Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2014

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Conference Room – Building 6 1340 Airport Commerce – Austin, TX

Meeting chaired by: C.E. Williams, Presiding Officer

Meeting Facilitators: TWDB support staff

Institutional Water Users	Bill Hoffman	Refining & Chemical Manufacturing	Karl Fennessey
Landscape Irrigation & Horticulture		Environmental Groups	Alternate Jennifer Walker
Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation	Carole Baker	Higher Education	Alternate Calvin Finch
Regional Water Planning Groups	C.E. Williams	Water Control & Improvement Districts	Alternate Dean Minchillo
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Cindy Loeffler	Groundwater Conservation Districts	Stacey Steinbach
Municipal Utility Districts	Donna Howe	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	Alternate Steven Bednarz
Electric Generation		Texas Department of Agriculture	David Villarreal
Mining and Recovery of Minerals	CJ Tredway	TWDB	Robert Mace
Agricultural Groups	Jay Bragg	TCEQ	Chris Loft
Rural Water Users	Lara Zent	Federal Agencies	Alternate Brian Wenberg
River Authorities	Jim Parks	Irrigation Districts	Wayne Halbert
Municipalities	Karen Guz		

Approval of Minutes from August 25, 2014

The Council took up minutes from the prior meeting. Minutes were approved.

Texas Water Development Board Update from Director Bech Bruun

Director Bruun provided an update on several items including State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT) implementation and the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) State Water Plan interactive website. The TWDB will be hosting a media tour throughout the state to announce the agency is ahead of schedule with the SWIFT rules and will be ready to begin accepting applications soon. Director Bruun also discussed the October 22, 2014 TWDB board meeting in which a presentation was given on the State Water Plan interactive website.

Update from TWDB staff Regarding Water Use of Texas Utilities, Senate Bill 181

Power Point posted on the Council website.

<u>Update from TWDB staff on Implementation of House Bill 3605, Conditioning Loans with Water Loss</u>

Power Point posting on the Council website.

<u>The Water Supply Enhancement and other Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board</u> Programs Presentation from Aaron Wendt

Power Point posted on the Council website.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

<u>Update on the Blue Legacy Awards for 2015</u>

Currently the Blue Legacy Award fund is at \$171. In order to cover the costs of all the awards, the Council needs to raise \$500. The Council agreed to pull resources to meet the desired amount.

The Council discussed options for an event to present the Blue Legacy Awards during the 2015 Legislative session. It was voted and decided to incorporate the Blue Legacy Awards presentation during Texas Water Day at the Capitol. Additionally, the Council agreed to extend the deadline for nominations until the end of January.

<u>Discussion on Future Goals and Involvement from the WCAC</u>

The Council went through several charges and brainstormed on other areas where they would like to be involved.

Members were interested in the Water IQ research that was underway and being more involved with the outreach tool. Jay Bragg discussed the previous want from other Council members to continue involvement in the promotion of water conservation education. Bill Hoffman brought up the literature library. The Council has wanted to have their own library on their website. It was brought up that this is a goal they would like to continue working toward.

The Council discussed getting more involved with drought preparedness and education.

<u>Discussion on and Action on Content for the 2014 WCAC Legislative Report</u>

The Council discussed the current status of the 2014 Legislative Report. Dr. Robert Mace (TWDB) mentioned that he would like to take one last edit on the report before it was made final. The Council agreed for Dr. Mace to read through the report and if anyone had any further changes, to send them to TWDB support staff.

Reports from Workgroups

There were no updates from workgroups as the Council has been focused on the 2014 Legislative Report.

Announcements of Conferences and Events

Reminder about the Miller/Coors field trip the next day.

<u>Discussion and Selection of Dates and Locations of Future Meetings</u>

The Council will await the next meeting date at the call of the Chair.