

# Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group Meeting

March 26, 2015

10:00 a.m.

High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 Office  
2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock TX

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## 1. Call To Order and Welcome.

Chairman H. P. Brown Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. in the A. Wayne Wyatt Board Room of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 office, 2930 Avenue Q, in Lubbock, Texas.

Notice of the meeting was provided to each voting/non-voting member/interested parties and was also filed/posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act at the following locations: *Office of Texas Secretary of State, Office of Lubbock County Clerk, Lubbock County Courthouse, Administrative Offices of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1, the High Plains Water District web site at [www.hpwd.com](http://www.hpwd.com) and the regional water planning group web site at [www.llanoplan.org](http://www.llanoplan.org).*

## 2. Roll Call of Members and Establish Quorum.

### **The following Llano Estacado Water Planning Group members were in attendance:**

Dr. Melanie Barnes; H.P. Brown Jr.; Jack Campsey; Jason Coleman; Harvey Everheart; Ronnie Hopper; Doug Hutcheson; Mayor Bob Josserand; Mark Kirkpatrick; Don McElroy; Charlie Morris; Dr. Ken Rainwater; Kent Satterwhite; Aubrey Spear; Jim Steiert; and John Taylor.

There was a quorum of Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group members in attendance (*16 of 22 voting members or 73% attendance*).

**Voting members unable to attend (excused absences):** Bruce Blalack; Delmon Ellison Jr.; Richard Gillespie; Bill Harbin; Michael McClendon; and Jimmy Wedel.

**Voting members unable to attend (unexcused absences):** None.

**Non-voting members in attendance:** Non-voting members in attendance were Sarah Backhouse, Texas Water Development Board; John Clayton, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Amy Ewing, Daniel B. Stephens and Associates; Jay Keith, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; and Matt Williams, Texas Department of Agriculture.

**Non-voting members unable to attend (excused absences):** None.

**Others in attendance:** The following names were obtained from a sign-in sheet at today's meeting: J. Collier Adams, Jr.; Lori Barnes, Llano Estacado UWCD; Neil Blandford, Daniel B. Stephens & Associates; Amber Blount, Sandy Land UWCD; David Harkins; Lindy Harris, South Plains UWCD; Malcolm Laing, City of Lubbock; Paula Jo Lemonds, HDR Engineering; Juan I. Moreno, Isolux Corsán; Josie Musico, *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*; and Beth Salvas, Daniel B. Stephens & Associates.

Carmon McCain of the High Plains Water District staff served as recording secretary for the meeting. Elaine Fowler with Cathy Sosebee and Associates transcribed the meeting.

**3. Introductions.** No introductions were made.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**4. Discuss and take possible action to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2015 regular meeting.**

Draft minutes of the January 27, 2015 regular meeting were provided to the members prior to today's meeting. There being no addition or correction, a motion was made by Mr. Coleman and seconded by Mr. Kirkpatrick to approve the minutes as printed. All members voted "aye" and the motion was unanimously approved.

**5. Discuss and take possible action to approve the financial report.**

A financial report was provided to the members prior to today's meeting. Secretary-Treasurer Hutcheson reported a February 2015 bank balance of \$4,462.27. A motion to accept the financial report as presented was made by Mr. Taylor and seconded by Mr. Satterwhite. All members voted "aye" and the financial report was unanimously approved as presented.

**6. Discuss and take possible action to approve each draft chapter of the Initially Prepared 2016 Llano Estacado Regional Water Management Plan.**

Chairman Brown called on Ms. Ewing and Ms. Salvas to discuss draft chapters 1-4 and 6-11 of the 2016 Initially Prepared LERWPG Plan (IPP). She reminded the members that the draft IPP is due to the TWDB on May 1. Any needed revisions should be provided to Ms. Ewing in the next few weeks in order to meet the deadline.

**Chapter 1 of the IPP** is a description of the regional water planning area. It also includes sections discussing state water planning; population; economic activity; current water use; current water supplies and water quality; wholesale water providers; agricultural and natural resources; threats to water supply, agriculture, and natural resources; existing local and regional water plans; drought; and water loss audits.

