

## **Minutes of GMA #2 Joint Planning Meeting September 13, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM in the High Plains UWCD office in Lubbock, Texas. Those attending the meeting were:

Jim Conkwright	Bruce Riggler	Harvey Everheart
Ken Carver	Jason Coleman	Matt Hogue
Gary Walker	Ferrel Wheeler	Carmon McCain
Shelby Elam	Mike McGregor	

Also present were guests, Bob Harden, Robert Bradley, Judy Reeves, Melanie Barnes, Ray Brady, Don McReynolds and Mike McGuire.

All GMA #2 member districts were represented.

The first agenda item for discussion was the appointment of an administrator and an information officer for GMA #2. Ken Carver, Permian Basin UWCD, made a motion that Jason Coleman be appointed as administrator and Jim Conkwright be appointed as information officer for GMA #2. The motion was seconded by Gary Walker. Motion carried unanimously.

The group discussed current groundwater conditions within the management area. The District's reports are as follows:

- Garza—usage was less than anticipated
- High Plains—rainfall map showed good rainfall and not as much pumping of wells
- Llano Estacado—county had good rainfall, but did use wells during the summer
- Mesa—measure 116 wells with their Aquifer Evaluation Program. Irrigation use was 50% of usual.
- Permian Basin—5 year average water levels are up
- Sandy Land—Similar water level changes from '06-'07
- South Plains—less water usage this year

Jim Conkwright gave an update on the request from High Plains to the TWDB to transfer the portions of the High Plains UWCD currently included in GMA #1 to GMA #2. The District feels that those counties are a closer management fit to GMA #2 and that Management Plans, Rules, and management schemes would be much easier to develop if all areas of the District were in GMA #2. GMAs 15 & 16 were allowed to have their boundaries redefined by the TWDB. Bob Harden, Harden & Harden Associates, in Austin, gave a summary of several aquifer boundary studies he firm has done which support the request from High Plains.

The next agenda item was to consider identifying subdivisions of the aquifer within the management area. Jason reminded the group of the discussion from their last meeting regarding the complexities of aquifer subdivisions. He then opened the floor for discussion regarding the matter of subdivisions. There was an update from Robert Bradley of the TWDB and from Bob Harden on the subject. After some additional discussion, Jason suggested that there be further discussion on hydrologic subdivisions at the next meeting.

There was no new discussion regarding minor aquifer GAMs. The minor aquifer GAMs have an estimated completion date of 2008.

The group next discussed strategies for defining future conditions of the aquifer. Jim Conkwright suggested using average annual decline as a method for defining the future condition. He noted that the fewer numbers and subdivisions within the area then the easier the process would be. Also, he again reminded the group that they had a vast amount of data from each district's monitoring wells. Harvey Everheart questioned Robert Bradley regarding the possibility of using a rolling or moving average for 5 years as a method. Jason Coleman questioned the TWDB as to the amount of time which would be required to have a GAM request fulfilled. Robert Bradley indicated that it would probably take a minimum of 3 months. There was a question regarding the regional water planning process if the DFCs are not submitted until 2010. Mr. Bradley indicated that the regions will be able to create water availability numbers to use in their planning until DFCs are finalized. Jason asked the group if they wanted to request a GAM run from the TWDB and if so what number would they request. A suggestion of a 5 yr run was made because of limited data in some districts for a 20 year run. Jason Coleman suggested that each District put together the best available water level data for their district for the 5 and 10 year periods. Then at a future meeting have those data sets so that a GAM request could be made.

Gary Walker directed the group back to agenda item #5 regarding High Plains' request to have portions of their district transferred from GMA #1 to GMA #2. He commented that he felt it was important that GMA #2 voice its support for the request.

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED:** Gary Walker moved that GMA #2 draft a letter of support for the request from High Plains UWCD #1 to the TWDB for portions of their district to be transferred from GMA #1 to GMA #2. Harvey Everheart (?) seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The group moved to agenda item #9 regarding rule revisions related to appealing the approval of desired future conditions. Harvey Everheart and Jim Conkwright attended TWDB workshops regarding this matter. New proposed rules from the TWDB are scheduled to be released on Sept. 24. They each gave a brief update from the meetings they have attended.

The group members next discussed the manner of addressing desired future conditions for GMA #2 areas not in a groundwater conservation district. Harvey Everheart noted that High Plains UWCD did notify the county judges in the "white" areas of the meeting and they were invited to attend. Jim Conkwright also informed the group that these judges have been notified of all meetings and sent pertinent materials. He also reported that at their last meeting, GMA #1, decided to invite a representative of TCEQ, as the overseeing entity of PGMA areas, to attend their future meetings.

Jason Coleman opened the floor to public comment. There was a comment expressing concern that the letter from GMA #2 in support of the High Plains boundary change request would negate a public meeting. That letter, however, is in support of the process of that request. There was comment regarding public notification of meetings. There was also a question as to the availability of water level decline maps. Harvey Everheart responded to the comment regarding meeting notices by reciting that the GMA #2 meetings are to be treated as a public meeting just as district board meetings are and posted in the same manner.

The next discussion was setting agenda items for future meetings. Jason reminded the members of their earlier discussion regarding data sets on water levels. He also raised the possibility of including a GAM request to the TWDB on the next agenda. Jason Coleman opened the discussion for a future meeting date and location. There was a suggestion for a December meeting. A tentative date of December 13, 2007 in Lamesa was set.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.