

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (REGION O)

Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group (LERWPG)  
 Work Session Meeting Minutes  
 November 15, 2018

**LERWPG Voting Membership as of November 15, 2018:**

Executive Committee: Aubrey A. Spear, PE (Chairman), Mark Kirkpatrick (Vice-Chairman), and Doug Hutcheson (Secretary-Treasurer)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>TWDB Designation (Interest Category)</u>
1. Dr. Melanie Barnes, Ph. D	2019	Public
2. Jason Coleman, PE	2018	Water Districts
3. Harry DeWit	2021	Agricultural
4. Carrie Dodson	2022	Groundwater Management Areas (#6)
5. Delmon Ellison Jr.	2019	Agricultural
6. Dr. Chris Grotegut, DVM	2021	Agricultural
7. Joey Hardin	2022	Industries
8. Ronnie Hopper	2022	Groundwater Management Areas (#2)
9. Doug Hutcheson	2019	Water Utilities
10. Nathaniel (Shane) Jones	2021	Water Utilities
11. Mark Kirkpatrick	2022	Agricultural
12. Don McElroy	2022	Small Business
13. Charlie Morris	2022	Counties
14. Dr. Ken Rainwater, Ph. D	2022	Public
15. Jeff Sammon	2022	River Authorities
16. Kent Satterwhite	2022	Water Utilities
17. Tom Simons	2019	Municipalities (medium) 10-30,000
18. Jeffrey Snyder	2021	Municipalities (medium) 10-30,000
19. Aubrey A. Spear, PE	2019	Municipalities (large) 30,000 or more
20. Jim Steiert	2022	Environmental
21. John Taylor	2019	Municipalities (small) less than 10,000
22. Jimmy Wedel	2019	Agricultural
23. Ben Weinheimer, Sr., PE	2022	Agricultural
24. Vacant	2017	(previously Municipal WSD)
25. Vacant	2019	(previously Electric Generating Utilities)

**LERWPG Non-Voting Membership:**

Aaron Waters	N/A	TWDB
John Clayton	N/A	TPWD
Jason Lindeman	N/A	TCEQ
Carol Faulkenberry	N/A	TDA

Tommy O'Brien (Region G)	N/A	Designated Liaison to Region O
Rusty Ray	N/A	TSSWCB

**LERWPG Consultant**

Paula Jo Lemonds, PG, PE	N/A	HDR, Inc
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**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

The Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group (Region O) met in an open public meeting on Wednesday, November 15, 2018. Chairman Aubrey A. Spear welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M. in the board room of the South Plains Association of Governments (SPAG), 1323 58<sup>th</sup> Street, Lubbock, Texas.

**2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum**

A quorum of LERWPG voting members was in attendance with 17 of 23 members present.

The following voting members were not in attendance (excused absence): Mr. Delmon Ellison, Jr., and Mr. Jim Steiert.

The following voting members were not in attendance (unexcused absence): Mr. Tom Simons, Mr. Jeffrey Snyder, Mr. Jimmy Wedel and Mr. Ben Weinheimer, Sr.

The following voting member resigned: Mr. John Taylor (November 15, 2018).

The following non-voting member was not in attendance: Mr. Rusty Ray (TSSWCB). Regional Manager Glenn Baker attended in Mr. Ray's absence.

Registered Guests in Attendance: Kelly Davila (SPAG), Belinda Solis (SPAG), Amber Blount (Sandy Land UWCD), Amy Bush (RMBJ Geo), Ray Brady (RMBJ Geo), Lindy Harris (SPUWCD), Jacob Hernandez (Mesa UWCD), Victoria Whitehead (HPWD), Katherine Drury (HPWD), Keith Sides (USDA-NRCS), Lee Norman (Garza County), Gary Burke (USGS), Robert Bradley (TWDB), Bill Paxton (Utilis), Gadi Kovarsky (Utilis), Chris Keffer (Utilis), Bob Sweet (SFWQ), Kleber Denny (SFWQ), Christopher Brown (USGS), Jerry Millsaps (TWDB), and Greg Stanton (USGS).

**3. Introductions**

Chairman Spear asked Sarah Backhouse to introduce the new Region O Project Manager. Ms. Backhouse introduced Mr. Aaron Waters and announced Mr. Waters is replacing Mr. Tom Barnett. Chairman Spear asked the audience members to introduce themselves.

## **WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS ON AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION**

### **4. Discussion on Irrigation Measurement and Management and Dairy Water Conservation Methods (Harry DeWit)**

Mr. DeWit presented information regarding dairy water management irrigation measurement & water conservation methods. Items of discussion included the following topics:

- 1) Water Management at High Plains Dairy
- 2) Milk Cooling
- 3) Flush Barns
- 4) Sand Lane
- 5) Lagoon
- 6) Cow Cooling
- 7) Daily Temp Chart
- 8) Irrigation Management
- 9) Dragon Line

## **WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS ON MUNICIPAL CONSERVATION**

### **5. Discussion on Satellite-based Leak Detection Methods (Gadi Kovarsky, Utilis)**

Mr. Kovarsky presented information using satellites to detect leakage and reduce non-revenue water. Items of discussion included the following topics:

