

**Minutes**  
**Plateau Water Planning Group**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Initiated and Chaired at**  
**Guadalupe Basin Natural Resources Center (GBNRC)**  
**125 Lehmann Drive - Auditorium**  
**Kerrville, Texas**  
**April 25, 2024**  
**10:00 AM**

Notice having duly been given the Plateau Water Planning Group (PWPG) conducted a Regular Meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2024, beginning at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was initiated and chaired at GBNRC, 125 Lehmann Drive, Auditorium, Kerrville, TX 78028. **Present in person**: Jonathan Letz, Kerr County; Tara Bushnoe, Kerr County; Charlie Wiedenfeld, Kerr County; Brian Leiker, Kerr/Edward/Bandera; Tooter Trees, Real County; Genell Hobbs, Kinney County/GMA7; Carlos Velarde, Val Verde County; Jerry Simpton, Val Verde County; Dell Dickinson, Val Verde County; Mike Mecke; Carol Faulkenberg, Texas Department of Agriculture; Tony Smith, Carollo Engineering; Lann Bookout, Texas Water Development Board; Jennifer Jackson, Carollo Engineering; Stuart Barron, City of Kerrville; Chris Clark, City of Kerrville; Lindsey Elkins, Texas Parks and Wildlife; Greg Velazquez, City of Del Rio; Art Villareal, City of Del Rio, Matthew Wilkinson, UGRA (hosted the meeting); Jody Grinstead, Admin. Asst.; Jess Erlund, Kerr County (arrived late); Charlie Hastings (arrived late) **Present via Zoom**: Max Martin, Edward/Val Verde/Kinney County; Feather Wilson, Bandera County; Tully Shahan, Kinney County; Hayli Hernandez for Dave Mauk, Bandera County; Diane McMahon; Diana Nichols and Jennifer Badhwar, Texas Water Development Board.

**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 February 22, 2024 Regular Meeting.**

**Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to approve the February 22, 2024 minutes; second by Tara Bushnoe. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**IV. Reports.**

**a. Report from Chair.**

Chairman Letz stated the administrative account has a balance of \$11,074.32

**b. Report from Secretary.**

No report was given.

**c. Report from Political Entity.**

Ms. Bushnoe stated they were able to close out the contract with WSP.

**d. Report from Liaisons.**

No report was given.

**e. Report from GMA representatives.**

No report was given.

**V. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve new invoices.**

**Motion to Charlie Wiedenfeld to pay to following invoices: WSP 12/2/23 to 12/29/23 - \$1,573.05, PWPG legal fees (reimbursed to UGRA) - \$892.50 and Transcripts for 2/22/24 meeting - \$85.25; second by Tara Bushnoe. 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. Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to approve administrative expenses (total of \$871.97 - \$745.47 for administrative fees and \$126.50 for transcription fees); second by Genell Hobbs. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**VII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to announce vacancy for Rene Villareal (Kinney County) and Tooter Trees (Real County).**

Mr. Letz stated that Tooter Trees was at today's meeting and wishes to remain a member of the Planning Group. Ms. Villarreal no longer works for Kinney County GCD so a vacancy notice will be posted for her position on the Planning Group. **Motion by Genell Hobbs to post the vacancy notice for Rene Villarreal; second by Charlie Wiedenfeld. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**VIII. Report from Carollo on the schedule of Regional Water Planning.**

Jennifer Jackson reviewed the upcoming deadlines:

June 5, 2024 - TWDB deadline for any kind of amendments if infeasible water management strategies were found (does not apply to Region J)

May 3, 2024 – deadline for Tech Memo (based on approval of request for extension)

March 2025 – Draft of Plateau Water Plan due

She reviewed the information that was discussed at the October 2023 meeting:

Approved list of major water/wholesale water providers

Reviewed service water sources, supply analysis, hydrologic variance request and surface water availability

Discussion regarding groundwater sources, groundwater availability methodology, DFC's and groundwater availability (MAG's)

Reviewed process for identifying any potentially infeasible WMS's

Approved process for identifying potential feasible WMS's

She briefly spoke regarding TWDB funding and how it would be used by the consultants.

