

\*\*\* Meeting minutes should be considered DRAFT until approved at the next council meeting. \*\*\*

## Summary of Minutes

### Water Conservation Advisory Council Meeting

Date: October 16, 2018

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: LCRA Dalchau Service Center – 3505 Montopolis Dr. Austin, TX 78744

Meeting chaired by: Karen Guz, Presiding Officer

Meeting Facilitators: Josh Sendejar, Council Staff Support

<i>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</i>	Jennifer Allis	<i>Institutional Water Users</i>	Alternate Eddy Trevino
<i>Texas Department of Agriculture</i>	Alternate David Villarreal	<i>Professional Organizations Focused on Water Conservation</i>	Carole Baker
<i>Texas Parks and Wildlife Department</i>	Cindy Loeffler	<i>Higher Education</i>	Tim Loftus
<i>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</i>	Alternate Steve Bednarz	<i>Agricultural Groups</i>	Jay Bragg
<i>Texas Water Development Board</i>	Kevin Kluge	<i>Refining and Chemical Manufacturing</i>	Craig Elam
<i>Regional Water Planning Groups</i>	Aubrey Spear	<i>Electric Generation</i>	Gary Spicer
<i>Federal Agencies</i>	Maria Martinez	<i>Mining and Recovery of Minerals</i>	CJ Tredway
<i>Municipalities</i>	Karen Guz	<i>Landscape Irrigation and Horticulture</i>	Anai Padilla
<i>Groundwater Conservation Districts</i>	Alternate Vanessa Escobar	<i>Water Control and Improvement Districts</i>	Alternate Dustan Compton
<i>River Authorities</i>	Valerie Miller	<i>Rural Water Users</i>	Celia Eaves
<i>Environmental Groups</i>	--	<i>Municipal Utility Districts</i>	Donna Howe
<i>Irrigation Districts</i>	Wayne Halbert		

Also present: Scott Swanson, Ryan Skrobarczyk, Allen Berthold, Stephanie deVilleneuve, James Hemple, Shayna Johnson, Natalie Houston, Jessica Woods, Sapna Mulki.

10:00 a.m. Registration

10:30 a.m. Call to Order

#### 1. Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

Kathleen Jackson (Board Member of the Texas Water Development Board) spoke briefly thanking the Council for the work they are doing in terms of water conservation for the state.

#### 2. Approval of minutes from the September 6, 2018 meeting

The minutes were approved as written.

#### 3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

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#### 4. Update from Texas Water Development Board

The TWDB has authorized \$600,000 for the Agricultural Conservation Grant Program. The grants will be used specifically for equipment cost share and system improvement projects.

The Public Education Campaign currently in development should roll out in January 2019.

Municipal Conservation Tool beta testing is currently underway.

- a. Training on the product for TWDB staff will occur in November.
- b. The tool should be available for public use in early December.
- c. A recorded training video on the tool should be available to the public.

#### 5. Reports from Workgroups

The nomination period for the 2019 Blue Legacy Awards will be opened until December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Funding for the Blue Legacy Awards is still needed. Please contact Carole Baker or visit the 'Become a Partner' page on [www.texaswater.org](http://www.texaswater.org).

#### 6. Discussion of and Action on the 2018 Legislative Report

##### a) Revisions to Legislative Recommendations

###### Recommendation 2: Public Awareness Campaign

The language of the recommendation has been changed from "the' statewide public awareness campaign" to "a' statewide public awareness campaign". There was also a portion of the Wholesale Water Conservation section where language was changed to align with 'a public awareness campaign'.

###### Recommendation 4: Enhancing the Value of Water Loss Audits

Ken Kramer provided some revisions to the end of the recommendation as discussed at the September 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to include language to make the recommendation consistent in regards to available funding in the 2019-2020 biennium.

Additionally, two funding amounts were included in the recommendation.

Discussion from the Council centered on the ending of the recommendation. The Council elected to change the language to say "...for the biennium to the Texas Water Development Board for an expanded Water Loss Program (including 3 FTEs) to assist water utilities... competitive grants for up to six utilities)

Changes for clarity/flow

Josh has made minor changes to the report for clarity/flow.

##### b) Report Contents

###### Introduction/Executive Summary:

It was suggested that the workgroups and their function should be mentioned at the beginning of the report as several of the workgroups are mentioned throughout the report. The Council elected to have the workgroup names bulleted out as well have a bulleted list of duties for the workgroups/Council.

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#### Legislative Charges:

Intro: The Council discussed including a figure that provides water use data for Texas utilities. John Sutton mentioned that the Water Use Survey may have an existing figure which can be incorporated here.

References for the report were also discussed. A number of methods for referencing sources were brought up and the Council settled on using footnotes for references that are electronic or used only once. Any references that are used multiple times are to be cited in parenthetical form in the report and listed on the references page.

#### Legislative Recommendations:

The Council discussed making all tables and figures uniform in formatting.

For Recommendation 5 regarding funding the Texas Ag Water Efficiency and Demonstration Project, the Council discussed including the project's website in a footnote as well as including new language to clarify that this facility is no longer being used to its full potential because of the lack of funding.

#### Vote for Approval:

Jay Bragg made a motion to accept the report with discussed revisions, as well as allowing Josh to make any changes for clarity/flow/consistency.

Donna Howe seconded the motion.

20 members voted in favor of accepting the motion, with 3 members (Jennifer Allis, Kevin Kluge, and Maria Martinez) abstaining from voting.

#### 7. Presentation on Statewide Water Education Campaign

The presentation originally scheduled for this meeting had to be postponed due to scheduling conflicts.

#### 8. Announcement of conferences and events

On Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> the Texas Water Foundation will be hosting the Water, Texas Film Awards at 7:00 p.m. at AFS Cinema.

#### 9. Future Meeting Dates and Locations

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.  
LCRA Dalchau Service Center  
3505 Montopolis Dr.  
Austin, TX 78744

#### 10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.