

**REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (REGION O)**

**Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group (LERWPG)  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2020**

**LERWPG Voting Membership as of September 10, 2020:**

Executive Committee: Aubrey A. Spear, PE (Chairman), Mark Kirkpatrick (Vice-Chairman) and Dr. Ken Rainwater, PE (Secretary-Treasurer)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>TWDB Designation (Interest Category)</u>
Melanie Barnes, Ph. D	2024	Public
Jason Coleman, PE	2023	Water Districts
Harry DeWit	2021	Agricultural
Carrie Dodson	2022	Groundwater Management Areas (#6)
Dr. Chris Grotegut, DVM	2021	Agricultural
Joey Hardin	2022	Industries
Ronnie Hopper	2022	Groundwater Management Areas (#2)
Nathaniel (Shane) Jones	2021	Water Utilities
Mark Kirkpatrick	2022	Agricultural
Don McElroy	2022	Small Business
Alan Monroe	2024	Municipalities (small) less than 10,000
Charlie Morris	2022	Counties
Ken Rainwater, Ph. D, PE	2022	Public
Jeff Sammon	2022	River Authorities
Kent Satterwhite	2022	Water Utilities
Jeffrey Snyder	2021	Municipalities (medium) 10-30,000
Aubrey A. Spear, PE	2024	Municipalities (large) 30,000 or more
Jim Steiert	2022	Environmental
Ben Weinheimer, Sr., PE	2022	Agricultural
Bret Yeary, PE	2024	Electric Generating Utilities
Vacant	2017	(previously Water Supply Districts)
Vacant	2019	(previously Water Utilities)
Vacant	2019	(previously Municipalities (medium))
Vacant	2019	(previously Agriculture)
Vacant	2019	(previously Agriculture)

**LERWPG Non-Voting Membership:**

Jean Devlin	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 Thursday, September 10, 2020. Chairman Aubrey A. Spear welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. via teleconference through Webex.

## 2. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

A quorum of LERWPG voting members was in attendance with 16 of 20 members present.

The following voting members were not in attendance (excused absence): Ms. Carrie Dodson, Mr. Don McElroy, Mr. Alan Monroe, and Mr. Jeff Sammon.

The following voting members were not in attendance (unexcused absence): Not applicable.

The following non-voting members were not in attendance: Mr. John Clayton, Mr. Tommy O'Brien and Mr. Rusty Ray

Registered Guests in Attendance: Ms. Paula Jo Lemonds (HDR), Ms. Kelly Davila (SPAG), Ms. Piata Bryant (SPAG).

## 3. Introduction of Members and Guests

Members and guests were introduced.

## 4. Remarks from TWDB Director Brooke Paup

Director Paup provided comments to the Group. She expressed her gratitude to the Region O Planning Group on their efforts to produce and high-quality Regional Water Plan for this planning cycle.

**ACTION ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

## 5. Consider Approval of May 14, 2020 LERWPG Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Mark Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with Dr. Chris Grotegut seconding the motion. All were in favor, the motion carried.

## 6. Consider acceptance of the Financial Report, (Dr. Ken Rainwater, Secretary-Treasurer)

Dr. Rainwater presented the financial report. Motion to accept the financial report was made by Mr. Ben Weinheimer. Mark Kirkpatrick seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 7. Discussion and potential action of Task 9 - Reporting of Financing Mechanisms for WMS and Infrastructure Financing Survey Results (Paula Jo Lemonds)

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No action necessary. Ms. Paula Jo Lemonds advised the group that four out of eight surveys were returned. Ms. Lemonds presented Task 9 data to the group for discussion.

8. Consider approval of final prioritization of projects in the 2021 Regional Water Plan to be submitted to TWDB by November 5, 2020 (Paula Jo Lemonds)

Ms. Paula Jo Lemonds explained the prioritization process and the scoring mechanism. It was noted in the discussion that the evaluation criteria for "capacity replacement" needs to be considered over the entire planning horizon. Mark Kirkpatrick motioned to approve the proposed project prioritization list. Ronnie Hopper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Chair to name a nomination working group (Aubrey Spear)

Mr. Aubrey Spear discussed appointing a nomination committee to consider names for a new slate of officers.

Melanie Barnes, Ronnie Hopper and Dr. Chris Grotegut all accepted appointments to the nomination committee. Chris Grotegut accepted the role to chair the committee.

10. Consider approval and adoption of the 2021 Llano Estacado Regional Water Plan (Paula Jo Lemonds)

Paula Jo Lemonds presented the final version of the 2021 Llano Estacado Regional Water Plan to the group. Jason Coleman commended the Chair and HDR team on their efforts during this planning cycle. The final Plan and a few minor modifications were reviewed and discussed.

Dr. Chris Grotegut motioned to approve and adopt the 2021 Llano Estacado Regional Water Plan pending any non-substantive revisions. Jim Steiert seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

11. Consider delegating authority to LERWPG officers to make non-substantive revisions that might be needed between the date of final adoption and the November 5, 2020, submittal date. Consider authorizing South Plains Association of Governments to submit the 2021 Llano Estacado Regional Water Plan to TWDB by the November 5, 2020, deadline. Submittal of final plan will include other work products including: 2021 recommended water management strategies project prioritization list, electronic data files, and final complete Geographic Information System (GIS) data package

Mr. Jim Steiert made a motion for the Group to delegate authority to LERWPG officers to make non-substantive revisions that may be needed prior to Plan submission deadline and authorize SPAG to submit the Final Plan. Mr. Harry Dewitt seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

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### DISCUSSION ITEMS, REPORT, PRESENTATIONS

12. Report from TWDB Project Manager (Jean Devlin)
  - A. Final submission of 5<sup>th</sup> cycle plan is November 5, 2020.
  - B. All submissions will be electronic. No hard copies are required for submission.
  - C. The Group needs to meet in the first quarter 2021 to select: 1) a technical consultant 2) a political subdivision and 3) new officers.
  
13. Report from the Region O Administrator (Kelly Davila)

Ms. Kelly Davila had no new announcements/updates for the LERWPG. Ready to move forward with 6<sup>th</sup> planning cycle in 2021.
  
14. Report from Groundwater Management Area Representatives:
  - A. GMA #2 (Ronnie Hopper) – GMA #2 held a meeting in May 2020. Ms. Lindley Harris retired in August. Staff member Ms. Layne Marlow was promoted as the new GM of the South Plains Underground Water Conversation District. Next meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> week in October.
  
  - B. GMA #6 (Carrie Dodson) – Absent, no report
  
15. Report from Liaisons to adjacent Regional Water Planning Groups:
  - A. Region A (Kent Satterwhite) – Met in May 2020; Next meeting in late September
  
  - B. Region B (Carrie Dodson) – Absent, no report
  
  - C. Region F (Dr. Melanie Barnes) – Next meeting September 17, 2020. Dr. Barnes will send a link for members to attend this meeting.
  
  - D. Region G (Tommy O'Brien) – Absent, no report
  
16. Receive Public Comments (limited to three minutes per speaker)

No public comments were received.
  
17. Consider Date and Agenda Items for Next LERWPG Meeting

The next LERWPG meeting will be scheduled in first quarter of 2021 to begin the 6<sup>th</sup> Planning Cycle.
  
18. Consider Other Business and Announcements

No other business or announcements made.
  
19. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 A.M.

**REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (REGION O)**

These minutes were approved at the regular meeting of the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group on February 11, 2021.

Attest: Aubrey A. Spear

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