**IX. Report from Carollo on the proposed Technical Memorandum for the 2026 Plateau Water Plan.**

Ms. Jackson stated that the Technical Memorandum is due at the midpoint of the planning process to ensure all planning groups across the state are on target in developing the IPP which is due in March of 2026. She noted that the Planning Group had already approved the population numbers and TWDB had generated the water demand projections (from 2030 to 2080). The consultants have done surveys, phone calls, worked with GCDs and the water utility groups to collect information around infrastructure.

She briefly discussed the TWDB's water database (DB27) and stated that once funding is allocated to the consultants they will be speaking with all the entities to determine if the strategies that were in the 2021 plan are still valid, or if some of them need to come off.

She went on discuss Handout 1 - "Plateau Region – 2026 RWP – Groundwater Source Availability Methodology" and Handout 2 – "Process for Identifying and Selecting Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies to be Evaluated for the 2026 Plateau Water Plan" which included a total of 93 strategies. She noted that the previous plan included data collected from 2008 to 2015. For this plan they are looking at historical water use pump age data, (from TWDB) for 2011 to 2021.

Tony Smith addressed the group regarding surface water availability. He noted that the planning groups hydrologic variance request was presented to TWDB and was approved.

Mr. Smith explained the difference between “source” and “supply.” He noted that there need to be strategies in place to move water from where it’s at to where it needs to be for municipal uses, industrial and agricultural uses.

A brief discussion ensued regarding brackish water and Ms. Jackson stated that she would be asking for assistance from Feather Wilson to support her in writing information that is specific to our region for Chapter 3 of the Plan.

**X. Public comment on the proposed Technical Memorandum for the 2026 Plateau Water Plan.**

No one made any public comments.

**XI. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve the Technical memorandum as required by TWDB rule.**

**Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to approve the Technical Memorandum and submit it to TWDB;  
second by Tara Bushnoe. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**XII. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve authorizing Carollo to work with TWDB on clarifications.**

**Motion by Jerry Simpton to authorize Tony Smith, or another Carollo representative, to work with TWDB on any clarifications to the Technical Memorandum; second by Genell Hobbs. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**XIII. Report from Carollo, discuss and possible action to approve the Task 5B consultant Scope of Work and Budget for evaluation of Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies.**

Mr. Smith stated that all of the (funding) dollars for regional planning are fully allocated to each region for the regional planning process and have been broken down by tasks.

Mr. Smith said that Task 5B consists of the water management strategies that are going to be evaluated and the costs associated with those tasks. TWDB requires a written notice-to-proceed, in the form of a contract amendment executed through UGRA and the consultants, before the evaluations can begin. TWDB has already allocated the funds, but prior to Carollo working on the water management strategies, Region J has to submit the Scope of Work, associated budget and the requested notice-to-proceed. The allocated budget for Region J has been set at \$145,222. Mrs. Jackson reviewed Handout 5 (2021 Plateau Water Plan Notice-to-Proceed Fee Summary) in detail with the planning group.

A brief discussion ensued regarding what the Board allows and does not allow with regards to the inclusions of strategies or strategy projects or costs associated with maintaining existing supplies, replacing existing infrastructure, expanding water distribution system capacity, delivering more water within the distribution system to address increased system growth of new retail developments, or delivering greater volumes of water within the distribution for existing or future fire protection.

**XIV. Consider, discuss and take appropriate action to approve authorizing the UGRA to submit the Plateau Water Planning Group’s request notice-to-proceed from the TWDB to begin work on Task 5B: Evaluation and Recommendation of Water Management Strategies and Projects.**

**Motion by Charlie Wiedenfeld to authorize UGRA to submit the letter or notice-to-proceed; second by Tully Shahan. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.**

**XV. Set next meeting.**

The next meeting was set for August 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.