

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
RECORD OF MEETING

First Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2018

Meeting Date: September 13, 2017
Meeting No. 55

Place: TCEQ Campus Bldg. B
Room 201A

Table of Contents

MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2017	3
CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS.....	3
STATUS REPORTS	3
ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE	3
REVIEW, DISCUSS AND APPROVE DOCUMENTTION	3
POPULAR PRESS ARTICLES	4
DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES	4
ANNOUNCEMENTS	4
PUBLIC COMMENT.....	4
ADJOURN.....	4

Subcommittee Members

Diane Boellstorff (Co-Chair)
Peggy Hunka (Co-Chair)
Peter Pope
Amy Uyen Trong
Albert Jimenez
Chris Muller
Deba Dutta
Michael Hare

Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Texas AgriLife Research
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Texas Department of State Health services (DSHS)
Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)

Agency Staff

Guy Fipps
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Affiliation

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Program

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Ser.
Water Availability Division
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Interested Parties

Anish Jantrania

Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, September 13, 2017
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, June 7, 2017
3. Outreach Events Status Report, September 2017
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities
5. Google Analytics reports on TGPC website activity, June 7, 2017 to September 13, 2017
6. *TGPC Public Outreach and Education End-of-Year Report, 2017*
7. National Groundwater Awareness Week draft Posters
8. U.S. and Texas Drought Maps, as of September 5, 2017-Public Water Supply Systems (PWSs) Affected as of September 6, 2017; partial list of PWSs Limiting Water Use
9. 2017 Water-related Conferences in Texas

MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee called the meeting to order at approximately 1:10 PM CST. POE Subcommittee members were introduced. The minutes were provided by email and reviewed at this meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events

The current Outreach Events Status Report (available on the POE Subcommittee webpage, <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/>, under the “Additional Resources” heading) was reviewed:

- AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events
 - Three since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting
 - One is planned through October 2017.
- TGPC Exhibit Booth
 - Two since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting

TWON Training Activities

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON schedule of completed, confirmed, obligated; and suggested water well one-day training events and workshops. There have been over 7742 samples or attendees at TWON events since April 2011.

TGPC Website Activity Statistics

Peggy Hunka (TCEQ) reviewed the Google Analytics activity report on the TGPC website for June 7, 2017 through September 13, 2017.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The Next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 1:00 PM CDST, in TCEQ's Building F.

REVIEW, DISCUSS AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

Reviewed TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition

Reviewed TGPC Public Outreach and Education End-of-Year Report, 2017

Three of the four topics in the current *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan* (“Plan” http://tgpc.state.tx.us/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf) were briefly discussed:

- It was announced that the Texas State and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB) Water Supply Enhancement Program was not funded during the last legislative session and would no longer be an area of focus for this committee. A suggestion was made that on-site septic systems may be an issue that the committee could address.

- Albert Jimenez (TDLR) discussed reports of abandoned water wells stating that they receive about one notification per month and recently had one in west Texas.
- Guy Fipps (Texas AgriLife) led a discussion on the status of the Texas Mesonet network and mentioned a report that would be going out for comment in November on the feasibility of an Evapotranspiration (ET) Network.
- Two possible National Groundwater Awareness posters for the Committee were presented for review. Several suggestions for changes were made.

POPULAR PRESS ARTICLES

Diane Boellstorff (Texas AgriLife Extension) requested that reprints of the Shock Chlorination Fact Sheet be funded by the POE contract with Texas AgriLife Extension. A motion was made by Albert Jimenez and seconded by Chris Muller. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES

The effects of Hurricane Harvey on private drinking water wells that were flooded by the hurricane and the process for testing and cleaning the wells was discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The current drought maps and “2017 Water-related Conferences in Texas” handout (found at the “Additional Resources” <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/> under the “Additional Resources” heading) were distributed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 PM.