

## GROUNDWATER RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING RECORD

### TIME AND DATE:

9:00 AM, October 21, 2004

### LOCATION:

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Campus, Building F, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Meeting Room 2210, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, Texas 78753.

### PURPOSE OF MEETING:

Regular business meeting

### AGENCIES/ENTITIES REPRESENTED:

Bureau of Economic Geology [BEG]  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality [TCEQ]  
Texas Department of Agriculture [TDA]  
Texas Water Development Board [TWDB]  
Texas Water Resources Institute [TWRI/TAES]  
United States Geological Survey [USGS]

### ATTENDEES:

Bridget Scanlon	BEG, Co-chair of the GW Research Subcommittee of the TGPC
Allan Jones	TWRI, Co-chair of the GW Research Subcommittee
Mary Ambrose	TCEQ, Chairman of TGPC
Radu Boghici	TWDB
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ
Richard Eyster	TDA
Lynne Fahlquist	USGS
Joseph L. Peters	TCEQ

### MEETING SUMMARY:

After calling the meeting to order Dr. Scanlon had everyone present introduce themselves.

Immediately following, three different documents were handed out by Ms. Ambrose. One, dated October 5, 2004, is the version of the Recommendations for Research that was sent to all the TGPC members by Mr. Frank Fuller. The second document, dated October 21, 2004, is the same document but with Ms. Ambrose's revisions. The third document is a double underline/strikeout version showing where all the changes were made in the second document. Ms. Ambrose has also numbered the recommendations and added page numbers to facilitate discussions and further development of the document. Ms. Ambrose indicated that, at the full Committee meeting, it will need to be decided if the recommendations need to be ranked. Also, she indicated that price tags will need to be added for each recommendation.

Dr. Scanlon suggested that we go through all the recommendations that originated from the

Groundwater Research Subcommittee, to determine what additional work needs to be done in their development.

Numbers 3 and 5 originated from TWDB; number 6 from Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR); and numbers 4, 7, 8, 9, and 10 from the Groundwater Research Subcommittee.

Dr. Jones pointed out that recommendations 3, 4, and 5 are all related to the GAM. Ms. Ambrose pointed out more specifically that 3 is to support the GAM modeling itself, 4 is to support data gathering for the GAM modeling, and 5 is for water quality monitoring, which would support GAM, but would also have a wider application.

It was suggested by Ms. Ambrose and Dr. Scanlon that it would probably be better to have a smaller number of recommendations, and therefore, it may be advantageous to combine some of the related recommendations.

Ms. Ambrose indicated that she was considering how to present the recommendations in a Power Point presentation. She indicated that she would like to group them by topic; for instance some are really strong on water conservation, some on water quality, and others on management or enforcement support. She anticipated using text taken from the *Groundwater Protection Strategy* for introducing each category. Ms. Ambrose expressed her desire that the full TGPC, in their afternoon meeting, would decide how to finalize the recommendations – how to group them and how to present them to the Legislature.

The hardest thing is to come up with some kind of price tag for each recommendation. Dr. Jones pointed out that the first one, **Brush Control Funding to Increase Groundwater Yield**, and the last, number 11, **Conversion of State Water Well Reports to Electronic Format/Database**, already had cost estimates.

From here the discussions continued on each subject grouping of recommendations, starting with those related to the GAM modeling. Discussion centered heavily on costs and how to determine costs.

Recommendations 3, 4, and 5, those relating to GAM modeling, were discussed first. Second, recommendation 7, **Research on the Disposal of Desalination Reject Water in Saline Aquifers and Depleted Oil and Gas Reservoirs**, was discussed. It was decided that number 8, **Groundwater Quality Education Programs**, would be discussed later, after our meeting, when Dr. Bruce Lesikar would be present. Recommendation 9, **Community Assistance on Alternative Water Supplies**, was discussed next. The last recommendation to be discussed was number 10, **Research on Sources of Elevated Nitrate Concentrations in Texas Groundwater**. Discussions were to continue in the Agricultural Chemicals Subcommittee Meeting and the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee meeting, later the same day. The meeting ended at about 10:25 A.M.

**Information Item:** The decision was made at the TGPC meeting in the afternoon that the next meeting date for the TGPC, the ACS, and the GWRS will be January 13, 2005. The GWRS meeting will take place at 9:00 AM, at the same location (given above).

Minutes prepared by Joseph L. Peters, November 16, 2004

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