Chairman Brown requested feral hogs and bob white quail to be added to Table 1-22, "Common Flora and Fauna of the High and Rolling Plains."

Mr. Steiert asked about the deadline for additional modifications to the document. Ms. Ewing said any modifications would be needed as soon as possible in order to make the revisions and prepare needed copies prior to the May 1 deadline to submit the IPP to the TWDB.

Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Steiert for his previous work, "Springs and Seeps of the Llano Estacado Region," which appeared as Appendix B in the 2011 regional water plan. Mr. Steiert will update this material for use as Appendix 1A in the 2016 plan. He said he wants to update this to show what can be done if the region receives adequate rainfall.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 2 of the IPP** contains population and water demand projections. The population projections are shown for county levels, water user groups, and river basins. The water demand projections are for municipal, industrial (*manufacturing, steam-electric, and mining*), irrigation, livestock, and wholesale water providers.

This chapter includes some minor updates to the draft document presented to the group in September 2014. The section pertaining to wholesale water provider demand projections was added.

Mr. Steiert asked if wildlife water needs should be included in livestock water needs. Ms. Salvas said DBS&A can add this information.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 3 of the IPP** discusses water availability and existing water supplies. The chapter presented today was revised from the November 2014 draft for improved readability with no substantive changes. There was some updated information relating to import and export of existing water supplies.

The municipal water demand projection for Lubbock was increased based upon the city's 2013 strategic plan.

Information was added up front regarding groundwater conservation districts, GMA areas, and groundwater availability.

It was noted that White River Lake was not used as a water supply source recently—due to drought. The reservoir was non-existent during the “Drought of Record” of the 1950s. White River Lake was completed in 1963 to serve Crosbyton, Post, Ralls, and Spur. It opened to the public in 1965. White River was at zero percent of capacity a year ago. Therefore, it is not considered to be as a reliable water supply for the region. Water provided by White River Municipal Water District comes from its well fields at present.

Ms. Salvias noted that the “Drought of Record in the 1950s” is still a benchmark—but this chapter details how intense the most recent drought was.

There were no additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 4 of the IPP** reviews water needs in the region.

The water needs in the region are listed by respective water user groups. The majority of the water needs (*90 percent or more*) is associated with agricultural production. Ms. Ewing said there will be a placeholder in the document for any of the 2017 Regional Water Planning Application (BD-17) information that is not yet available.

Dr. Rainwater offered a correction to the way an equation is presented on Page 41. The slash mark might be construed as “divide” to some. It is important to be careful about terminology as it may mean different things to different sectors of the public.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 5 of the IPP** is not available for review at today’s meeting. However, Ms. Ewing did share its Table of Contents with the LERWPG members.

Ms. Ewing also discussed the individual county summaries which were e-mailed to members in advance of today’s meeting. Information pertaining to location, square miles, river basin, reservoirs, aquifers, groundwater conservation districts, projected population, and respective county seat are provided for each of the 21 counties in the region.

Mayor Josserand was examining the Deaf Smith County summary. He asked how critical it was to show the current water sources in the county. For example, Deaf Smith County uses groundwater from the Dockum Aquifer for irrigation and livestock. This is not shown in the chapter summary. He said there are some feed yards in the county that no longer use groundwater stored in the Ogallala—but rather groundwater in the Dockum.

Ms. Salvas said DBS&A would revisit these data.

Vice-Chairman Spear said the Ogallala and Edwards Trinity aquifers are mentioned in the Lubbock County summary—but the Dockum is not. He said it is available for use. DBS&A will add the Dockum aquifer to the applicable County summaries.

Chairman Brown asked Mr. McElroy if he had any comments regarding the Bailey County summary. Mr. McElroy did not.

Vice-Chairman Spear asked if the updated groundwater availability models (GAMs) would be available for use during this planning cycle. They are not.

**Chapter 6 of the IPP** outlines the impacts of the regional water plan. Ms. Ewing discussed the impacts of water management strategies on water quality as well as the impact of moving water from agricultural and rural areas.

