

Minutes of Groundwater Management Area #2 Joint Planning Meeting

July 21, 2010

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. at the High Plains Underground Water Conservation District office in Lubbock, Texas.
2. **Roll Call/Introductions:** Roll was called and a quorum was established. Attending for the High Plains Underground Water District were Bob Meyer, James Mitchell, Bruce Rigler, Jim Conkwright, Sherry Stephens, Bill Mullican and Mike McGregor; for the Permian Basin Underground Water Conservation District was Leatrice Adams; for the South Plains Underground Water District were Jason Coleman (GMA Administrator) and Matt Hogue; for Mesa Underground Water Conservation District were Harvey Everheart (GMA Public Information Officer), Richard Leonard, and Deanya Williams; for Llano Estacado Underground Water Conservation District were Shelby Elam, Jud Chevront, and Lori Barnes; for Sandy Land Underground Water Conservation District were Don Parrish and Crystal Hogue; and for Garza County Underground Water Conservation District was Ferrel Wheeler.

Visitors attending the meeting were Bill Hutchison for the Texas Water Development Board, Sarah Clifton for Senator Robert Duncan, and Ray Brady.

3. **Public Comment:** No public comments were made.
4. **Approval of the minutes:** Jim Conkwright made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2010 meeting with a correction to item 7 stating that “There was *no* discussion of subdividing the aquifer.” The motion was seconded by Shelby Elam. The item passed unanimously.

Shelby Elam made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2006, July 28, 2006, December 14, 2006, September 13, 2007, June 18, 2008, March 25, 2009, and August 20, 2009 meetings. The motion was seconded by Richard Leonard. The item passed unanimously.

5. **Hear presentation from TWDB representative concerning GAM reports 10-023 and 10-025:** Bill Hutchison summarized the contents of GAM Task 10-023 (Ogallala and Edwards-High Plains Aquifers) and GAM Task 10-025 (Dockum Aquifer).

6. **Discuss and take possible action on a Desired Future Condition for the relevant aquifers of GMA #2:** Jim Conkwright notified members that Garza Underground Water Conservation District did not post notice as required by law so members are not able to approve a DFC for any of the aquifers within the GMA at today's meeting. Another meeting will be scheduled to accomplish this.

Harvey Everheart asked about the notice requirements for inactive districts. Hutchison suggested that someone post notice with the county clerks in each county in question.

Jason Coleman opened the discussion of GAM Task 10-023 (Ogallala and the Edwards-Trinity (High Plains) Aquifers) by confirming that Scenario 3 is a combination of the 50/50 volumetric goal requested for the northern part of GMA 2 and the average 10-year draw down goal requested by the southern portion of GMA 2.

With no questions or comments on GAM Task 10-023, Coleman opened the discussion of GAM Task 10-025 (Dockum Aquifer). Since the districts had not met since this report was issued, Coleman asked members to provide comments on or ask questions about the report.

Conkwright pointed out the Dockum Aquifer was probably more relevant for the High Plains Water District and that the scenario that was most appropriate for it was the 40-foot average decline over the 50-year planning horizon which could be found in Table A-8 of the report.

Coleman pointed out that there were several counties that had no, or virtually no, Dockum wells/pumping, and confirmed with Hutchison that the members could declare the Dockum relevant for some counties and not relevant for others.

Don Parrish expressed concern over declaring an aquifer not relevant when outside influences could affect draw down. Hutchison suggested that the members consider three things when declaring any aquifer not relevant: permitted use, ability to monitor, and future use. Conkwright reminded the members that they are required to review all DFC's

at least every five years and more frequently if certain conditions exist. Also, an aquifer that may not be relevant today could be in the future and vice versa.

Everheart expressed concern about adopting a 40-foot average draw down, when it appeared that several districts were already exceeding a 40-foot average draw down. Hutchison explained that the 40-foot average draw down represented the draw down averaged over the entire GMA; and that by specifically referencing Table A-8 in GAM Task 10-025, each district would compare its actual draw down to the values indicated in the table.

Coleman reminded the members that whichever DFCs were adopted that each district must be prepared to monitor or observe its progress.

Coleman asked each member what their initial preference for a Dockum DFC would be. Two districts indicated that a 40-foot average decline over the next 50 years was appropriate for their districts: High Plains and Llano Estacado. The remaining five districts indicated that the Dockum was not relevant to their planning this time: Garza, Permian Basin, Mesa, Sandy Land, and South Plains.

Coleman reminded the members that they have until September 1, 2010 to establish a DFC for the Dockum.

7. **Public Comment:** No public comments were made.

8. **Discuss items for future agendas:** Since the posting requirements for today's meeting were not met, Coleman asked each member to be ready at the next meeting to approve the desired future conditions of the aquifers. A draft resolution will be sent to each member for their consideration before the next meeting.

9. **Adjournment:** Jim Conkwright made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Leatrice Adams. The item was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.