# TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE RECORD OF MEETING

Fourth Quarterly Meeting, Fiscal Year 2015

Meeting Date: July 15, 2015 Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg F

Meeting No.: 111 Room: 2210

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#### MEETING ATTENDANCE

<u>Committee Members</u> <u>Affiliation</u>

Cary Betz Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

(TCEQ)

Janie Hopkins Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Chris Moore Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

Deba Dutta Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS)

David Villarreal Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)

T.J. Helton Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

(TSSWCB)

Sarah Rountree Schlessinger Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)

Kevin Wagner Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife

Research)

Linda Ruiz McCall University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology

(UTBEG)

David Gunn Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

(TDLR)

Agency Staff **Affiliation Program** Damian Blanco Water Availability Division TCEQ Bill Carter TCEQ Water Quality Planning Division Water Availability Division Alan Cherepon TCEQ Remediation Division Paul S. Lewis TCEQ Kathy McCormack TCEQ Water Availability Division Water Availability Division Kelly Mills TCEQ Greg Tipple Water Supply Division TCEQ L. Scott Underwood Water Availability Division TCEQ

Interested PartiesAffiliationEmil BailesHillCo Partners

Lynzy Brakefield United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Lynne Fahlquist USGS

Vicky Kennedy Travis County

Jon Thomas USGS

## **MEETING HANDOUTS**

- 1. Agenda for Texas Groundwater Protection Committee meeting on July 15, 2015
- 2. Record for Texas Groundwater Protection Committee meeting on April 22, 2015
- 3. Summary of Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting, June 9, 2015
- 4. Drought 2015 U.S. Drought Monitor, Texas, July 7, 2015; Public Water Supply Systems Affected, July 8, 2015; U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook, June September 2015; TCEQ List of Texas Public Water Systems (PWSs) Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages, July 10, 2015
- 5. TCEQ Rules Update, 7/14/2015
- 6. Protect Your Groundwater Day 2015
- 7. 2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas, July 2015
- 8. TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference program

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

- 1. TGPC Public Information Act Policy
- 2. Various USGS publications

#### **MEETING RECORD OF JULY 15, 2015**

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Cary Betz (TCEQ), Designated Chairman of the Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC), called the meeting to order at approximately 1:09 PM CDST. TGPC members then introduced themselves. The representative from TAGD was not present at the beginning of the meeting. Cary Betz also announced that Kelly Mills (TCEQ) was the new Assistant Director for the Water Availability Division.

#### 2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Groundwater Issues

Chris Moore (RRC) reported that the TGPC Groundwater Issues Subcommittee had met that morning and started with input from representatives from the four deactivated subcommittees in order to wrap up any outstanding issues. The TGPC Groundwater Classification System was discussed, and a Task Force consisting of TCEQ, TWDB, RRC, and TAGD representatives was formed that would develop a strategy for addressing the TGPC Groundwater Classification System. Current groundwater quality issues were also discussed. The next Groundwater Issues Subcommittee meeting will be scheduled on the morning of the next TGPC meeting.

#### Public Outreach and Education

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reported that the TGPC POE Subcommittee last met on June 9, 2015, seven state and federal agencies and organizations were represented, and the current Outreach Events Status Report (available on the POE Subcommittee webpage, <a href="http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcomittee/">http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcomittee/</a>, under the "Additional Resources" heading) was reviewed:

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

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.

The Google Analytics activity report on the TGPC website for January 30 – June 4, 2015 was reviewed. 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.

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

The TGPC trifold brochure, *Texas Groundwater Protection Committee* (TCEQ publication GI-088, <a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-088.html">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-088.html</a>) 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. A draft revision was reviewed and POE Subcommittee members provided feedback. A final draft would be presented at the next POE Subcommittee meeting.

The next POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for September 10, 2015.

Sarah Rountree Schlessinger (TAGD) arrived at approximately 1:20 PM CDST and was present for the remainder of the meeting.