Chapter 6.1 discusses potential impacts of water management strategies on key water quality parameters. There is little to no impact.

Chapter 6.2 highlights the impacts of moving water from agricultural and rural areas of the region.

Chapter 6.3 discusses the protection of area reservoirs, surface water features, playa lakes, groundwater resources, springs, soil, and minerals, such as oil and gas, through the regional water planning process.

Chapter 6.4 is a placeholder for the socioeconomic impact analysis that Region O requested from the TWDB on February 26, 2015.

Chairman Brown said Table 6.3 discussed mercury levels in fish at Lake Alan Henry. He invited Mr. Clayton to comment.

Mr. Clayton said the West Texas area tends to have higher levels of mercury than others—and the reason is unknown. It could be due to the amount of gypsum in the soil. The larger the fish, the more mercury it may have ingested over time. He noted that the fish can be consumed, but it is wise to limit servings to about eight ounces per week.

Vice-Chairman Spear noted that the mercury contamination is not in the lake water itself—but rather in the soil.

Mr. Clayton agreed. It is coming from the bioplankton that are consumed by the larval fish. The larger the fish, the more it has consumed during its lifetime. The health benefits of eating the fish far outweigh the risks posed by the mercury.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 7 of the IPP** discusses drought response information, activities, and recommendations.

Chapter 7.1 outlines the drought contingency plans that TCEQ requires of all irrigation districts as well as wholesale/retail public water suppliers with 3,300 connections or more. The current plans were submitted in 2014 and are required to be updated every five years. It also provides a summary of drought contingency plan triggers for mild, moderate, severe, critical, and emergency conditions.

Chapter 7.2 discusses the drought(s) of record. Ms. Salvas said she added sources to the Palmer Drought Severity Index figures.

Chapter 7.3 outlines the existing and potential emergency infrastructure connections within the region. A general summary of the existing connections is provided in this chapter. However, in accordance with 31 TAC § 357.42(d), information on the potential emergency connections was compiled and provided to the TWDB Executive Administrator separately from the regional water plan document.

Chapter 7.4 discusses the various drought trigger conditions for both surface water and groundwater supplies.

Chapter 7.5 reviews emergency responses to local drought conditions or loss of municipal water supply. There are no changes.

Chapter 7.6 discusses the Drought Preparedness Council established in 1999 as a result of HB 2660.

One of the appendices for the plan will contain two model drought contingency plans as presented at an earlier Region O meeting.

Chairman Brown asked if the two drought contingency model plans are acceptable to the TCEQ. Mr. Keith said he has not received the revised plans for review. Ms. Ewing said she would email the files to Mr. Keith. She said the draft documents are based upon templates found on the TCEQ website.

Vice-Chairman Spear said the according to Lubbock's most current information, the current drought on the Lake Alan Henry watershed exceeds that of the 1950s. He was wondering if the current drought information contained in the Plan is based upon a meteorological drought, a hydrological drought, or other. He also wondered if this was used for the region, watersheds, or specific lakes.

Ms. Salvas said it is hoped that the current drought will end soon so that the model can be updated. This should be taken care of in the next planning cycle.

Mr. Morris said White River Lake is currently at 3.5 percent of capacity, which is better than the zero percent recorded last year. Cities are able to use water from the lake at this time. They had to rely solely on groundwater last year.

Vice-Chairman Spear noted the Texas Tech University research regarding temperature change during the past 40 years. The information seems a bit inconclusive. He asked if this was needed in the plan.

Ms. Salvas said she didn't believe the information was required. She opted to incorporate it since it was available—and the two stations (Lubbock and Lynn Counties) were within Region O, it would be of interest to others.

Dr. Barnes provided a brief bit of background on the information. She said the research predicts that it may be drier in the future in the region.

Dr. Rainwater said it would be best if the individual authors' names were referenced—rather than Texas Tech University. These faculty members conducted this research for another purpose.