- 1) What is the problem?
- 2) How big of a problem is water lost by leaks?
- 3) Why does it matter?
- 4) How can we find the leaks?
- 5) Standard solutions, significant upfront capex
- 6) So, What's wrong with the status quo?
- 7) Underlying magic
- 8) How Utilis can guide you?
- 9) Who is Utilis?
- 10) How does a satellite work?
- 11) SAR satellites
- 12) How does a satellite find water underground?
- 13) What does Utilis do?
- 14) How do we do it?
- 15) Analysis
- 16) Delivery
- 17) From satellite to leak analysis: Utilis main benefits

Mr. Kovarsky also presented a brief overview on 'Assessing the effectiveness of Leak-Seeking Satellites' and provided a handout.

**WORK SESSION DISCUSSION ITEMS ON GENERAL WATER SUPPLY FOR VARIOUS WATER USER GROUPS**

**6. Discussion on Salt Fork Water Quality Project (Kleber Denny, Salt Fork Water Quality Corporation)**

Mr. Denny presented information regarding the Panther Canyon Brine Project located in Kent/Stonewall County Texas. Items of discussion regarding the Panther Canyon Brine Project included the following topics:

- 1) Setting
- 2) Early USGS Involvement
- 3) Lowering Brine Water Table
- 4) Proposed Brine Transmission Line
- 5) Booster Pump Station
- 6) Ground Storage Tanks for Brine
- 7) Desalination Technology
- 8) Distilled Water Production
- 9) Moving Large Amounts of Salt and Water
- 10) Municipal Desalinated Potable Water
- 11) Cost Estimate Summary

Mr. Denny also presented an overview of the 'Chloride Reduction with Resource Recovery' project conducted at the Salt Creek site in 2011 and provided handouts.

**7. Discussion on Hydraulic Fracking Water Use and Regional Gas Industry Insights (Joey Hardin)**

Mr. Hardin presented information on hydraulic fracking water use and regional oil and gas insights. Items of discussion included the following topics:

- 1) Resources
- 2) FracFocus
- 3) Region O – Water Use for Oil and Gas Industry
- 4) Horizontal Well
- 5) RRC

**DISCUSSION ITEMS, REPORTS, OTHER PRESENTATIONS**

**8. Update on Technical Progress (Paula Jo Lemonds, HDR Inc.)**

Ms. Lemonds gave an overview of the regional water planning process. Items of discussion included the following topics:

- 1) Background and Review
- 2) Next Steps
- 3) Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies Updates
- 4) Information from TWDB

5) Drought Monitor

**9. Report from TWDB Project Manager (Sarah Backhouse)**

Ms. Backhouse gave the following TWDB updates:

- 1) Rules pamphlet
- 2) Flood Assessment
- 3) Water for Texas Conference
- 4) Uniform Stakeholder Committee meeting
- 5) WMS evaluation tools available to assist in water management strategy evaluations
- 6) Technical Memorandums and Data Visualization Map

**10. Report from Region O Administrator (Kelly Davila)**

Mrs. Davila reported the following as listed below:

- 1) The LERWPG will review Region O Bylaws at the next LERWPG regular meeting and will consider possible amendments as recommended by the Bylaws Advisory Subcommittee.
- 2) There has been some recent changes in the posting and distribution requirements when soliciting nominations to fill vacancies or reappointments to the membership for RWPG's.
- 3) Mrs. Davila announced Mr. John Taylor is resigning from the LERWPG effective November 30, 2018. Mr. Taylor stated he has served 10 years on the LERWPG.
- 4) Mrs. Davila reported on highlights from the recent Chairs Conference Call held on October 22, 2018.

**11. Report from Groundwater Management Area Representatives**

**A. GMA #2** (Ronnie Hopper) – Mr. Hopper reported GMA #2 will meet at 2pm today at SPAG and invited LERWPG members to attend the GMA meeting.

**B. GMA #6** (Carrie Dodson) – Ms. Dodson reported King County was annexed into the district.

**12. Report from Liaisons to adjacent Regional Water Planning Groups**

**A. Region A** (Kent Satterwhite) – Mr. Satterwhite reported the next Region A meeting will be held in February 2019.

**B. Region B** (Carrie Dodson) – No report.

**C. Region F** (Vacant) – No report.

**D. Region G** (Tommy O'Brien) – Mr. O'Brien reported Region G met in August and they identified major suppliers and are looking at the technical memos. The next Region G meeting will be held in February or March.

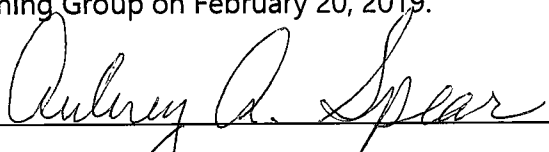
**13. Consider Other Business and Announcements**

Chairman Spear announced the next LERWPG meeting will likely be held in February.

**14. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 P. M.

These minutes were approved at the regular meeting of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group on February 20, 2019.

Attest: 

Aubrey A. Spear, P.E., LERWPG Chairman