#### 3. PRESENTATION

Jonathan Thomas (USGS) and Lynzy Brakefield (USGS) presented an overview of recent groundwater activities and studies of the USGS Texas Water Science Center. Several national groundwater census programs were summarized (e.g., regional availability, brackish groundwater, the National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program, and groundwater monitoring networks), along with selected Texas-specific studies, including:

- Southern High Plains Study;
- Database Development and Data Compilation;
- Hydrogeologic Model;
- Groundwater Quality and Geochemistry Sampling;
- Web Application;
- Saline Zone Study;
- Vertical Borehole Flow and Hydraulic Properties;
- Equivalent Freshwater Head;
- MODFLOW to SEAWAT;

- Parameter and Forecast Uncertainty;
- Subsidence and Groundwater Level Monitoring;
- San Marcos Springs; and,
- Geologic and Hydrostratigraphic Mapping.

#### 4. BUSINESS DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Agency Legislative Roundtable Discussion – Committee Members Will Discuss Groundwater Legislation Passed by the 84th Legislature and Its Effect on Their Respective Agencies

The following representatives reported on 84th Legislature bills that affected their agency or organization:

- Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that:
  - o Eight bills passed related to Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs), but they did not directly or indirectly impact TCEQ.
  - o House Bill (HB) 30 (effective immediately) relates to the development of seawater and brackish groundwater.
    - No rulemaking or other changes to policy and procedure would be required for TCEQ for this Act.
  - o HB 200 (effective September 1, 2015) amends Texas Water Code (TWC) Chapter (§) 36 relating to the regulation of groundwater. The Act amends §36.0015 by adding a definition for 'best available science' and clarifying that GCDs are the state's preferred method of groundwater management in order to protect property rights, balance the conservation and development of groundwater to meet the needs of this state, and use the best available science in the conservation and development of groundwater through rules developed, adopted, and promulgated by a GCD.
    - No rulemaking or other changes to policy and procedure would be required for TCEQ for this Act.
  - o HB 655 (effective immediately) amends the TWC to set out provisions relating to the storage and recovery of water in aquifers.
    - Affected Statutes include TWC §11.153(a)-(c), §11.155, Chapter 27, and Chapter 36, and repeals TWC §§11.153(d) and (e) and 11.154. Rules are to be adopted by May 1, 2016.
  - HB 2031 (effective immediately) relates to the diversion, treatment, and use of marine seawater and the discharge of treated marine seawater and waste resulting from the desalination of marine seawater. This bill creates TWC Chapter 18 to address marine seawater desalination projects.
    - No changes will be needed for 30 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 290 because the rules currently cover "water secured from surface sources".
  - O HB 2230 (effective September 1, 2015) amends TWC Injection Well Act to authorize the TCEQ to authorize by individual permit, by general permit, or by rule a Class V injection well for the injection of nonhazardous brine from a desalination operation or nonhazardous drinking water treatment residuals into a Class II injection well that is also permitted by the RRC.

