

**MINUTES OF THE  
LLANO ESTACADO REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (REGION O)  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2012**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER and WELCOME BY CHAIRMAN H. P. BROWN JR.**

Chairman H. P. Brown Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in the A. Wayne Wyatt Board Room of the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District No. 1 office, 2930 Avenue Q, Lubbock, Texas.

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

**2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS TO ESTABLISH QUORUM**

At 10:02 a.m., Chairman Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**The following Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group members were in attendance:** H. P. Brown Jr., Jim Conkwright, Doug Hutcheson, Harvey Everheart, Jack Campsey, Aubrey Spear, Dr. Melanie Barnes, Kent Satterwhite, Dr. Ken Rainwater, Mark Kirkpatrick, Michael McClendon, Delaine Baucum, Richard Leonard, and Jim Steiert.

**Unable to Attend (Excused Absence):** Bill Harbin, Delmon Ellison Jr., John Taylor, Don McElroy, and Bob Josserand.

**Absent Members (Unexcused):** None

**Non-Voting Members in Attendance:** John Clayton, Stefan Schuster, Jason Lindeman, Matt Williams, and Angela Kennedy.

**Absent Non-Voting Members:** None

**A Quorum of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group was present.**  
(There were 14 of 21 in attendance or 67%)

**Others in Attendance:** Mike McGregor, Jason Coleman, Lori Barnes, Ben Weinheimer, Ray Brady, David Harkins, Kyle Chapman, and Cleon Namken.

**3. The LERWPG will discuss and consider possible approval of the regular meeting minutes of April 26, 2012.** Chairman Brown requested comment and changes to the April 26, 2012 minutes previously provided electronically, as well as hard copies available at this meeting. It was moved by Jim Conkwright to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mark Kirkpatrick. The April 26, 2012 minutes were unanimously approved.

4. **The LERWPG will discuss and consider approval of the financial statements.**  
Doug Hutcheson, Secretary/Treasurer, presented the financial statement. It was moved by Mark Kirkpatrick to approve the financial statement. The motion was seconded by Harvey Everheart. The financial statement was unanimously approved.
  
5. **The LERWPG will discuss and consider possible action to authorize Region O to provide notice and submit grant application to TWDB for funding of fourth round of regional water planning.** Stefan Schuster was called upon to present this agenda item. Mr. Schuster reviewed the irrigation, mining, cattle and electric water projections, including the changes made from the April 26, 2012 meeting. Angela Kennedy reported that the projection staff has reviewed these revisions and they have not had the chance to send out the official acceptance notification, but they agree with the revisions. Mr. Schuster said that there has been a significant reduction in demand. Mr. Schuster said that they have worked with the cattle feeders and dairy operators to get their respective demands more accurate. He said that they are recommending the 2017 draft State Water Plan be adopted. Mining demand is another one of the demands where we did have some significant input and concerns. In Gaines County, the majority of the oil and gas operations are seeing a significant increase in water use. We have taken the maximum value reported for any mining water use in this particular decade and that is what we are recommending as the mining demand. In many cases, we are finding that we are under-reporting, even the projection to the actual demand.

Mr. Conkwright said that the High Plains Water District feels the oil and gas industry is only exempt from getting a permit to drill a water well for the drilling of the oil/gas well. Anything after that, the District requires at least registration of the well. If the landowner is going to use the well in the future, the well must be permitted as a water well. Also, an annual report of their water use is required. The amount of water they use will be regulated by High Plains Water District just as an agricultural producer's water or any municipality.

Mr. Schuster said that in the electric power generation there has not been much change and the 2017 draft projections will be adopted. There is growth in a few counties throughout the region but there is really not anything significant. He reported that they are now in the process of preparing the request for authorization on the next round of funding for \$457,000.00 in funds from TWDB through the end of the planning cycle in 2015 that is due in October. The application is presently about 95 percent complete. Mr. Schuster said that basically the "Non-Municipal" demand projection will be adopted with this presentation. For the next Planning Group meeting, we have to have multiple water supply issues completed so we can potentially adopt the water supply model, as well as present the proposed evaluation criteria in process for the water management strategies. Mr. Schuster said that they have started compiling the assessment of the water supply in general. The irrigation demands were adjusted according to the modeled available groundwater by county. In general, this is a preliminary indication of our unmet needs. These are the shortages that we are working with in this round of planning based on the revised MAG. It was moved by Kent Satterwhite to authorize High Plains Water District to move forward on the application on behalf of Region O so there will be the necessary dollars to start the fourth round of planning. Motion was seconded by Aubrey Spear. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. **The LERWPG will discuss and take possible action of "Non-Municipal" demand to be submitted to TWDB.** Chairman Brown noted that what was done at the last Planning Group meeting is being modified today. Stefan Schuster was called upon to present this agenda item. Mr. Schuster reviewed the irrigation, mining, cattle and electric water projections, including the changes made from the April 26, 2012 meeting. The irrigation will remain the

