

Minutes
Plateau Water Planning Group
REGULAR MEETING
Initiated and Chaired at
Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center (GBNRC)
125 Lehmann Drive, Ste. 100
Kerrville, Texas
April 20, 2023
10:00 AM

Notice having been given, a Regular Meeting of the Plateau Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Thursday, April 20, 2023, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was initiated and chaired at GBNRC, 125 Lehmann Drive, Ste. 100, Kerrville, Texas. **Present in person:** Tara Bushnoe, Kerr County; Charlie Wiedenfeld, Kerr County; Scott Loveland, Kerr County; Hayli Hernandez for David Mauk, Bandera County; Carlos Velarde, Val Verde County; Brian Leiker, Real County; Lann Bookout, Texas Water Development Board; Andrew Feigenbaum, WSP; Tammy Thompson, UGRA; Matthew Wilkinson, UGRA (hosted the meeting); Jody Grinstead; Genell Hobbs, Kinney County; Dell Dickinson, Val Verde County; David Jeffery, Bandera County; Kenneth Reed, Edwards County and Tony Smith, Carollo Engineering.**Present via Zoom:** Max Martin, Edward/Val Verde/Kinney County; Feather Wilson, Bandera County; Tully Shahan, Kinney County; Jennifer Jackson (Herrera), Frances Lovett; Diana Nichols; Ron Duke, Tomas Rodrigues; Darlene Shahan and Saheli Majumda, WSP .

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

It was determined that a quorum was present.

II. Public Comments.

No public comments were made.

III. Approval of minutes from the January 26, 2023 Regular Meeting.

Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to approve the January 26, 2023 minutes; second by Genell Hobbs. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

IV. Reports.

a. Report from Chair.

The balance in the bank account is \$11,570.72

b. Report from Secretary.

No report was given.

c. Report from Political Entity.

Ms. Bushnoe stated that the Interlocal Agreement with Kerr County for administrative services performed by Jody Grinstead has been approved; Kerr County can now invoice UGRA for admin services and appropriate fees (transcription/postage etc.).

d. Report from Liaisons.

Mr. Wilson gave a brief update on Regions K and L.

e. Report from GMA representatives.

Ms. Hobbs gave a brief update on GMA10

- V. **Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve invoices.**
Motion by Tully Shahan to approve the following invoices: WSP (3/4/23 to 3/31/23) - \$2,510.44, WSP (2/4/23 to 3/3/23) - \$3,627.94, WSP (1/1/23 to 2/3/23) - \$5901.77 and JP Morgan (GMR Transcription – 1/26/23 meeting) - \$308.00; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. 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.**
There were no invoices to present at this time.
- VII. **Texas Water Development Board Updates.**
Mr. Bookout stated that TWDB is reassessing the Plumbing Code Saving numbers that were applied to date for the population-based demands. Therefore that data base could change slightly.
- VIII. **WSP Presentation – Review, Discuss and Potentially Take Action**
- a. **Update on the regional water planning schedule**
Mr. Feigenbaum reviewed the deadlines:
July, 14, 2023 - all non-municipal projection revisions are due
August 2023 – population and municipal revisions are due
March 2024 – Technical Memos are due
- b. **Non-municipal water demand projections**
Mr. Feigenbaum reviewed the projections. He stated the general recommendation was to take a conservative approach (i.e. use the maximum annual historical water use estimate from 2011 to 2020 in place of the 2026 TWDB proposed projections). Ms. Jackson stated that they have been working with the GCD's to get accurate numbers.
- Mr. Feigenbaum briefly discussed irrigation, mining livestock and manufacturing numbers for each of the counties. Ms. Jackson spoke briefly regarding the livestock numbers and how they tried to account for exotics.
- Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to utilize the maximum annual historical water use estimate for the 2026 water demand projections for all non-municipal categories; second by Genell Hobbs. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**
- c. **Population and municipal water demand projections**
Mr. Feigenbaum reminded the group that this is a census plan so there is updated data for this cycle. In the past TWDB has altered population projections in certain counties by holding them flat, but since this was a census year there are instances where there are projected declining populations. Mr. Smith stated that there haven't been declines in population since the second round of planning approximately 15 years ago. Mr. Feigenbaum went on to discuss his handouts entitled "2021 Plateau Region Populations Projections" and "2026 Plateau Region Population Projections" in detail. It was noted that there was a typographical error in the column headers on the handouts (the 2020 data should actually read 2030). Ms. Jackson stated that the main purpose of the handouts is to show the group what the Water Development Board provided consultants, which is their proposed population projections using the full migration scenario.

Mr. Feigenbaum went through WSP's assessment of full migration versus half migration population run rates for each county, noting that using the full migration rate Kerr County is the only county that had population increase from previous cycles. He stated that they are recommending utilizing the full migration scenario for Bandera and Kerr Counties, and utilizing the half migration scenario for all other counties. Mr. Feigenbaum discussed each county individually. Many of the planning group members disagreed with the projected numbers. Mr. Smith reminded the group that they are not taking action on the population municipal numbers today and that Andrew and Jennifer will work with the planning group members to determine any recent developments (i.e. more connections). A brief discussion ensued regarding the transient population (which will get captured in the per capita usage – not the population number explicitly). Mr. Martin stated that he did not agree with the Edward County numbers. Mr. Smith reminded the planning group members that there is an entire chapter of the plan that can be dedicated to recommendations for the planning process and for the legislature. A brief discussion ensued regarding the inaccuracy of the census numbers due to COVID. Ms. Jackson reminded the group that these numbers are just a starting point, and WSP will be working with specific entities and stakeholders and the Water Development Board to address some of these areas of concern.

Mr. Feigenbaum discussed municipal demand projections which entails residential, commercial, institutional, restaurants, hotels and camps. He noted that this is where the transient population is included along with permanent residences. He discussed TWDB's estimated baseline per capita WUG demands and reminded the planning group that this data may change and will be reissued shortly. He noted that the 2021 plan did not include any projected plumbing code savings but the 2026 plan does.

Mr. Feigenbaum reiterated that they want to make sure that all their stakeholders have their thoughts, ideas and opinions heard and evaluated. WSP would like to have any requested revisions or requests for population in the municipal water demands on or before August 11th

IX. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to reappoint Officers (Jonathan Letz – Chair; Genell Hobbs – Vice Chair; Gene Williams – Secretary) for an additional 2-year term. Current terms expire on July 27, 2023

Ms. Bushnoe stated that all of the officers were willing to continue serving in the same capacity. **Motion by David Jeffery to accept the slate of officers as presented; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld seconds. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.** The terms of service will be through the end of calendar year 2024.

X. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to purchase audio visual equipment in order to meet Open Meetings Act requirements for video conferences.

Ms. Bushnoe stated that based on feedback from Ron Ellis after the last meeting regarding the current hybrid meeting format that some changes needed to be made. UGRA employee, Matthew Wilkinson, worked with a representative from the City of Kerrville and came up with a solution to improve the consistency of the audio for the Zoom participants. The proposed audio system will also establish a way for the audience to be more clearly seen, and heard, by the Zoom participants. The cost to purchase the new equipment is approximately \$1150.00. Those fees are not reimbursable under the TWDB contract. Therefore, the request is that the funds come from the account that Kerr County holds on behalf of PWPG with a current balance of \$11,570.72. A brief discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of going back to in person meetings and not doing Zoom meetings in the future. Ms. Bushnoe stated that receiving input from Chairman Letz about the location of the meeting would be best. **Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to purchase the required equipment; second by Hayli Hernandez. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

X. Set next meeting date.

The next meeting was set for June 22, 2023.