

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

**RECORD OF MEETING**

**Third Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2022**

**Meeting Date: March 9, 2022**  
**Place: Virtual Videoconference**  
**Meeting No. 72**

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Subcommittee Members

Joel Pigg (Interim Co-Chair)  
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)  
Eric Lawrence  
Christopher Heiligenstein  
Julia Stanford  
David Villarreal  
David Gunn  
Rebecca Storms

Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)  
Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)  
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)  
Texas Department of Agriculture  
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)  
Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Other Agency Staff

John Smith  
Abiy Berehe  
Alan Cherepon  
Grant Gibson  
Cindy Hooper  
Kathy McCormack  
Scott Underwood  
Jason Godeaux

Affiliation / Program

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

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, March 9, 2022
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, December 15, 2021
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 MARCH 9, 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 1:05 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:

- AgriLife Extension Service Water Well Screening:

John Smith (AgriLife Extension) reported that one event was held in February in Anderson County and 15 samples were analyzed. Upcoming events will be held in Llano and Concho counties in May.

- TGPC Exhibit Booth:

There were no booth activities. The poster for National Groundwater Awareness Week was distributed to all member agencies and organizations earlier this year for posting on their social media platforms.

#### TWON Training Activities

John Smith (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. There was one one-hour event held in in the last quarter with 15 attendees and no one-day events.

#### 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 8% increase in the number of users and a 5% increase in the average number of pages viewed per session. Organic searches shows that 822 users arrived at the site by typing in the address, and that most visitors used Google search to find the TGPC website.

### **ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE**

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2022, by Teams Videoconference at 1:00 PM.

### **REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION**

TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan Topic Updates (see: [https://tgpc.texas.gov/POE/TGPC\\_POE\\_GW\\_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf](https://tgpc.texas.gov/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf)):

#### **Abandoned Wells**

David Gunn (TDLR) reported no new information.

### **Texas Evapotranspiration Networks**

Guy Fipps reported that Texas Water Advisory Council has formed a stakeholder meeting that will be held later this month and that TWDB formed a TexMesoNet advisory committee that will be meeting quarterly. The ET Network is beginning to bring in some of the TexMesoNet stations that meet the requirements.

### **Septic Tanks**

No report.

### Publications

#### **AgriLife Extension Reprints**

There are no reprints needed at this time. AgriLife stated it may have popular publications translated to Spanish in upcoming months.

#### **FAQs and Fact Sheets:**

There was a review of the TGPC website FAQ page for previously written FAQs that need to be updated. Each agency will review the FAQs written by staff and report at the next meeting on those that need to be updated.

Suggested FAQs include:

- How can I tell my groundwater is going dry and what can I do if it does? There was a discussion that this is very site specific and it dependent on nature such as droughts.
- I have been drinking arsenic in my water well for 10 years will I get sick? This topic is probably
- If PFAS is everywhere, how do I avoid it? PFAS is an emerging issue and may be good to start working on this FAQ.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Julia Stanford (TAGD) announced that their request for proposals for the 2022 Texas Groundwater Summit is due by March 11, 2022.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.