7. **The LERWPG will receive an update on GMA #1 and GMA #2 from representatives.** Mr. Conkwright and Mr. Coleman both gave updates on the GMAs. Mr. Coleman communicated that management plans were in final form for Llano Estacado UWCD, South Plains UWCD, and Sandy Land UWCD in GMA #2. Mr. Conkwright noted that High Plains Water District is in both GMA #1 and GMA #2. The District's rules and management plan have been in place for approximately two years (2010 and 2011). In the remainder of GMA #1, the Panhandle GCD has approved their management plan and rules, and North Plains GCD and Hemphill UWCD are in the process.
8. **The LERWPG will receive an update from Region A.** No report was given.
9. **The LERWPG will receive an update on Texas Water Conservation Advisory Council activities.** No report was given.
10. **The LERWPG will receive a report from LERWPG Administrator.** Mr. Conkwright reported that there are two vacancies on the Planning Group; County Governments and Oil and Gas. The Lamb County Judge has indicated an interest and is preparing letters to be submitted for appointment as the county representative to LERWPG. There is still a need to replace Gene Montgomery, Oil and Gas, who has retired.
11. **The LERWPG will receive an overview from Mike McClendon – BRA.** Mr. Brown noted that Agenda Item 11 is being merged with Agenda Item 5. Mike McClendon presented a power point of the complete Brazos River Authority drainage. They have the first major water right permit containing environmental flow provisions similar to SB3. The additional water comes from natural flows downstream of the reservoirs. The total authorized diversions in the Brazos Basin are about 661,901 acre-feet of water. The Brazos River Authority is at a point that if someone wanted a long-term water contract, they would have to turn them away until an additional water supply is developed. In the Regional Planning process, they project that in 2020 they will have significant shortages. This permit will generate revenue to help pay for future water supply projects. The TCEQ Commissioners advised them to develop a Water Management Plan. Currently, BRA is holding stakeholder meetings throughout the Brazos Basin to develop a Water Management Plan. Obviously, there have not been any meetings scheduled in Lubbock or Abilene or any where further north than Possum Kingdom, primarily because this permit does not affect Region O. There are not any discernible impacts to surface water supplies in Region O. The BRA Water Management Plan will be submitted to TCEQ in November and TCEQ will then develop a draft permit. Aubrey Spear then expanded on Mr. McClendon's comments. Mr. Schuster said that work needs to be done on the surface water. Expectations are that at the next Planning Group meeting, they will be able to present an adequate presentation of the surface water. Also, it may be possible to consider approving the supply module and look at the evaluation criteria for the water management strategies.

**12. The LERWPG will receive reports from liaisons to other regions.**

Region A: Kent Satterwhite updated the group on Region A. He communicated that Region A was at the same point as Region O, determining “Non-Municipal” demand.

Region B & TWDB: Angela Kennedy explained the status of the rules revisions being considered by TWDB. Drought monitoring and measurement, reuse, desalinization and strategies were the main areas being addressed by TWDB. There is also a need to document the criteria that will be used to prioritize the strategies. The TWDB board members and legislators want to see the projects that are in the State Water Plan implemented. They are asking that each of the interest group members get involved in pushing the projects and communicating to their local entities that the projects exist in the plan and that funding is available from the state to get the projects underway.

Region F: No report given.

Region G: No report given.

**13. The next Region O – Next LERWPG meeting was scheduled for Thursday October 25, 2012.**

**14. The LERWPG adjourned at 12:56 p.m.**

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

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**H. P. “Bo” Brown Jr., Chairman**

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**Doug Hutcheson, Secretary/Treasurer**