

Minutes of the October 1, 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.

Before the meeting was called to order, the Honorable Glenn Guillory, Aransas County Judge, was introduced by Judge Josephine Miller, presiding Co-Chair.

Judge Miller called the meeting to order at 1:42 p.m.

Judge 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. Jerry Kane, Dr. Patrick Hubert, Mr. Bernard Paulson, Mr. Greg Carter, Mr. Bernie DeLaune, Mr. Billy Dick, Ms. Carola Serrato and Mr. Fausto Yturria. A quorum of the voting members was present.

Non-Voting members in attendance included Mr. Vincente Guerra, Mr. Ralph Boeker and Mr. Robbie Peters for Jon Sunday. Guests included Judge Glenn Guillory, Mr. Gene Dressen, Mr. Jim Naismith, Mr. Ron Massey, and Ms. Susan Stone.

Minutes from the July 19, 2001 meeting and a "report" on the September 13, 2001 meeting of the Coastal Bend Region Water Planning Group were reviewed. There were no requested additions or modifications to the minutes. There was a motion by Mr. Yturria, and a second by Ms. Serrato, to approve the report and minutes as provided. The report and minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller introduced Agenda Item IV: Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Texas Water Development Board for funding the Development of the Infrastructure Financing Report (IFR). Mr. James Dodson described the item, which had been discussed at the previous meeting held on September 13, 2001. Minor changes and corrections were going to be made to the application to the Texas Water Development Board. Judge Miller asked for any further discussion and questions regarding the application. Mr. Yturria moved to approve and Mr. Kane seconded the motion. The application was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller introduced Agenda Item V: Confirmation of appointment of Mark Scott as a voting member representing Municipal Interests, replacing Dr. David McNichols. Dr. Hubert made a motion to approve; it was seconded by Mr. Dick. There was no discussion. The appointment of Mr. Scott was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller then introduced Agenda Item VI: Confirming Alternating Two-Years or Five-Years of Office for RWPG Members. Mr. Dodson described the process of determining the length of each member's term by drawing lots at the September 13, 2001 meeting and recommended that the results of that process be confirmed by action of the RWPG at this meeting. Those drawing two-year terms included: Mr. Kane, Mr. Paulson, Mr. Carter, Mr. DeLaune, Mr. Dick, Mr. Ben Figueroa, Mr. Nedbalek and Mr. Yturria. Those drawing five-year terms included: Judge Miller, Dr. Hubert, Mr. Bledsoe, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Kunkel, Mr. Scott, Ms. Serrato and Dr. Smith-Engle.

Judge Miller asked the members if there was any interest in allowing a member to "swap" with someone else, moving from five-year to a two-year term. No one responded to this offer. RWPG By-laws state that current members are eligible for one additional term; the two-year terms will

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run to September 1, 2003 and the five-year terms will run until September 1, 2006. There was a motion for confirmation of the results of the drawing by Mr. Paulson and a second by Mr. Kane. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller called for the next item, Approval of Resolution on Intern-Regional Planning and Approval to Submit a Grant Application to the Texas Water Development Board of a Scope of Work and Budget for Inter-Regional Planning Activities and Publish Notice Thereof. Mr. Dodson described the recent activities regarding the development of an "Inter-Regional Coordination" (IRC) project, including the preparation of the jointly sponsored application for state funding, which would be submitted by the Nueces River Authority on behalf of all the participating RWPG's. Judge Miller and Mr. Dodson described a meeting with some of the Water Development Staff to develop the basis for the grant application. It was determined that each planning region (Rio Grande, Coastal Bend, South Central Texas, and Lavaca) would be eligible to apply for \$10,000, for a total of \$40,000 available for the jointly sponsored project. Mr. Dodson then presented a draft scope of work and budget for the Grant Application to the Texas Water Development Board. Mr. Dodson also discussed that the professional services to support the IRC would come from the existing consultants in each region, working under the auspices of HDR Engineering, Inc. The consultants will be in charge of facilitating meetings and preparing supporting technical information. The IRC Working Group will consist of representatives from each RWPG, as well as "staff" from each planning area. Meetings of the IRC Working Group are public meetings, but will not have the same notice requirements as meetings of the RWPG's themselves.

Mr. Dodson again informed the members that the Nueces River Authority, as the designated political subdivision for and on behalf of all the included regions, will contract with the Texas Water Development Board for funding, and then contract with the consultants for the professional services.

There was some discussion regarding the need to assess the impact of any newly proposed water management strategies that might be developed through the IRC process on the water management strategies currently recommended in each region's adopted water plan. Judge Miller requested that the language of the resolution be amended to include that the Coastal Bend RWPG had reviewed the proposed scope of work and that the scope of work for the IRC would include activities to assess the impact of any proposed water management strategy on strategies contained in the adopted regional water plans. Mr. Yturria made a motion to approve the resolution, as amended; Dr. Hubert seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller then appointed Mr. Paulson, Mr. Carter and Mr. Scott to serve as representatives for the Coastal Bend RWPG on the IRC Working Group.

Under Item VIII, Mr. Dodson and Mr. Boeker discussed some of TWDB's proposed rule changes related to regional water planning. Judge Miller also reminded the members that the TWDB would hold a State Water Plan Public Hearing in Corpus Christi on Thursday, October 18, 2001. Mr. Dodson explained that the Texas Water Development Board has their draft State Water Plan available for review on their website.

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Judge Miller next asked for public comment. There was none.

The next Coastal Bend RWPG meeting was scheduled for November 8, 2001.

Judge Miller adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Amanda Hernandez
Mr. James Dodson

Minutes Submitted by: _____

Patrick Hubert, DVM
Secretary, Coastal Bend RWPG

_____ Date