

**Minutes of the June 14, 2001 Meeting of the
Coastal Bend Regional Water Planning Group for the
Senate Bill 1 Regional Water Planning Program for Region "N"**

This meeting of the Coastal Bend Regional Water Planning Group (Coastal Bend RWPG) was held in the auditorium at the TAMU Research and Extension Center, 10345 Agnes Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78406. Judge Miller called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m

Judge Josephine Miller asked for a roll call. A visual attendance was noted. Voting members of the Coastal Bend RWPG in attendance included Judge Josephine Miller, Mr. Bobby Nedbalek, Dr. Jennifer Prouty, Dr. Patrick Hubert, Mr. Bernie DeLaune, Mr. Bernard Paulson, Mr. Fausto Yturria, Mr. Scott Bledsoe, Mr. Greg Carter, Mr. Billy Dick and Ms. Carola Serrato. A quorum was determined to be present.

Non-Voting members of the Coastal Bend RWPG in attendance included Mr. Vincente Guerra and Mr. Jim Tolan. Guests included Mrs. Sandra Thaxton, Dr. Robert Mace, Mr. Jim Naismith, Mr. Stanley Fees, Mr. Garrett Dick, Mr. Rick Hay and Mr. Ron Massey.

Minutes from the May 10, 2001 meeting of the Regional Water Planning Group for the Senate Bill 1 Regional Water Planning Program for Region "N" were reviewed. There were no requested additions or modifications to the minutes. There was a motion by Mr. Yturria, and a second by Mr. Paulson, to approve the minutes as provided. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller introduced Agenda Item IV: Approval to Schedule a Public Hearing on the Scope-of-Work for the Next Cycle of Regional Water Planning for the Coastal Bend Planning Area. Changes in responsibilities of Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPG) were noted in conjunction with the passage of Senate Bill 2. Mr. Dodson stated that, due to Senate Bill 2 changes, the public hearing would be scheduled for January, preceding submittal of the Scope-of-Work for the next cycle of water planning scheduled in February.

Judge Miller introduced Agenda Item V: Approval to Publish Notice Soliciting Nominations for Appointments to Vacant Positions on the Coastal Bend RWPG. Mr. Dodson began the discussion by noting a vacancy for a representative of Municipal Water Use. He then discussed the procedure to fill vacancies. There was a motion by Mr. Yturria, and a second by Mr. Bledsoe, to approve Agenda Item V: Approval to Publish Notice Soliciting Nominations for Appointments to Vacant Positions on the Coastal Bend RWPG. Agenda Item V was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller introduced Agenda Item VI: Reports/Discussion Items: Groundwater Availability Modeling (GAM) Program for the Central Gulf Coast Aquifer, Robert Mace, Ph.D. of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). Judge Miller introduced Dr. Robert Mace to discuss GAM. Dr. Mace began the discussion with an overview of the GAM program under the (TWDB). He discussed how the modeling program is used to develop scientifically accurate models to help assess the availability of groundwater supplies and how those supplies affect the different regions. Dr. Mace noted that all models and all supporting information that went into the models will be available on the internet. He also noted a change in the minor aquifer boundaries by the addition of the Yegua/Jackson Aquifer. Judge Miller questioned groundwater usage by Mexico and its effects on the model. Dr. Mace replied by noting model boundaries as well future trends in groundwater usage in Mexico. He added that those considerations will have to be addressed. Mr. Dodson questioned whether availability estimates would be divided to include brackish groundwater supplies. Dr. Mace stated it would be a regional consideration.

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Mr. Dodson next began discussion on Administration/Legislative Issues. He expressed the need to complete the Infrastructure Finance Report and to select qualified contractors. Mr. Dodson discussed changes associated with the passage of Senate Bill 2. In particular, Mr. Dodson discussed issues concerning groundwater districts/management. He noted that shortages in the first thirty years are in portions of the region that mainly utilize groundwater. Dr. Hubert had a question concerning the steps taken to form a water district. Mr. Dodson stated that districts have to be created through legislation. Mr. Dodson also noted an amendment to Senate Bill 2 stating that local water management districts within a region still have the right to develop their own water management plans. Mr. Dodson also discussed aspects of the State Water Plan 2002, including coming up with policy statements and forming working groups.

Judge Miller asked for public comment. There was none.

The next Coastal Bend RWPG meeting was scheduled for Thursday, July 19, 2001 at 1:30 p.m.

Judge Miller adjourned the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mr. James Dodson and Sam Sugarek

Minutes Submitted by: _____
Dr. Patrick Hubert, Secretary
Coastal Bend RWPG

_____ Date