- o HB 2767 (effective June 10, 2015) amends TWC Chapter 36 relating to the powers, duties, and administration of GCDs.
  - The Act will require agency rulemaking but will not have an appreciable effect on TCEQ otherwise. The Act repeals §36.1082, Petition for Inquiry, from the part of Chapter 36 related to joint planning by GCDs in groundwater management areas and moves these provisions into Subchapter I, Performance Review and Dissolution. The applicable rules that will need to be amended to conform statutory references are 30 TAC §§293.20, 293.22, and 293.23.
- HB 4097 (effective September 1, 2015) relates to seawater desalination projects. This bill creates TWC Sections 11.1405 and 26.0272 and amends TWC Sections 27.021 and 27.025 to address marine seawater desalination for industrial purposes.
  - The bill requires rulemaking to develop an expedited permit process for the diversion of marine seawater. The bill will require rulemaking changes to 30 TAC Chapters 295 and 297. In addition, TCEQ may need to update or create water right application forms/packets for these permit applications.
- O Senate bill (SB) 912 (effective September 1, 2015) amends TWC §26.039 to exempt an individual who operates, is in charge of, or is responsible for the activity or facility from which an accidental discharge or spill occurs that causes or may cause pollution from the requirement to notify the appropriate authority of the discharge or spill within 24 hours for certain discharges or spills that occur at a wastewater treatment or collection facility owned or operated by a local government and to require the individual to submit a monthly summary of such discharges and spills to the TCEQ.
  - Prior to the 76th Legislature, water and wastewater permit holders were required to inform the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) within 24 hours in the event of a spill or accidental discharge. Beyond TNRCC notification there was no requirement to inform potentially affected citizens around the spill site. HB 1074 76(R) 1999 was passed, largely in reaction to a wastewater spill into Brushy Creek that affected Public Water Supply wells that were Groundwater Under the Influence of Surface Water and resulted in an outbreak of illness due to Cryptosporidium bacteria. HB 1074 required that notice given to TNRCC must include the location, volume, and content of the discharge or spill. This bill also required that notice be given to appropriate local government officials and local media. SB 912 effectively reverses the requirements put into place by HB 1074 for smaller discharges.
- Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that:
  - Passage of HB 30 appropriated \$1,849,233 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 and \$150,767 in FY 2017 out of the General Revenue Fund for the TWDB to:
    - Hire two Full Time Employees (FTEs) in the Innovative Technologies Group by September 2015;
    - Award four contracts (\$400,000 total) that will require TWDB, through Board approval, to 1) post Request for Applications (RFAs) by October 15, 2015, and 2) contract with recommended contractors to map these four aquifers (or parts) by December 2016:

- Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer from the Colorado River to the Rio Grande;
- Gulf Coast Aquifer and sediments bordering it;
- Blaine Aquifer; and,
- Rustler Aquifer.
- Award contracts for the remaining aquifers (total funding and due dates unknown) through the same process; and,
- Produce, contingent upon Board approval, the report on the four aquifers within the biennial desalination progress report (TWC Section 16.060) by December 1, 2016.
- Passage of HB 1, Rider 25, for demonstration projects or feasibility studies for alternative water supplies, appropriated \$1,000,000 out of the General Revenue Fund for the TWDB to:
  - Award grants through a competitive process to GCDs; and,
  - Select only GCDs that provide matching funds.
- o Passage of HB 1232, with no appropriation of funds, requires the TWDB to:
  - Conduct a study of the hydrology and geology of the confined and unconfined aquifers in the state;
  - Evaluate and map the quality and quantity of groundwater, specifically the salinity of those aquifers;
  - Define those aquifers which are tributary or non-tributary, the contribution of those aquifers to any surface flow of any water, and the contribution of those aquifers to any other aquifer in the state; and,
  - Complete the final report by December 31, 2016.
- Chris Moore (RRC) reported that there had not been any groundwater-related legislation passed by the 84th Legislature that directly affected their agency.
- Deba Dutta (DSHS) reported that there had not been any groundwater-related legislation passed by the 84th Legislature that directly affected their agency.
- David Villarreal (TDA) reported that a number of bills related to water and agriculture had died in committee, including the growing of hemp instead of cotton for fiber production; however, the following bills did pass:
  - SB 551, which permits the Water Conservation Advisory Council to make recommendations to the Legislature; and,
  - o SB 1734, regarding the control of invasive Giant Cane (*Arundo donax*) which can affect border security and groundwater levels.
    - In addition, the Legislature did not approve the establishment of a TDA Office of Water, but TDA subsequently created one, although there is currently no staff
- David Gunn (TDLR) reported that there had been a number of bills that passed which affected their agency including reinstatement of the unlicensed water well driller's apprentice program.
- Kevin Wagner (AgriLife Research) reported that there had not been any groundwaterrelated legislation passed by the 84th Legislature that directly affected their agency, but they did obtain funding for \$3,000,000 to be split between three groups for water supply research and technology development.
- T.J. Helton (TSSWCB) reported that SB 1734, related to Giant Cane (*Arundo donax*), had no funding associated with it and that discussions are underway to determine how

