

**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE**

RECORD OF MEETING

First Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2023

Meeting Date: September 7, 2022
Place: Virtual Videoconference
Meeting No. 75

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Subcommittee Members

Joel Pigg (Co-Chair)
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)
Eric Lawrence
Christopher Heiligenstein
Julia Stanford
David Villarreal
David Gunn
Rebecca Storms
Linzy Foster

Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Department of State Health Services (DSHS)
Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Other Agency Staff

John Smith
Jessica Price
David Van Dresar
Abiy Berehe
Alan Cherepon
Grant Gibson
Cindy Hooper
Kathy McCormack
Scott Underwood
Jason Godeaux
Casey Stevens

Affiliation / Program

AgriLife Extension
DSHS
TAGD
TCEQ / Water Availability Division (WAD)
TCEQ / WAD
TCEQ / WAD
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TDLR

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda, September 7, 2022
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record, June 8, 2022
3. Outreach Events Status Report
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
5. Google Analytics reports on TGPC website activity
6. Draft FAQ update on Texas ET networks
7. Draft FAQ on Water Well and Real Estate
8. Drought Map for previous quarter
9. Upcoming water conferences

MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products, and designated TGPC members attending this Subcommittee meeting participated as an employee of their agency or organization -- not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, this Subcommittee meeting was not subject to the Open Meetings Act and was held 100% virtually. The public was able to attend this meeting via teleconference or videoconference at no cost.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Attendees were introduced. The minutes were provided to the members by email for review prior to the meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events

The current Outreach Events Status Report was reviewed, and is available on the POE Subcommittee webpage, <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/> under the "Additional Resources" heading:

- AgriLife Extension Service Water Well Screening:

John Smith (AgriLife Extension) reported that six events covering eight counties were held in June and July, with 227 attendees. A Well Educated training was held with the Friends of the San Bernard River with 39 participants in July. A Well Informed training was held in Bexar County in July with 25 participants. The next events are planned for October 2022.

- TGPC Exhibit Booth:

The TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference was held August 9-10, 2022, in Austin with approximately 170 participants viewing the booth. The Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts Groundwater Summit was held August 30 through September 1, 2022, in San Antonio. We had a great location for the booth, such that every attendee of the conference had to walk by our booth to attend the conference.

TWON Training Activities

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. During the previous quarter, TWON staff held a one-day event and five one-hour events in South Texas, specifically sampling for arsenic along with the typical COCs. Staff collected 146 samples, 134 of which were from Duval County alone. One-third of the samples analyzed had arsenic above 10 ppb. There have been 1,231 attendees at TWON events since May of 2021.

TGPC Website Activity Statistics

Peggy Hunka (TCEQ) reviewed the Google Analytics activity report on the TGPC web page, which showed that in the previous quarter there was a 22% increase in the number of users and a 6% increase in the average number of pages viewed per session. Organic searches showed that 3, 245 users arrived using a web search, with Google being used most often.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 7, 2022, by Teams Videoconference at 1:30 PM.

REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

Annual Report

The Subcommittee reviewed the FY2022 TGPC POE Subcommittee Annual Report and it was approved for presentation at the October TGPC meeting.

TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan Topic Updates (see: https://tgpc.texas.gov/POE/TGPC_POE_GW_EduOutreachPlan10Sep2013.pdf):

Abandoned Wells

No Report

Texas Evapotranspiration Networks

No report

Septic Tanks

No report

Publications

AgriLife Extension Reprints

There are no reprints needed at this time.

FAQs and Fact Sheets:

There was a review of the TGPC website FAQ page for previously written FAQs that need to be updated. Each agency reviewed the FAQs written by its staff. Rebecca Storms (TWDB) will work with Alan Cherepon on some of the FAQs that need to be updated. Julia Stanford (TAGD) discussed changes to GCD FAQs. The FAQ on how to create a GCD will be updated by TCEQ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.