

**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

RECORD OF MEETING

Second Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2023

Meeting Date: December 7, 2022
Place: Virtual Videoconference
Meeting No. 75

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Subcommittee Members

Joel Pigg (Co-Chair)
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)
Julia Stanford
David Villarreal
David Gunn
Rebecca Storms
T.J. Helton
Linzy Foster

Affiliation

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

Other Agency Staff

John Smith
Abiy Berehe
Grant Gibson
Cindy Hooper
Kathy McCormack

Affiliation / Program

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

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, December 7, 2022
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, September 7, 2022
3. Outreach Events Status Report
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
5. Google Analytics reports on TGPC website activity
6. Draft FAQ update on Texas ET networks
7. Draft FAQ on Water Well and Real Estate
8. Drought Map for previous quarter
9. Upcoming water conferences

MEETING RECORD OF DECEMBER 7, 2022

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 was held 100% virtually. The public was able to attend this meeting via teleconference or videoconference at no cost.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:35 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 Events
 - John Smith (AgriLife Extension) reported that eight events were held in Gillespie, Culberson, Brazos, Gaines, Andrews, Lubbock, Carson, Deaf Smith, and Taylor counties where 238 samples were analyzed. He also reported that they would be in Falls County in May 2023.
- TGPC Exhibit Booth:
 - There was one event booth during the last quarter. The Texas Plant Protection Association (TPPA) conference was held in Bryan, Texas on December 6-7, 2022, with about 30 attendees stopping by the booth.

TWON Training Activities

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. During the previous quarter, TWON staff held four one-day event and eight one-hour events. Staff collected 629 samples, 240 of which were from Milam and Burleson counties. There have been over 1.835 samples or attendees at TWON events since May 2021.

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 14% decrease in the number of users and a 6% decrease in the average number of pages viewed per session. Organic searches showed that 4,066 users arrived using a web search, with Google being used most often.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 8, 2023, by Teams Videoconference at 1:30 PM.

REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

Abandoned Wells

- David Gunn (TDLR) reported that a number of hand-dug wells were discovered in northeast Texas and efforts to identify the landowners are underway. Once the landowners are identified they will be notified that the wells need to be either brought into compliance or plugged.

Texas Evapotranspiration Networks

No report

Septic Tanks

No report

Publications

AgriLife Extension Reprints

There are no reprints needed at this time.

FAQs and Fact Sheets:

After a brief review of the draft FAQ titled *How Is Pesticide Contamination of Water Wells Prevented?* it was decided that further review was required and was tabled until the next meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m.