- to pay for this program. There was also an increase of \$2,000,000 in the budget for Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and the Water Supply Enhancement Program (WSEP, formerly known as the Brush Control Program).
- Sarah Rountree Schlessinger (TAGD) reported that the following legislation affected their organization:
  - o HB 685, relating to the production of public information available on the website of a political subdivision of this state;
  - o HB 3357, relating to permitted methods for certain political subdivisions to post notice of a meeting;
  - o HB 2767, relating to the powers, duties, and administration of GCDs;
  - o SB 854, relating to the renewal or amendment of certain permits issued by GCDs;
  - o HB 655, relating to the storage and recovery of water in aquifers;
  - o HB 200, relating to the regulation of groundwater and the appeal process for Desired Future Conditions (DFCs);
  - o HB 3163, relating to filing suit against board members of GCDs;
  - o Two new GCDs were created (HB 2407, Comal Trinity GCD, and HB 4207, Aransas County GCD) and there was one annexation (HB 3405, for the Barton Springs-Edwards Aquifer Conservation District); and,
  - o HB 1221, relating to seller's disclosures in connection with residential real property subject to groundwater regulation using a GCD disclosure form.
    - HB 2647, relating to a limitation on the authority to curtail groundwater production from wells used for power generation or mining, was vetoed.
    - This summary is available on their website (<a href="http://www.texasgroundwater.org/pdfs/TAGD-84th-Legislative-Summary.pdf">http://www.texasgroundwater.org/pdfs/TAGD-84th-Legislative-Summary.pdf</a>).
    - Sarah Rountree Schlessinger also noted that TAGD has a new, interactive GCD Index map on their website (<a href="http://www.texasgroundwater.org/resources/gcdi.html">http://www.texasgroundwater.org/resources/gcdi.html</a>) that can be searched by a number of parameters.
- Linda Ruiz McCall (UTBEG) reported that funding was approved for the installation of a state-wide seismic network (project partners include USGS, RRC, and AgriLife Research), and funding for their Advanced Resource Recovery program was continued.

Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy – Discussion of Final Report Text, Approval of Final Report, and Discussion of Timetable for Completion of Final Report and Delivery to the Legislature

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported the TGPC Groundwater Classification System, an element of the *Texas Groundwater Protection Strategy* ("*Strategy*") update, was being discussed in the TGPC Groundwater Issues Subcommittee. Brackish groundwater may also be addressed in the *Strategy* update.

#### Current Groundwater Issues

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that they had set up Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funding for automatic water level recorders.

David Villarreal (TDA) reported that some Texas freshwater mussels will be listed as endangered species, and this will have an impact on groundwater quality and stream flows. In addition, TDA would like brush control to be included in regional water plans since this would improve water availability.

Deba Dutta (DSHS) reported that sometimes they receive calls from Public Water Systems (PWSs) regarding high levels of fluoride in the groundwater. Cary Betz (TCEQ) noted that the groundwater portion of the *Texas Integrated Report of Surface Water Quality* (formerly known as the *Texas Water Quality Inventory and 303(d) List*) has documented many cases of high groundwater fluoride levels in certain areas of the state, but since it is naturally-occurring, this form of contamination is not under the TCEQ's regulatory programs. However, TCEQ's Public Drinking Water (PDW) section could be contacted for advice on additional treatment that PWSs can implement in order to come back into compliance.

## Set Future Meeting Date

The next TGPC quarterly meeting was scheduled for October 21, 2015, at 1:00 PM CDST.

## 5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR GROUNDWATER-RELATED ACTIVITIES – STATUS UPDATE

Groundwater Contamination Notice Coordination (Texas Water Code §26.408)

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported that the Impact Evaluation Team (IET) had met three times since the last TGPC meeting. Three RRC cases were discussed at the April 21, 2015 meeting that resulted in 10 total notices being mailed on May 13, 2015. Two public water system cases were discussed at the May 19, 2015 meeting that resulted in 38 total notices mailed on June 17, 2015. A third IET meeting took place on July 7, 2015.

