

Minutes of the December 13, 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 Josephine Miller, Co-chair of the Coastal Bend RWPG, called the meeting to order at 1:40 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 Miller, Mr. Scotty Bledsoe, Mr. Greg Carter, Mr. Bernie DeLaune, Mr. Billy Dick, Dr. Patrick Hubert, Mr. Bobby Nedbalek, Mr. Bernard Paulson, Ms. Carola Serrato, Dr. Jennifer Smith-Engle, 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. Robert Fulbright. Guests included Mayor Loyd Neal, Mr. Max Castaneda, Ms. Veronica Gonzalez and Mr. Bill Kopecky.

Judge Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2001 meeting of the Coastal Bend RWPG. Mr. Yturria moved for approval; Mr. Nedbalek seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Judge Miller next asked Mr. Dodson to present Item V., Authorizing the Nueces River Authority (NRA), on behalf of the Coastal Bend RWPG, to enter into a contract with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) for \$40,000 in state funding for the Inter-Regional Coordination (IRC) program. Mr. Dodson explained that the Coastal Bend RWPG had passed a resolution supporting the IRC program, endorsing the application for state funding and designating NRA to serve as the designated political subdivision administering the IRC program. TWDB approved the funding application in November 2001 and was preparing a contract with NRA for the funding. Mr. Dodson stated that this agenda item was just an additional step, seeking clear direction from the Coastal Bend RWPG prior to asking the NRA Board to approve the contract. Mr. Dodson also reported on the activities of the Inter-Regional Work Group (IRWG) and the status of the proposed Inter-Regional Scope of Work (listed as a report under Item IV). Mr. Yturria then moved to authorize NRA to enter into the funding contract with TWDB; Dr. Hubert seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Under Item VI, Administrative Issues, Mr. Dodson first described the elements of the upcoming process to develop the Scope of Work and Budget for the next cycle of regional water planning. He noted that TWDB has issued a draft guidance document, which is out for comment at present, and that there would be a meeting in mid-January wherein TWDB would discuss proposed changes to the guidance document prior to issuing a final version. Mr. Dodson stated that the development of the scope of work and budget for the Coastal Bend regional planning area should probably begin in early January, pending a final guidance document. He also requested volunteers to serve on an advisory group to assist in developing the scope of work. Mr. Bledsoe, Mr. Carter, Ms. Serrato and Mr. Castaneda offered to assist.

Judge Miller next asked Mr. Dodson to report on Item VI., the proposed Senate Bill 1 Local Administrative Budget for Calendar Year 2002 and the Allocation of Expenses to Local Political Subdivisions, and to consider Item VII, its adoption. Mr. Dodson noted that while in the monthly

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administrative budget, there had been a few changes in the various categories of expenses, the monthly total (\$5,000) and the total for calendar year 2002 budget would remain the same as the previous year, at \$60,000. Mr. Dodson called attention to the proposed allocation of these expenses to the various political subdivisions, stating that the amounts were based on the new 2000 Census population data, rather than the projections of population that had been used previously. Mr. Yturria moved for adoption; Mr. Dick seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Judge Miller next asked for public comment. Mr. Bill Kopecky noted that there had been significant spills from Lake Corpus Christi, which had reached 100% of capacity in the last month, and that a pumping facility at Simmons could have diverted some of the flow on the Nueces River to Choke Canyon Reservoir, adding more total storage to the Choke Canyon/Lake Corpus Christi Reservoir System under those conditions.

The next Coastal Bend RWPG meeting was scheduled for January 17, 2002.

Judge Miller adjourned the meeting at 2:15 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Amanda Hernandez
Mr. James Dodson

Minutes Submitted by: _____

Patrick Hubert, DVM
Secretary, Coastal Bend RWPG

_____ Date