Ms. Ewing said text would be added to clarify the purpose of the discussion. It would reflect that climate change research is underway and that additional weather stations might be helpful for such purpose.

Mr. McElroy noted a reference to American Cotton Growers in 7.4. The denim plant closed in January 2015—and no longer has the water needs associated with it in the past.

Ms. Backhouse noted that the TWDB is looking for local information from the planning groups. They do have the guidance to encourage the RWPGs to submit information if there is a potential new drought of record occurring in the region. TWDB welcomes data from more current studies pertaining to Lake Alan Henry or other reservoirs.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 8 of the IPP** is an overview of unique reservoir segments, reservoir sites, and other related recommendations. Much of the discussion at the previous meeting centered on the updating of Chapter 8.3,

Chapter 8.1 reviews unique stream segments in the region. None were designated.

Chapter 8.2 examines unique reservoir sites. Post Reservoir was designated as such in 2001 with passage of HB 3096.

Chairman Brown acknowledged Mr. Clayton as one of the references included in this chapter of the regional water management plan. He asked Mr. Clayton if he believed the proposed Post Reservoir could be constructed.

Mr. Clayton said he is unsure. There are several issues relating to the Federal Government and the Endangered Species Act. There is some question as to whether or not the Post Reservoir could be completed before the sharpnose and smalleye shiners become extinct. They were listed as endangered species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on August 4, 2014.

Mr. Steiert reminded the group that Joan Glass of the TPWD had an open and frank discussion about the unique stream segment designation a couple of planning cycles ago. She said there was no advantage to such a designation.

Chapter 8.3 includes several recommendations for the TWDB's consideration. These include appreciation for state funding for project implementation (SWIFT loan program); support of the Rule of Capture; acknowledgement of the importance of agriculture to the region and state; concern about ways to realistically address agricultural water supply problems; playa best management practices; control of invasive species (*invasive aquatic vegetation, salt cedar, etc.*) and protection of springs and seeps.

Dr. Rainwater offered a correction on Page 87. The document discusses control of the invasive species, including plants and animals. The next sentence reads... "Support controlling aquatic vegetation as a water conservation practice." The word "invasive" should be added.

Chairman Brown asked if there was a spray to kill juniper cedar, which is quickly spreading off the Caprock Escarpment. Mr. Morris said he was not aware of a cost-effective spray.

There was discussion regarding the regional water planning group's involvement in developing the water supply and demand projections. Mayor Josserand said the statement should be strengthened whenever/wherever possible. Ms. Salvas said she would give examples of areas where it is believed that population estimates are overestimated.

Vice-Chairman Spear said the region often has much better grasp on population and demand projections than the TWDB. The planning group should be able to incorporate these projections, assumptions, and data or modify the existing TWDB data to match conditions in the region. Ms. Salvas said these sentiments would be incorporated into the draft plan.

Ms. Ewing encouraged the members to review this section and provide additional comments to her, if needed.



**Chapter 9 of the IPP** will discuss how local governments, regional authorities, and other political subdivisions will finance the implementation of water management strategies, based on an online survey that will be administered by the TWDB. It is a placeholder at present. This information will be added after the draft IPP is submitted to the TWDB on May 1.

**Chapter 10 of the IPP** documents the public participation in the regional water planning process. This section discusses information provided on the LERWPG web site ([www.llanoplan.org](http://www.llanoplan.org)), an overview of the regional water planning group members and the water users they represent, collection of data pertaining to water supply and water conservation, and coordination with other regional water planning groups. Ms. Ewing noted that the TWDB has asked that they be alerted to any potential interregional conflicts. While this is the case in other regions, Region O does not have any conflicts with adjoining regions at this time.

Chapters 10.5, 10.6, and 10.7 will be completed as part of the final adopted 2016 regional water plan.

Vice-Chairman Spear asked Ms. Backhouse to discuss the public comment process that will take place when the draft IPP is submitted to the TWDB.

Copies of the IPP will be distributed to Courthouses and Libraries in each county of the region.