#### Groundwater Management Areas

Sarah Rountree Schlessinger (TAGD) reported that DFCs from the various Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) will be approved soon with public comment to follow, and that GMA 9 will meet on September 28, 2015.

#### Regional Water Planning

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that TWDB is currently reviewing initially-prepared plans from Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPGs) submitted by May 1, 2015. Final

plans are due to TWDB by December 1, 2015. Public comment is open for 60 days beyond the public hearing date of each RWPG, and agency comment is open for 90 days past that date. A graphic of these timelines is available (<a href="http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2016/doc/current\_docs/project\_docs/2015">http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2016/doc/current\_docs/project\_docs/2015</a> IPP Schematic 121114.pdf).

#### Groundwater Availability Modeling

## Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that:

- Four new educational videos have been released (<a href="http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/video/index.asp">http://www.twdb.texas.gov/groundwater/video/index.asp</a>);
- Staff are calibrating models for the Ellenburger-San Saba, Hickory, and Marble Falls Aquifers (Llano Uplift area) and the eastern arm of the Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer;
- Work continues on the Blossom Aquifer, the Gulf Coast Aquifer System from the Brazos River to the Rio Grande River, and the Marathon Aquifer conceptual models;
- Staff are working on contract negotiations for three projects:
  - A density flow model of the Rio Grande Valley area (contracted with GSI Environmental, Inc.);
  - Mapping fresh, brackish, and saline groundwater using the framework of the southern portion of the Queen City, Sparta, and Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifers model (contracted with UTBEG); and,
  - o Fault analysis and update to the Groundwater Availability Model (GAM) for the central portion of the Queen City, Sparta, and Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifers (contracted with INTERA with contributions from GCDs).
- A new model for the High Plains Aquifer System is due to TWDB by August 31, 2015 (contracted study with INTERA);
- Model development is underway for a contracted project with INTERA for the Brazos River Alluvium Aquifer, and the model is due to TWDB by August 31, 2016; and,
- GMA 14 approved its proposed DFCs.

## Nonpoint Source Pollution

Bill Carter (TCEQ) announced that U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Clean Water Act (CWA) §319(h) NPS pollution grant funding Request for Grant Applications (RFGAs) for urban and non-rural projects in FY 2016 would be due to TCEQ by September 4, 2015.

Chris Moore (RRC) reported that they are working with consultants on a project in the upper Colorado River to develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) to mitigate chloride seepage (groundwater modeling development is underway, and engineering design, construction, and installation should be complete by the last quarter of 2015).

#### National Groundwater Initiatives

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) reported that funds for the National Groundwater Monitoring Network will be used to purchase additional recorders, choose wells for water quality information in Texas' nine major aquifers, and provide web services from their interactive map to the portal.

Lynne Fahlquist (USGS) reported that they are undergoing a FY 2016 budget reorganization that affects some of their national monitoring programs. In addition, a large collection of geophysical and well logs (paper and microfiche) are available for review at the USGS Texas Water Science Center.

Linda Ruiz McCall (UTBEG) added that they also have a historical geophysical log library that is open to the public.

#### **Drought Status**

Cary Betz (TCEQ) referred TGPC members to the most recent U.S. Drought Monitor and TCEQ drought-affected Public Water Systems (PWSs) maps, as well as the TCEQ List of PWSs Limiting Water Use to Avoid Shortages (aka, the "180-day list"). As of July 7, 2015, only 5 % of the state was in one of the five drought categories (down from 47 % at the last meeting), with most of the remaining area considered to be only abnormally dry. No drought conditions were forecast in the state through September 2015. As of July 8, 2015, of the 4,630 active community water systems in Texas, 1,118 were affected by drought (either voluntary or mandatory). As of July 10, 2015, 30 PWSs in the state could be out of water in 180 days or less (down from 56 at the last TGPC meeting).

