

# Groundwater Management Area 15 Meeting Minutes

The Groundwater Management Area 15 meeting convened at 9:00 AM on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District Office, 118 S. Market St, Goliad, Texas 77963.

**Members GCD Representatives Present:**

1	Aransas County Groundwater Conservation District	
2	Bee Groundwater Conservation District	Lonnie Stewart
3	Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District	Frank Anzaldua
4	Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District	Neil Hudgins
5	Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation District	Neil Hudgins
6	Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District	Jim Brasher
7	Corpus Christi ASR Conservation District	LJ Francis
8	Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District	Russell Labus
9	Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District	David Van Dresar
10	Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District	Art Dohmann
11	Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District	
12	Refugio Groundwater Conservation District	Billie Sue Dunnivan
13	Texana Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss
14	Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District	Tim Andruss

**Agenda Item 1: Call to order and welcome guests.**

Mr. Andruss called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. A quorum was present.

Attached to these minutes is a copy of the meeting attendance sheet.

No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 2: Receive public comment.**

Mr. Andruss offer to accept any public comments. Written and verbal comments regarding a potential groundwater development project by the City of Kennedy were provided by Mr. Terrell Graham and Ms. Tina Shearman.

No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 3: Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the minutes of the previous meeting.**

Mr. Andruss explained that the minutes of the previous meeting were sent to the GMA 15 representatives prior to this meeting.

## Groundwater Management Area 15 Meeting Minutes

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**MOTION:** Mr. Hudgins moved to approve the meeting minutes for May 11, 2017 as drafted. Mr. Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Agenda Item 4:** Consideration of and possible action on matters related to budget and financial reports of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained that the funds collected from member districts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> planning cycle had been exhausted and therefore no report regarding financial matters was developed.

No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 5:** Consideration of and possible action on reports and communication from Groundwater Management Area 15 member districts and Groundwater Management Area 15 representatives to Regional Water Planning Groups.

Mr. Dohmann notified the representatives that a study related to water levels in Goliad County has recently concluded. Mr. Dohmann offered to share the study report with the member districts upon acceptance of the study report by the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District.

Mr. Andruss notified the representatives that the Calhoun County GCD has adopted a management plan and rules which were in effect on October 1, 2017.

Mr. Hudgins explained that Region P RWPG was reviewing water demand projections and would likely seek a revision to the method used to predict demand for irrigation purposes.

No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 6:** Consideration of and possible action on reports from Texas Water Development Board representatives to Groundwater Management Area 15 including GR-16-025.

Mr. Bradley of TWDB informed the GMA that 1) several key staff members of the TWDB were leaving the agency, 2) encouraged districts to consider submitting management plan amendments or newly adopted management plans to TWDB as soon as possible, and 3) staff at TWDB were working to revise the CGC-MAG improvement project schedule.

Mr. Andruss asked that TWDB provided the updated schedule for the CGC-MAG improvement project to the GMA when approved.

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No action was taken.

**Agenda Item 7:** Consideration of and possible action on matters related to joint planning including the review of management plans and accomplishments of Groundwater Management Area 15 member districts.

Mr. Andruss explained that in August 2017, Art Dohmann of Goliad County GCD requested 1) the GMA consider holding a meeting during August and September to afford the representatives the opportunity to discuss a water well field being considered for development near the Goliad/Karnes County Line in the Evangeline Aquifer Component of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System and 2) the attendance of the GMA 15 Chair (Tim Andruss, Victoria County GCD General Manager) at Goliad County GCD meeting on August 14, 2017. A meeting was not scheduled in September due to complications resulting from Hurricane Harvey. Mr. Dohmann expressed concern that the subject well field could have a meaningful impact on the aquifer and the Desired Future Conditions of Goliad County and Karnes County.

At the Goliad County GCD meeting of August 14, 2017, the Board of Directors considered the project and received a considerable public input regarding the matter. Mr. Andruss attended the meeting and commented on the role of GMA 15 and the adopted DFCs.

Mr. Andruss contacted Mr. Labus, General Manager of the Evergreen Underwater Conservation District, and requested that he attend this meeting and provided a summary of the subject project to the GMA 15 representatives.

Mr. Labus provided a summary of the permitting activities and the status of the test well project. Attendees offered comments and questions regarding the project.

The representatives agreed to continue the discussion of the matter at the next GMA 15 meeting.