Ms. Backhouse said the LERWPG is required to hold a public hearing on the IPP after it is submitted to the TWDB in May. There are quite a few public notices that must be sent out/published when the IPPs are delivered to the courthouses/libraries in the region. Comments can be accepted during the 30-day period. Then, comments will be accepted 60 days following the hearing.

Mayor Josserand noted that state statute requires the regional water planning group to conduct only one public hearing on the initially-prepared plan. However, additional hearings could be conducted, if the members so desire. Ms. Backhouse agreed.

There were no other additions, revisions, or questions.

**Chapter 11 of the IPP** compares implementation of the 2016 regional water plan to the previous 2011 plan.

There were no additions, revisions, or questions.

Chairman Brown thanked Ms. Ewing and Ms. Salvas for their presentation. He then asked the group if they wanted to approve the draft chapters with the previously discussed additions and revisions.

Vice-Chairman Spear noted that the regional water plan is still in draft form. The LERWPG will meet in April to consider approval of the Executive Summary and Chapter 5--Water Management Strategies. There will be opportunities for revisions between the end of the public comment period and submission of the final plan to the TWDB on or before December 1, 2015.

Mr. Everheart made a motion to approve draft Chapters 1-4 and 6-11 as presented and/or amended at today's meeting. Mr. Hopper seconded the motion. All members voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.

The amended chapters will be posted to the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group website ([www.llanoplan.org](http://www.llanoplan.org)). Ms. Ewing said Daniel B. Stephens and Associates (*DBS&A*) will provide 12 printed copies to the TWDB and two printed copies for distribution in each county of the Region O water planning area. Unless they contact Ms. Ewing to request a hardcopy, members will access the draft chapters on the LERWPG website. Members who want printed copies should contact her as soon as possible.

### **MEETING RECESSED FOR LUNCH:**

Chairman Brown called a recess at 11:38 a.m. for lunch. Mr. Keith left the meeting at this time.

### **MEETING RECONVENED:**

Chairman Brown reconvened the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

### **7. Discuss and take possible action to approve the summaries for each of the 21 counties included in the Initially Prepared Plan.**

No action was taken on this agenda item as this was included in discussion under Agenda Item 6.

### **8. Hear and discuss a report from the subcommittee on funding administration of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group.**

Chairman Brown called on Mr. Satterwhite, who chairs the funding source committee.

The committee is exploring funding options so that the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG) can replace HPWD as the political subdivision administering the LERWPG. SPAG is willing to serve in this capacity—as long as it can receive guaranteed funding of about \$52,000 per year. They will probably need to hire an additional staff member to handle administrative duties.

Mr. Satterwhite discussed the Region O funding source recommendation document provided to members in advance of today's meeting. This document has only been circulated among the committee members and LERWPG membership. He asked the group to review the document and provide comments/recommendations as soon as possible.

The proposed solicitation involves funding from groundwater conservation districts, municipalities, surface and wholesale water providers, counties in the region, and other solicited companies and water supply systems.

Mr. Coleman had a March meeting with Elena Quintanilla of SPAG to share information about a political subdivision's role in the regional water planning process.

The SPAG membership is meeting sometime in April to discuss this matter. Mr. Coleman said this will give a better plan of action for Region O to solicit funds from entities in order to accomplish the goal of transferring administrative responsibilities.

Mr. Satterwhite said it is important to keep budget cycles in mind. Region O should begin the solicitation process as soon as possible in April.

Chairman Brown said he had visited with Chancellor Robert Duncan regarding Texas Tech University as a possible source for funding. Chairman Brown may visit with Rick Kellison, director of the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation (TAWC) as a result.

Mr. Everheart asked who would solicit these funds on behalf of Region O. Mr. Coleman said he hoped to have a better answer following SPAG's April meeting. There will need to be an education process so that everyone is aware of the regional water planning process and what the billing statement represents.

No action was taken on this agenda item. The committee will not make any recommendations until it hears from SPAG in April. It is hoped that the SPAG meeting will take place prior to the April LERWPG meeting.

