

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
 OF THE  
 TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
 RECORD OF MEETING  
 First Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2014

Meeting Date: September 10, 2013  
 Meeting No.: 39

Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg F  
 Room: 3202A

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>MEETING ATTENDANCE .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>MEETING HANDOUTS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013.....</b>	<b>4</b>
1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS .....	4
2. STATUS REPORTS .....	4
Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events – AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events, Abandoned Water Well Closures, and TGPC Exhibit Booth ...	4
TWON Training Activities .....	4
TGPC Website Activity Statistics .....	4
3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE .....	5
4. REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION.....	5
<i>TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition</i> .....	5
Popular Press Articles .....	5
TWON Fact Sheets.....	5
<i>What is a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) ?</i> FAQ update.....	5
<i>What Are the Texas Evapotranspiration Networks ?</i> FAQ .....	5
<i>Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas</i> update .....	5
5. DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES.....	6
6. ANNOUNCEMENTS.....	6
7. PUBLIC COMMENT .....	6
8. ADJOURN .....	6

## MEETING ATTENDANCE

### Subcommittee Members

Diane Boellstorff (Co-Chair)

Drew Gholson

Ron Kaiser

Kathy McCormack (Co-Chair)

Alan Cherepon

Chris Muller

Chris Moore

Michael Hare

Loren Warrick

David Van Dresar

Nikki Dictson

Ned Meister

Lynne Fahlquist

### Affiliation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)

AgriLife Extension

Texas A&M University (TAMU)

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)

TCEQ

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)

Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)

Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)

Texas A&M Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI)

Texas Farm Bureau (TFB)

United States Geological Survey (USGS)

## MEETING HANDOUTS

1. September 10, 2013 Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
2. June 12, 2013 TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Record
3. Outreach Events Status Report, September 2013
4. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) events list, 9/5/2013
5. Google Analytics report on TGPC website activity, June 10 – September 4, 2013
6. Final draft *TGPC Groundwater Education Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition*, September 10, 2013
7. Draft *What is a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) ?* Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) update
8. *Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* (AgriLife Extension publication B-6120, available at <http://www.agrilifebookstore.org/Default.asp>)
9. Online Groundwater FAQs Available email, July 17, 2013
10. Drought 2013 – U.S. Drought Monitor, Texas as of September 3, 2013; U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook August – November 2013; Public Water Supply Systems Affected as of September 4, 2013
11. *Take Care of Texas* sticker, TCEQ publication M-053 (April 2013), <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/m/m-053.html>
12. *Take Care of Texas* poster, TCEQ publication GI-429 (April 2013), <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/gi/gi-429.html>
13. 2013 – 2014 Water-related Conferences in Texas, September 2013

TGPC refrigerator magnets were also available on the handout table.

## MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2013

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at approximately 1:40 PM CST and recognized it as being national Protect Your Groundwater Day. POE Subcommittee members were introduced. There were no concerns with the record of the previous meeting.

### 2. STATUS REPORTS

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events – AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events, Abandoned Water Well Closures, and TGPC Exhibit Booth

The current Outreach Events Status Report (available on the POE Subcommittee webpage, <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees-POE-POE.php>, under “Additional Resources”) was reviewed:

- AgriLife Extension Water Well Screening Events
  - Two since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (44 samples)
  - Four planned through November 2013
- AgriLife Extension Abandoned Water Well Closures
  - None since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting
  - None scheduled at this time
- TGPC Exhibit Booth
  - Two since the previous POE Subcommittee meeting (118 estimated attendees)
  - Three planned through December 2013

Photos of the TGPC exhibit booth at the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference on August 6 – 7, 2013 and photos of TGPC handout material at the TAGD Texas Groundwater Summit on August 27 – 29, 2013 were passed around the table.

#### TWON Training Activities

Drew Gholson (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON schedule of completed, confirmed, obligated, and suggested water well screening events and workshops. There have been over 2,767 samples or attendees at these events since April 2011.

#### TGPC Website Activity Statistics

The Google Analytics activity report on the TGPC website for June 10 – September 4, 2013 was reviewed by the POE Subcommittee. The average website visit duration was just over two minutes, and the average pages per visit were just over four. Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) noted that some additional enhancements would be made to the TGPC website in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014.

### 3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2013, at 1:30 PM CST, in TCEQ's Building F, Conference Room 3202A.

### 4. REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

#### *TGPC Groundwater Educational Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition*

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reviewed the final draft of the *TGPC Groundwater Education Outreach Plan, 2nd Edition* ("Plan"). David Van Dresar (TAGD) proposed, Chris Muller (TWDB) seconded, and all remaining POE Subcommittee members approved the *Plan* with the changes discussed at the meeting. The *Plan* will be submitted to the TGPC for approval at their October 16, 2013 meeting.

#### Popular Press Articles

#### TWON Fact Sheets

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Extension) thanked POE Subcommittee members for their feedback on the draft TWON *Improving Hazardous Materials Management to Protect Groundwater Quality* fact sheet. Diane Boellstorff also reported that a draft fact sheet related to Petroleum Storage Tanks (PSTs) and two draft fact sheets related to livestock should be available for POE Subcommittee review soon.

#### *What is a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) ?* FAQ update

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reviewed the draft *What is a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) ?* FAQ update. Chris Muller (TWDB) proposed, David Van Dresar (TAGD) seconded, and all remaining POE Subcommittee members approved the FAQ update with the changes discussed at the meeting. The FAQ update will be posted on the TGPC FAQ webpage, <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/FAQs.php>.

#### *What Are the Texas Evapotranspiration Networks ?* FAQ

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) reported that a draft *What Are the Texas Evapotranspiration Networks ?* FAQ should be available at the next POE Subcommittee meeting.

#### *Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* update

Ron Kaiser (TAMU) provided background information on the development of *Questions About Groundwater Conservation Districts in Texas* (AgriLife Extension publication B-6120, available at <http://www.agrilifebookstore.org/Default.asp>) and shared some of the hot topics which should be included in the planned update:

- Desired Future Conditions (DFC) process;
- Permit rules (with examples);
- Day and Bragg court cases, and how they relate to takings;
- Water meters;

- Brackish groundwater; and,
- The jurisdiction of GCDs and RRC related to oil and gas operations.

The POE Subcommittee will provide feedback on draft B-6120 updates as they become available.

## 5. DISCUSSION OF CURRENT GROUNDWATER ISSUES

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) thanked Nikki Dictson (TWRI) for notifying her Texas Watershed Coordinator and Texas Riparian Association distribution lists on July 17, 2013 about the TGPC's online FAQs.

The current drought maps were reviewed by the POE Subcommittee. As of September 3, 2013, 96 % of the state was in one of the five drought categories (about the same as at the last POE Subcommittee meeting), but some or likely improvement in drought conditions was forecast in the eastern half of the state through November 2013. As of September 4, 2013, of the 4,656 active community water systems in Texas, 1,158 were affected by drought (either voluntary or mandatory), and 775 of these use groundwater (either exclusively or partially).

## 6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The current "2013 – 2014 Water-related Conferences in Texas" handout (found at <http://www.tgpc.state.tx.us/subcommittees-POE-POE.php> under the "Additional Resources" heading) was distributed to POE Subcommittee members.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

## 8. ADJOURN

Kathy McCormack (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:16 PM CST.