subdivision to execute the final contract with the Water Development Board; second by David Jeffery. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

X. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action concerning requirements imposed by SB660 concerning PWPG membership. Mr. Letz stated that he believes the requirements of SB660 are that each GMA that is covered by the PWPG region shall appoint a voting member, to the Regional Planning Group. For the PWPG those would include GMA's 7, 9 and 10. Ms. Townsend stated they also have to have GCDs that exists. If the GMA is part of the region, but there aren't any GCD's then the GMA would not have a member. A brief discussion ensued regarding the Group membership. It was stated that it would be up to the GMA to appoint a member to represent them in the Group. Mr. Letz stated that nothing needed to be done until the GMAs nominate someone. Ms. Townsend stated that because it has to be when GCDs exist in the overlap, the member has to come from the GCDs in the overlap; they can't have somebody from a completely different area come in and be the GMA representative for this region. She also stated there was no time limit. The GMA's could appoint someone tomorrow or a year from now. She went on to say that each person can only represent one entity at a time; if a person is representing water districts here, they can't represent water districts in their GMA. Also the PWPG members cannot represent two GMAs. The Group can either increase the number of members it has, or reshuffle the existing members, once designations have been received from the GMA's.

XI. Set Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for October 20, 2011, at 10:00 AM in Real County, TX.

XII. Adjournment