Chairman Brown commended Mr. Satterwhite, Ms. Barnes, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Everheart, Ms. Harris, Mr. Hopper, Mr. Morris, Vice-Chairman Spear, and Mr. Steiert for their work. Mr. Morris said he was unable to participate in the committee meetings—but also thanked the group for all their work.

**9. Discuss and take possible action to adopt the LERWPG Initially Prepared Plan and authorize the LERWPG political subdivision to submit the IPP to the TWDB by the May 1, 2015 deadline.**

No action was taken on this agenda item as it was previously discussed during today's meeting.

**10. Discuss and take possible action to authorize the LERWPG political subdivision to provide public notice and to hold a public hearing on the Initially Prepared Plan.**

No action was taken on this agenda item. It will be addressed at the April meeting.

**11. Discuss and take possible action to authorize the LERWPG political subdivision to execute a contract on behalf of the LERWPG for the fifth cycle of regional water planning (2016-2021).**

Ms. Backhouse said authorization is needed as the contracts for the fifth cycle of regional water planning are expected to be sent out in May. It is important to execute the contract so that the regional water planning efforts for the fifth cycle are funded by the state. The group does not need to lose the \$84,000 to fund the next planning cycle. HPWD has agreed to continue as the administrator for Region O until a new political subdivision is found. The transfer of responsibilities can be accomplished with a contract amendment.

After brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Satterwhite to authorize the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District (LERWPG political subdivision) to execute a contract on behalf of the LERWPG for the fifth cycle of regional water planning (2016-2021). Mr. Josserand seconded the motion. All members voted "aye," and the motion was unanimously approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER INFORMATION:**

**12. The LERWPG will hear a presentation on Zebra Mussels and other invasive aquatic species by John Clayton of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.**

Chairman Brown called on Mr. Clayton to give a PowerPoint presentation regarding aquatic invasive species in Texas.

There are many invasive species in the world. Efforts are made to keep them out of locations—but that's not to say that they won't be there eventually. Some are introduced with good intentions (kudzu vine and salt cedar) while others are introduced unknowingly in today's mobile society.

Originally from Russia, Zebra Mussels are “aquatic hitchhikers” that can be easily transported from place to place on boats and other recreational equipment. They begin as microscopic larvae that can eventually grow to 1½ inches. They are mainly found in the Great Lakes region—but have been found as far South as Lake Texoma and in other river basins in Texas. None have been found in the Panhandle-South Plains region.

Zebra Mussels will colonize on anything in water. They have been established for some time once evidence of the mussels has been found. Research has shown that acetylsalicylic acid (commonly known as aspirin) has been shown to kill Zebra Mussels.

TPWD and others are involved in educational efforts to remind boat owners to clean, drain, and dry their boats, trailers, and gear for at least one week before entering another body of water.

Other invasive species of concern include:

- **Quagga Mussels** -- These may be a larger problem than Zebra Mussels. DNA of Quagga Mussels has been found at Fort Sumner State Park in New Mexico. Many persons from New Mexico bring their watercraft to Lake Alan Henry.
- **Golden Algae** – Mr. Clayton said Golden Algae found in the Pecos River are identical to those found in fjords in Norway. Golden Algae produce a toxin that is responsible for the fish kill; it is typically bad in our part of Texas due to lack of fresh water inflow into the lakes. The non-toxic freshwater inflow would provide a refuge for the fish during the toxic bloom. Golden Algae fish kills have occurred in the North Fork of the Brazos River, Lake Ransom Canyon, Buffalo Springs Lake, and Lake Meredith. TPWD monitors this on a quarterly basis. Although carp were introduced to this country by European settlers many years ago, they aren't really considered an invasive species anymore. Golden Algae will kill them, but they seem to be a little more resistant to the toxic blooms than other species of fish. Algaecides will kill it. However, it comes back with a vengeance if treatment is halted.
- **Giant Salvinia** – Giant Salvinia, originally from Brazil, infests areas in South and East Texas.
- **Water Hyacinth** – This also originated in Brazil. The plants can double each week without predators. Therefore, one plant in a week becomes two, two becomes four, four becomes eight, and it can take over quickly. Insects are natural predators, but they are native to Brazil. They are being introduced to this area in an attempt to control this invasive species.