David Villarreal (TDA) left at approximately 2:55 PM CDST, returned at approximately 2:59 PM CDST, and was present for the remainder of the meeting.

#### 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Rules Update

Cary Betz (TCEQ) reported on current TCEQ rulemaking that was of interest to the TGPC:

- 2015-035-290-OW Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) and Ground Water Rule (GWR);
- 2015-029-295-OW HB 2031 and HB 4097: Marine Seawater Desalination;
- 2015-028-210-OW HB 1902: Graywater and Alternate Onsite Water Reuse;
- 2015-027-007-WS HB 2230: TCEQ and RRC MOU;
- 2015-025-293-OW HB 2767: Powers, Duties, and Administration of GCDs;
- 2015-024-305-CE SB 912: Volume-Based Exemptions for Certain Accidental Discharges;
- 2015-023-020-LS HB 763: Petition for Rulemaking Adoption;

- 2015-022-331-WS HB 655: Permitting & Regulation of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Injection Wells;
- 2015-021-335-WS HB 2598 and RCRA Authorization for Parts of Federal Rule Clusters XXIII and XIV;
- 2013-057-291-OW HB 1600 and SB 567: PUC Transfer;
- 2013-025-317-LS Reproposal of Chapter 317: Design Criteria; and,
- 2012-040-217-OW Amendment to Chapter 217: Design Criteria.

Additional information on a specific TCEQ rule can be found at <a href="http://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/whatsnew.html">http://www.tceq.texas.gov/rules/whatsnew.html</a>.

#### **New Publications**

Cary Betz (TCEQ) announced that publication of the TGPC's annual *Joint Groundwater Monitoring and Contamination Report* (SFR-056) was expected shortly.

Janie Hopkins (TWDB) announced the publication of Technical Note 15-03, *A Water Resource Assessment of the Playa Lakes of the Texas High Plains* (http://www.twdb.texas.gov/publications/reports/technical\_notes/doc/TechnicalNote15-03.pdf).

Sarah Rountree Schlessinger (TAGD) announced their 84th Legislative Summary would also be published in an upcoming *Texas Water Journal* issue.

Lynne Fahlquist (USGS) noted that a number of hard copy USGS publications were available on the back table, and that *Geology and Hydrostratigraphy of Guadalupe River State Park and Honey Creek State Natural Area, Kendall and Comal Counties, Texas* and associated 1:24,000 geologic map were recently published (<a href="http://pubs.usgs.gov/sim/3303/">http://pubs.usgs.gov/sim/3303/</a>).

## **Upcoming Conferences**

Sarah Rountree Schlessinger (TAGD) announced the Fourth Annual TAGD Summit in San Marcos, TX on August 25 – 27, 2015 (<a href="http://www.texasgroundwater.org/">http://www.texasgroundwater.org/</a>).

Cary Betz (TCEQ) referred TGPC members to the conferences listed in the "2015 Water-related Conferences in Texas" handout – the current version of this handout is always available on the TGPC's POE Subcommittee webpage at <a href="http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcomittee/">http://tgpc.state.tx.us/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcomittee/</a> under the "Additional Resources" heading.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) announced that the national Protect Your Groundwater Day would be celebrated on September 8, 2015, and the TGPC will again be a promotional partner for the event with a small graphic and link to the National Ground Water Association's website (<a href="http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx</a>) posted on the TGPC homepage.

In addition, Cary Betz (TCEQ) announced that the TGPC would again be sponsoring an exhibit booth at the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference in Austin, TX on August 11-12, 2015 (<a href="https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/conference.html">https://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/conference.html</a>), and that TGPC members were welcome to assist with staffing this annual outreach effort.

Cary Betz (TCEQ) also announced that the Ground Water Protection Council's Annual Forum would be in Oklahoma City, OK on September 27 – 30, 2015.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 8. ADJOURN

Cary Betz (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:06 PM CDST.