

Minutes
Plateau Water Planning Group
REGULAR MEETING
Initiated and Chaired at
Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center (GBNRC)
125 Lehmann Drive, Ste. 100
Kerrville, Texas
January 26, 2023
10:00 AM

Notice having been given, a Regular Meeting of the Plateau Water Planning Group (PWPG) was held on Thursday, January 26, 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; Jonathan Letz, Kerr County; Charlie Wiedenfeld, Kerr County; Gene Williams, Kerr County; Scott Loveland, Kerr County; Hayli Hernandez for David Mauk, Bandera County; Carlos Velarde, Val Verde County; Brian Leiker, Real County; Ron Ellis, Texas Water Development Board; Andrew Feigenbaum, WSP Monica Thibodeaux, HGCD, Tammy Thompson, UGRA; Matthew Wilkinson, UGRA (hosted the meeting); Jody Grinstead; Katie Dahlberg, Texas Water Development Board; Kimberly Rhodes, Texas Water Development Board; Melanie McClurge (unsure of spelling); Aylson McDonald; Max Martin, Edward/Val Verde/Kinney County (arrived after roll call); Genell Hobbs, Kinney County (arrived after roll call); Wes Robinson, Kinney County (arrived after roll call).

Present via Zoom: Feather Wilson, Bandera County; Jerry Simpton, Val Verde County; Tully Shahan, Kinney County; Jennifer Jackson (Herrera), WSP Sarah Robertson, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Frances Lovett; Juan Acevedo; Tony Smith and Saheli Majumdar.

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 received.

III. Approval of minutes from the September 15, 2022 Regular Meeting.

Jennifer Herrera suggested some corrections which were incorporated into the official version of the minutes. **Motion by Charlie to approve the minutes; second by Gene Williams. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

IV. Reports.

a. Report from Chair.

Chairman Letz stated that the bank balance in the administrative account as of the end of December is \$11,878.72. He also informed the group that the next Interregional Planning Council meeting is scheduled in March and he plans to attend.

b. Report from Secretary.

No report was given.

c. Report from Political Entity.

Ms. Bushnoe gave an update regarding contract changes.

d. Report from Liaisons.

Mr. Wilson gave a brief update regarding the IH-35 Corridor pipeline

e. Report from GMA representatives.

No reports were given.

- V. **Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve invoices.**
Motion by Max Martin to approve the following invoices: WSP – 11/5/22 to 12/2/22 - \$646.63; WSP – 10/1/22 to 11/4/22 - \$798.47; WSP - 9/3/22 to 9/30/22 - \$5,730.24; WSP – 8/6/22 to 9/2/22 - \$749.10 and GMR Transcription (via JP Morgan credit card) – 9/15/22 meeting transcripts - \$217.2; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

VI. **Texas Water Development Board Updates.**

Mr. Ellis briefly discussed:

- Changes that have been made to the TWDB contracts support documentation.
- Data was sent out regarding the new infeasible water management strategy task.
- TWDB has published some new educational one-pager documents regarding:
 - Water supply and flood mitigation strategies
 - Drought of record
 - Consistency reviewsA brief discussion ensued regarding consistency reviews
- This is an active time in the lending process of Water Development Board for the State Revolving Fund programs which is federal money that the Water Development Board passes through for clean water, wastewater projects, or drinking water projects. He briefly described the process involved.
- There are new educational materials available on their website:
 - Members Guide – has general information about the planning group members role is in this whole process
 - Administrative Guidance (previously the BMP Guide)
- SWIFT Loan Program (for projects recommended in the State Plan) the application period is open through February 1st (it has been open since December 1st)
- New requirements for the 2026 Regional Water Plans:
 - Amended the Exhibit C (guidance document for the planning groups)
 - Task 4B (identification of infeasible water management strategies)
 - Senate Bill 1511
 - Task 4C (scope of work, in the contract between the board and Upper Guadalupe)
 - Task 5B (evaluation and recommendation of strategies and projects)
 - Task 7 (drought response)
 - House Bill 807 (requirement to identify unnecessary or counterproductive drought responses)
 - Droughts worse than Drought of Record
 - Task 9 (implementation survey)
 - Task 10 (Public Involvement)
- Tech Memo is due by March 4, 2024.
- For any strategies that are identified as infeasible – amendments are due by June 4, 2024. A brief discussion ensued regarding the timeline.
- The Infrastructure Finance Survey (previously Chapter 9) is no longer required. So there will be 10 chapters instead of 11.

A brief discussion ensued regarding Task 4B and 4D

VII. **Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to fill the Counties vacancy for Edwards County (previously held by Lee Sweeten).**

Chairman Letz stated that one nomination was received, from the Edwards County Judge, for Kenneth Reed. It was noted that the nomination was receive late however the group has the discretion to still accept the nomination. **Motion by Max Martin to accept the nomination of Kenneth Reed to fill the Counties vacancy for Edwards County; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

VIII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to fill the River Authority vacancy for Kerr County (previously held by Ray Buck).

Chairman Letz stated that two nominations were received for Tara Bushnoe; one from UGRA and one from City of Kerrville. **Motion by Max Martin to accept the nominations for Tara Bushnoe to fill the River Authority vacancy for Kerr County; second by Wes Robinson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

IX. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to reappoint Tara Bushnoe to serve as the PWPG Alternate for the Interregional Planning Council.

Chairman Letz reminded the group that Tara was appointed at the last meeting. However since she was not a member at the time she could not officially be appointed. **Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to reappoint Tara Bushnoe to serve as the PWPG Alternate for the Interregional Planning Council; second by Max Martin. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

X. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve budget revision moving \$15,000 from “Contractor (Political Subdivision) Salaries and Wages” to “Subcontract Services” and moving \$8,865 from Contractor (Political Subdivision) Other Expenses” to “Subcontract Services” to cover administrative duties performed by Kerr County employee, Jody Grinstead and associated expenses.

Chairman Letz stated that doing this makes it possible for Kerr County to get reimbursed for the cost it incurs related to the planning group (for work performed by Jody Grinstead). He explained that with most of the other regions the political subdivision handles the administrative duties. However with our region, UGRA and Kerr County split the duties. **Motion by Tully Shahan to approve budget revision moving \$15,000 from “Contractor (Political Subdivision) Salaries and Wages” to “Subcontract Services” and moving \$8,865 from Contractor (Political Subdivision) Other Expenses” to “Subcontract Services” to cover administrative duties performed by Kerr County employee, Jody Grinstead and associated expenses; second by Max Martin. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

XI. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to authorize UGRA to enter into a subcontract with Kerr County to subcontract administrative labor and associated expenses to support the Planning Group (service performed by Kerr County employee, Jody Grinstead).

Motion by Wes Robinson to authorize UGRA to enter into a subcontract with Kerr County to subcontract administrative labor and associated expenses to support the Planning Group (services performed by Kerr County employee, Jody Grinstead); second by Tully Shahan. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

XII. Presentation by Katie Dahlberg (TWDB) regarding the different methodologies used for calculating the draft irrigation, mining, population and municipal water demand projections.

Ms. Dahlberg presented the information to the planning group.

XIII. Set next meeting date.

The next meeting was set for April 20, 2023 at 10:00 AM in Kerrville.