

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

Meeting Date: November 12, 2014  
Meeting No.: 44

Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg B  
Room: 201A

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## 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)
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ
Chris Muller	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Cindy Ridgeway	TWDB
Chris Moore	Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Ashley Wendt	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)
David Van Dresar	Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
David Gunn	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Nikki Dictson	Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI)

## MEETING HANDOUTS

1. November 12, 2014 Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
2. September 16, 2014 TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record
3. Outreach Events Status Report, November 2014
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) events list, November 11, 2014
5. Google Analytics report on TGPC website activity, September 16 – November 9, 2014
6. Drought 2014 – U.S. Drought Monitor, Texas as of November 4, 2014; U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook October 2014 – January 2015; Public Water Supply Systems (PWSs) Affected as of November 5, 2014; excerpt from the TCEQ List of Texas PWSs Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages as of November 5, 2014
7. 2014 – 2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas, November 2014

The following items were also on display on the handout table:

1. Aquifer Materials poster and samples
2. TWON fact sheets (AgriLife Extension publications, <http://twon.tamu.edu/fact-sheets/>):
  - Animal Manure Storage to Protect Groundwater (SC-020, September 2014);
  - Hydraulic Fracturing and your Private Water Well (SC-012, August 2014);
  - Private Drinking Water Well Basics (SC-013, April 2014);
  - Protect Your Water Well During Drought (SC-014, April 2014);
  - Storing and Handling Pesticides to Protect Groundwater (SC-016, August 2014);
  - Storing Petroleum Products to Protect Groundwater (SC-017, August 2014);
  - Managing Hazardous Materials to Protect Groundwater (SC-018, September 2014);
  - What to Do About Coliform Bacteria in Well Water (SC-022, August 2014);
  - Managing Fertilizers to Protect Groundwater (SC-023, August 2014);
  - Managing Livestock Holding Pens to Protect Groundwater (SC-019, September 2014);
  - and,
  - Maintain Your Septic System to Protect Well Water (SC-015, September 2014).

## MEETING RECORD OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:10 AM CST. 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://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees-POE-POE.php>, under “Additional Resources”) was reviewed:

- AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events
  - Four since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (268 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
  - Two since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (67 estimated attendees)
  - One planned through December 2014

#### 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 4,822 samples or attendees at these events since April 2011. Diane Boellstorff also noted that AgriLife Extension had bentonite to share with Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs), the Arroyo Colorado Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) in the Rio Grande Valley, and/or a well plugging demonstration in Grimes County.

#### TGPC Website Activity Statistics

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) provided the Google Analytics report on TGPC website activity for September 16 – November 9, 2014. The average website visit duration and the average pages per visit were very similar to those presented at the last meeting. A spike of activity on the TGPC website occurred after the last TGPC meeting GovDelivery email notice.

### 3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2015, at 1:00 PM CST, in TCEQ’s Building F, Conference Room 3202A.

#### 4. PRESENTATION

The majority of the meeting was spent reviewing three draft educational groundwater videos, *How Aquifers Work*, *Groundwater Budget and Availability Models*, and *Using Groundwater Availability Models in Water Planning* presented by Cindy Ridgeway (TWDB). The videos were well received by POE Subcommittee members and constructive feedback was provided. TWDB plans to make the four videos (including *Aquifers in Texas* which had been presented at the POE Subcommittee meeting on March 5, 2014) publicly available next year.

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

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

##### Topic Updates

Regarding the four topics in the current *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan* (“Plan”, [http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees/POE/TGPC\\_POE\\_GW\\_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf](http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf)):

- Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reported that the TGPC online map (available at <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/WaterWells.php#Aband>) had been updated and the number of districts in the state reporting cost-share, loan, grant, or other types of funding for plugging abandoned water wells within their district more than doubled from last year (eight in 2013, and 17 in 2014).

##### Popular Press Articles

##### TWON Fact Sheets

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension) shared 11 published TWON fact sheets with POE Subcommittee members.

##### *Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* update

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension) reported that Ron Kaiser (Texas A&M University) still planned to have a draft update of *Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* (AgriLife Extension publication B-612, available at <http://www.agrilifebookstore.org/Default.asp>) by December 1, 2014, and he may ask the TGPC POE Subcommittee to provide feedback on portions of it.

#### 6. DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES

There was no discussion of this topic.

## 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The current drought maps and “2014 – 2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas” handout (found at <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees-POE-POE.php> under the “Additional Resources” heading) were distributed to POE Subcommittee members.

## 8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 9. ADJOURN

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:22 AM CST.