

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

First Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2022

Meeting Date: September 15, 2021
Place: Virtual Videoconference
Meeting No. 71

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Subcommittee Members

Joel Pigg (Interim Co-Chair)
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)
Julia Stanford
Jessica Price
Chris Heiligenstein
David Villarreal
David Gunn
Mitch Connie
Chris Muller
Lynne Fahlquist

Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Texas Railroad Commission
Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)
Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

Other Agency Staff

Guy Fipps
John Smith
Abiy Berehe
Alan Cherepon
Grant Gibson
Cindy Hooper
Kathy McCormack
Scott Underwood

Affiliation / Program

AgriLife Extension
AgriLife Extension
TCEQ / Water Availability Division (WAD)
TCEQ / WAD
TCEQ / WAD
TCEQ / WAD
TCEQ / WAD
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MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, September 15, 2021
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, June 2, 2021
3. Outreach Events Status Report
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
5. Google Analytics reports on TGPC website activity
6. Final Draft FAQ on preparing water wells before a flood
7. Draft FAQ update on Texas ET networks
8. Draft FAQ on cistern versus hand dug wells
9. Drought Map for previous quarter
10. Upcoming water conferences

MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products, and designated TGPC members attending this Subcommittee meeting participated as an employee of their agency or organization -- not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, this Subcommittee meeting was not subject to the Open Meetings Act and it was held 100% virtually. The public was also able to attend this meeting via teleconference or videoconference at no cost.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Peggy Hunka, Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Attendees were introduced. The minutes were provided to the members by email for review prior to the meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events

The current Outreach Events Status Report was reviewed, and is available on the POE Subcommittee webpage, <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/> under the "Additional Resources" heading:

- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension) Water Well Screening:
John Smith reported that three events were held in June. Upcoming events will be held in Menard, Sutton, and Kimble Counties.
- TGPC Exhibit Booth
There was a virtual booth at the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference with 153 attendees visiting the booth.

TWON Training Activities

John Smith (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. There were two one-hour events held in June with 87 attendees. One day events were held in Weatherford, Cleburne, Fort Worth, and Brenham with a total of 171 attendees.

TGPC Website Activity Statistics

Peggy Hunka (TCEQ) reviewed the Google Analytics activity report on the TGPC web page which showed that in the previous quarter there was a 21% decrease in the number of users but a 4% increase in the average number of pages viewed per session. Organic searches shows that 647 users came to the site by typing in the address and that most visitors used Google search to find our website.

Virtual Booth

A video was shown of the *Baby Aquifer* demonstration that was written and created by Alan Cherepon and videoed by TCEQ Graphics Department staff. The video can be seen here: https://tgpc.texas.gov/POE/TGPC_1080p_23Jul2021_1_5MBs.mp4.

Annual Report

The Subcommittee reviewed the FY2021 TGPC Subcommittee Annual Report and it was approved for presentation at the October TGPC meeting.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 1:30 PM CST.

REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan Topic Updates (see: https://tgpc.texas.gov/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf):

Abandoned Wells

David Gunn (TDLR) reported no new information.

Texas Evapotranspiration Networks

Guy Fipps (Texas AgriLife) had no new information.

Septic Tanks

No report.

Publications

AgriLife Extension Reprints

There are no reprints needed at this time.

FAQs and Fact Sheets:

- Final Draft of FAQ entitled *What Do I Need to Know About Preparing a Water Well for Flooding/Storm Events?*
After discussion and minor changes, the document was approved for presentation at the October TGPC meeting.
- Final update to FAQ entitled *What Are the Texas Evapotranspiration (ET) Networks?*
Guy Fipps presented the final document for review. After discussion it was decided that the documents will be reviewed for plain language by Jessica Price (DSHS) and Julia Stanford (TAGD) and will be reviewed for final approval at the next POE Subcommittee meeting.
- Discuss draft of FAQ entitled *Cistern vs large Diameter Water Wells.*
After a discussion and minor changes, the document was approved for presentation at the October TGPC meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.