- **Milfoil and Hydrilla** – These have been found in Lake Greenbelt and Lake Meredith. Winter usually kills it; however, a mild winter could allow it to prosper.
- **Others** include didymo (“rock snot”), rusty crayfish, elephant ear, plecostomus (“sucker mouth catfish”) giant cane, koi, goldfish, and red belly pacu (often mistaken for piranha).

Chairman Brown and the membership thanked Mr. Clayton for a very informative presentation.

### **13. Receive A Report From The TWDB Project Manager.**

Ms. Backhouse wanted to add extra information about the 5<sup>th</sup> cycle contract. If SPAG takes over from HPWD, then two action items are needed from LERWPG. One item is to select SPAG as the new political subdivision to administer Region O. The other is to approve a contract amendment between TWDB, HPWD, and SPAG that transfers responsibilities to the new political subdivision.

### **14. Receive A Report from the Region O Technical Consultant.**

Ms. Ewing had no additional information to report.

### **15. Receive A Report from the Region O Administrator.**

Mr. Coleman had no additional information to report. He said the most relevant information had been covered by Mr. Satterwhite during Agenda Item 8.

Mr. Satterwhite left the meeting at this time.

### **16. Receive A Report From The GMA # 2 And GMA # 6 Representatives.**

**GMA # 2:** Mr. Hopper had no new information to report relating to GMA # 2.

**GMA # 6:** Mr. Campsey reported GMA # 6 is meeting April 2 at the North Central Texas Municipal Water Authority office in Munday. They will be discussing a public hearing to allow persons to discuss the desired future conditions previously adopted by GMA #6.

Representatives will also discuss a possible revision to the GMA # 6 boundaries. There is a portion of the Ogallala Aquifer in northwestern Motley County. It is not considered to be a major aquifer within this GMA and the boundaries need to be revised accordingly.

## **17. Receive reports from liaisons to other regional water planning groups.**

**Region A:** Ms. Backhouse reported Region A met on February 17 to approve the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission as its political subdivision. Other agenda items included approval of Chapters 1, 5, 7, and 8 of the initially prepared plan as well as a request that the TWDB conduct the socioeconomic impact analysis for the region. Region A meets April 20 to make final revisions and to adopt the draft IPP.

**Region B:** Jack Campsey reported Region B met March 25<sup>th</sup>. One major point of discussion was the City of Wichita Falls' study indicating that it is more cost-effective to construct Lake Ringgold in northern Clay County—rather than dredging existing Lake Arrowhead, which contains a great deal of silt. Construction of the new reservoir is expected to take 20-23 years and could cost more than \$300 million.

**Region F:** Mr. Everheart reported Region F met February 19 and discussed much of the same items that Region O discussed today. STW Resources Inc. of Midland gave a presentation regarding its zero liquid discharge DyVar desalination technology at the meeting.

**Region G:** Michael McClendon was absent. No report given.

## **18. Receive Public Input & Comments To The Regional Water Planning Group.**

Chairman Brown called for public input and comments from the audience. There were none.

He noted for the record that each member of the LERWPG received two sets of written comments from J. Collier Adams, Jr. Mr. Adams was present earlier—but was unable to stay for the conclusion of the meeting.

## **19. Consider A Date And Agenda Items For The Next Regular Meeting.**

After discussion, the next regular meeting of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group is set for Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at the High Plains Water District office.

## **20. Consider Other Business And Announcements.**

Chairman Brown called on the membership to consider other business and announcements. There being none, no action was taken.

**21. Adjournment.**

There being no additional business, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 1:38 p.m.

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The above conveys my understanding of the issues discussed and conclusions reached. I assume this understanding is correct until notice to the contrary is received.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Doug Hutcheson*

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**Doug Hutcheson, Secretary-Treasurer**  
Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group

*These minutes were approved at the April 15, 2015 regular meeting of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group.*