

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
RECORD OF MEETING  
Fourth Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2015

Meeting Date: June 9, 2015  
Meeting No.: 46

Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg F  
Room: 3202A

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>MEETING ATTENDANCE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MEETING HANDOUTS .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MEETING RECORD OF JUNE 9, 2015.....</b>	<b>3</b>
1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS .....	3
2. STATUS REPORTS .....	3
Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events – AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events, Abandoned Water Well Closures, and TGPC Exhibit Booth .....	3
TWON Training Activities .....	3
TGPC Website Activity Statistics.....	3
3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE.....	4
4. PRESENTATION.....	4
5. REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION .....	4
<i>TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition</i> .....	4
Topic Updates .....	4
Popular Press Articles.....	4
TWON Fact Sheets .....	4
Draft <i>Texas Groundwater Protection Committee</i> (TCEQ Publication GI-088) Revision .....	4
6. DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES .....	5
7. ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	5
8. PUBLIC COMMENT .....	5
9. ADJOURN.....	5

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

<u>Subcommittee Members</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Diane Boellstorff (Co-Chair)	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Kathy McCormack (Co-Chair)	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Cary L. Betz	TCEQ
Damian Blanco	TCEQ
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ
Chris Muller	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Chris Moore	Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Michael Hare	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
Ashley Wendt	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)
Lynne Fahlquist	United States Geological Survey (USGS)

## MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, June 9, 2015
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, February 3, 2015
3. Outreach Events Status Report, June 2015
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) events list, June 2, 2015
5. Google Analytics reports on TGPC website activity, January 20 – June 4, 2015, and February 23 – March 16, 2015
6. GovDelivery Bulletin Detail Report: Texas Groundwater Protection Committee Information Update, April 15, 2015
7. Draft *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee* (TCEQ publication GI-088, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-088.html>) update
8. Drought 2015 – U.S. Drought Monitor, Texas as of June 2, 2015; Public Water Supply Systems (PWSs) Affected as of June 3, 2015; U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook, May – August 2015; excerpt from the TCEQ List of Texas PWSs Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages as of June 3, 2015
9. 2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas, June 2015

## MEETING RECORD OF JUNE 9, 2015

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at approximately 1:36 PM CDST. POE Subcommittee members were introduced. There were no concerns with the record of the previous meeting.

### 2. STATUS REPORTS

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events – AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events, Abandoned Water Well Closures, and TGPC Exhibit Booth

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
  - Seven since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (203 samples)
  - None scheduled at this time
- AgriLife Extension Abandoned Water Well Closures
  - None since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting
  - None scheduled at this time
- TGPC Exhibit Booth
  - Four since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (1,865 estimated attendees)
  - Two planned through August 2015

Photos of the TGPC exhibit booth at the TCEQ Earth Day event on April 22, 2015, and the TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair on May 5 – 6, 2015, were also passed around the table.

#### TWON Training Activities

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON schedule of completed, confirmed, obligated, and suggested water well screening events and workshops. There have been over 5,266 samples or attendees at these events since April 2011. Diane Boellstorff also noted that they may work with Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District on a well closure educational program in early August 2015.

#### TGPC Website Activity Statistics

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) provided the Google Analytics report on TGPC website activity for January 30 – June 4, 2015. The average website visit duration was almost the same (1.9 vs. 1.8 minutes), but the average pages/visit was again less than what was reported at the last meeting (2.2 vs 3.7). The annual National Groundwater Awareness Week GovDelivery email generated more website activity than the quarterly TGPC meeting GovDelivery email. The TGPC website’s internal Search box did not appear to be working and was being investigated. Lynne Fahlquist (USGS) suggested that adding a QR code for the TGPC website to the TGPC’s

National Groundwater Awareness Week poster might increase visits. A GovDelivery report indicated that 11% of the TGPC's 5,078 subscribers opened the April quarterly meeting email, and 2% of those clicked the link to the TGPC homepage.

### 3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2015, at 1:30 PM CDST, in TCEQ's Building F, Conference Room 3202A.

### 4. PRESENTATION

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reviewed a draft presentation titled "Texas Groundwater Protection Committee and Abandoned Water Wells" to be given at the Industry Council on the Environment (ICE, <http://ice-texas.org/>) meeting on July 16, 2015. POE Subcommittee members provided feedback which was incorporated into the final presentation.

Chris Moore (RRC) also passed around photos of two large diameter water wells that he had observed in the Austin area.

### 5. REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

#### *TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition*

#### Topic Updates

There was no discussion 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](http://tgpc.state.tx.us/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf)) at the meeting.

#### Popular Press Articles

#### TWON Fact Sheets

There was no discussion of this topic at the meeting.

#### Draft *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee* (TCEQ Publication GI-088) Revision

The TGPC trifold brochure, *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee* (TCEQ publication GI-088, <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-088.html>) is almost 10 years old and TCEQ is running low on hard copies. With the recent establishment of the TGPC Groundwater Issues Subcommittee and the deactivation of four other TGPC Subcommittees, an update and reprint of this publication is required. Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reviewed the draft revision, and POE Subcommittee members provided feedback. A final draft would be presented at the next POE Subcommittee meeting.

## 6. DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES

There was no discussion of this topic at the meeting.

## 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The current drought maps and “2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas” handout (found at <http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/> under the “Additional Resources” heading) were distributed to POE Subcommittee members. Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) noted that, with all of the recent rain, 26 Public Water Supply (PWS) systems had dropped off the “180-day list” (i.e., PWSs that could be out of water in 180 days or less) since the last POE Subcommittee meeting.

Ashley Wendt (TSSWCB) announced that:

- StormCon (<http://www.stormcon.com/>), the North American Surface Water Quality Conference & Expo, would take place in Austin on August 2 – 6, 2015; and,
- The 75th Annual Meeting of Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Directors (<http://www.tsswcb.texas.gov/en/swcds/annualmeeting>) would take place in Corpus Christi on October 26-28, 2015.

Chris Moore (RRC) announced that Commissioner David Porter had been elected Chairman and that former Chairman, Christi Craddick, would remain as a RRC Commissioner.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 9. ADJOURN

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:27 PM CDST.