

GMA #2 Minutes
Meeting 10:00 AM, January 6, 2016
Board Room, Sandy Land UWCD
Plains, TX

Administrative Officer Jason Coleman called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

A roll call of the Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCD) participating in the joint planning Annual Meeting was performed. In attendance were High Plains UWCD # 1, voting representative, Ronnie Hopper, Sandy Land UWCD, voting representative, Amber Blount, Mesa UWCD, voting representative, Matt Farmer, Permian Basin UWCD, voting representative, Leatrice Adams, and South Plains UWCD, voting representative, Matt Hogue. Five of the Seven GCD in GMA #2, with voting members were present; therefore, a quorum was established, Llano Estacado was represented by Lori Barnes, a non-voting participant. Attendees included Ray Brady, Amy Crowell Bush, Jason Coleman, Harvey Everheart, Lindy Harris, Deanya Williams, Bill Hutchison, consultant, Donna Springer, Susan Gillette, Tracey Welch, Ross Hilburn, Kelly Young, Leland Stukey, Linda Powell, County Judge Jim Barron, J. Collier Adams, JR. and Ricky Bearden.

The floor was opened for public comment. J. Collier Adams, Jr. spoke for a brief 4-5 minutes on the private land ownership provided through the Texas State Land Grant. Mr. Adams had also sent written comments to Jason Coleman who in turn forwarded the comments to the GCD located in GMA #2. Kelly Young made a presentation concerning the ownership of the groundwater as private property.

The minutes of the April 29, 2015 meeting were presented to all attendees. Harvey Everheart read the minutes. Matt Hogue made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Amber Blount seconded the motion and it passed by a unanimous vote. Deanya Williams will post the approved minutes to the GMA #2 website.

Under Agenda Item #5, Bill Hutchison made a presentation on High Plains Groundwater Availability Model (GAM). Mr. Hutchison explained that he first had his hands on the GAM in August of 2015, thus the reason for the meeting being held in early January 2016 rather than the planned date of July, 2015. Bill provided a very lengthy report of well over 100 pages of materials. The report of 15 Initial Predictive Simulations for each of the Three Aquifers in GMA #2. The Ogallala Aquifer, Edwards Trinity (High Plains) Aquifer, and the Dockum Aquifer. The report included 15 predictive simulations for each of the Counties in the Ogallala Aquifer, as well as a chart with the predictive simulations of the changes in the Saturated Thickness as a result of the Predictive Simulations for pumping. The same Initial Predictive Simulation were presented for the Edwards Trinity (High Plains) Aquifer as well as the Initial Predictive Simulation for the Dockham Aquifer. Mr. Hutchison gave his approval for the changes this GAM provided by the slow down of pumping available as the water level declined in the cells. This was a valuable change from the old GAM that would have the pumping remain the same until the cell went "Dry".

Bill Hutchison presented the Next Steps or the Final Simulation known as Scenario 16 he would be delivering to GMA #2 along with the projected budget for the deliverables. Scenario 16 will come with all three aquifers at a cost of less than \$4,000. The Preliminary Explanatory Report will incorporate Scenario 16 into documentation of the 9 factors that must be addressed. A complete draft will be provided to GMA #2 representatives by end of February. Discuss all the revised and new data at the mid-March meeting. The cost for this segment will not exceed \$11,000. Prepare the required documentation for the designation as Not-Relevant Aquifers at a cost of not more than \$2,000. The Mid-April meeting will be to make any necessary revisions to the Revised Preliminary Explanatory Report and vote on the Proposed DFC. This segment will be a cost not to exceed \$4,000.

With regards to the Administrative/Invoicing Discussion, Mr. Hutchison reviewed the original projected cost of the project. That amount was an amount between \$20,000 and \$40,000. To date the GCD have paid for Phase 1, in the amount of \$9,000. The amounts discussed above represent an amount not to exceed \$21,000. These charges will bring the project total cost in at \$30,000. The remaining amount due to the Technical Consultant will be paid in the same allocation ratio as the \$9,000 paid for the Phase 1 project (completed).

Under Agenda Item #6, the voting members agreed that there was no reason to consider the Edwards Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Seymour, or any other minor aquifer which may be included in GMA #2. These Aquifers are non relevant for joint planning purposes.

The location of the next GMA #2 meeting was settled to be in Seminole, Texas on March 10, 2016 at Llano Estacado UWCD. Agenda items will be forwarded to the members allowing for the meeting agenda to be legally posted by each District and posted on the website as soon as the agenda items can be determined. A tentative date was set for the final meeting at which time the GCD's in GMA#2 will be voting on a proposal for the adoption of desired future conditions for the relevant aquifers within their management area before May 1, 2016. The date of the meeting is April 19, 2016 at the office of Mesa UWCD in Lamesa, TX. Agenda items will be forwarded to the members allowing for the meeting agenda to be legally posted by each District and posted on the website as soon as the agenda items can be determined.

The Notice of Meeting Agenda posted by Mesa UWCD provided for Public Comment at the end of the meeting as well as a Public Comment at the beginning. Kelly Young wished to make comment at this time. Jason Coleman ask the GCD Representatives their wishes and the Voting Members approved Mr. Young's request. Kelly once again emphasized his belief that Joint Planning was not justifiable in that the planning was infringing upon his private property rights to the groundwater beneath his land.

Ronnie Hopper made the motion to adjourn. Matt Farmer seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Harvey Everheart, Information Officer