**Agenda Item 8:** Consideration of and possible action on administrative and organizational matters of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained that during the 2nd Cycle of Joint Planning and DFC development, the GMA members adopted administrative procedures, by-laws and a cost-sharing agreement. The administrative procedures and by-laws remain in effect. The cost-sharing agreement has expired. In addition, the Victoria County GCD entered into an agreement with Intera Inc on behalf of the GMA to secure the technical consulting services provided during 2nd cycle of planning.

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If the member districts wish to secure technical consulting services for the 3rd cycle of planning, a new cost-sharing agreement would have to be approved along with the necessary tasks to identify and secure desired services. During the 2nd cycle, the technical services were limited to two broad categories: modeling of pumping scenarios and explanatory report development.

During the recent legislative session, HB 2215 was passed. HB 2215 modified Section 36.108 of the Texas Water Code. In particular, HB 2215 revised certain deadlines related to the DFC development process. TWC 36.108(d) establishes May 1, 2021 as the deadline considering information and proposing a DFC for adoption. TWC 36.108(d-3) establishes January 5, 2022 as the deadline to finally adopt DFCs.

For the purposes of aiding representatives considering how to proceed, the following lists the major steps to be completed during the planning cycle:

Step 1 - Districts submit one or more DFC Proposal to GMA 15

Step 2 - GMA 15 designates one or more DFC Proposal as DFC For Consideration

Step 3 - GMA 15 considers impacts anticipated by any DFC For Consideration

Step 4 - GMA 15 designates one or more DFC For Consideration as DFC For Distribution

Step 5 - Districts consider one or more DFC For Distribution and submit District Summaries to GMA 15

Step 6 - GMA 15 considers District Summaries

Step 7 - GMA 15 designates one or more DFC For Consideration as DFC Proposed For Adoption (DEADLINE May 1, 2021)

Step 8 - GMA 15 adopts one or more DFC Proposed For Adoption as GMA 15 DFC (DEADLINE January 5, 2022)

Step 9 - GMA 15 produces GMA 15 DFC, Explanatory Report, and supporting documentation

Mr. Andruss agreed to develop and present draft cost-sharing agreements and other documents needing review by the GMA to initiate the process of obtaining a technical consultant for the 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle of DFC planning.

**Agenda Item 9:** Consideration of and possible action on identification and scheduling of future agenda items and meetings.

Mr. Andruss explained that the next meeting of the GMA is scheduled for January 11, 2017. The location of the meeting would be determined at a later date.

**Agenda Item 10:** Receive public comment.

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Mr. Andruss offer to accept any public comments.

No action was taken.

## **Agenda Item 11: Adjournment.**

**MOTION:** At 10:35 AM, Mr. Van Dresar moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Francis seconded the motion. The motion passed.

# Groundwater Management Area 15 Meeting Minutes

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Prepared by: Tim Andruss

The above and foregoing minutes were considered and approved on this the

11th day of JANUARY a.d. 2018.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative



## **Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District**

131 A. Virginia St, Port Lavaca TX 77979

Phone: 361-482-0357 Fax: 361-482-0303

[www.ccgcd.org](http://www.ccgcd.org)

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October 2, 2017

Groundwater Management Area 15

c/o Tammy Amaimo

131 A. Virginia St.

Port Lavaca TX 77979

Mrs. Amaimo,

I hereby designate the following individuals as alternate representatives to Groundwater Management 15 until further notice:

1. Mr. Galen Johnson, Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District
2. Mr. Mike Hahn, Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District
3. Mr. Danny May, Director of the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District
4. Mr. Richard Meyer, Director of the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District
5. Mrs. Tammy Amaimo, General Manager of Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District.
6. Mr. Tim Andruss, Consultant of Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Anzaldua".

Frank Anzaldua,

President of the Board of Directors of the Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District.

11/1 & 11/2

# Mobile Leadership Training

## Template Agenda

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Nov. 1

### DAY 1

#### GCD Staff & Board Member Training

7 hours of comprehensive GCD Staff and Board Member training, covering a wide range of groundwater management fundamentals and including specific break out sessions for specific roles.

#### Public Engagement & Legislator Dinner

TAGD will host a GCD sponsored dinner for the general public and local legislators to get to know their regional GCDs and GMAs. This will be done through a series of panel discussions.

Nov. 2

### DAY 2

#### Stakeholder Meeting on Groundwater Databases

TAGD invites all interested stakeholders to join us for a meeting on the value of groundwater databases. The objective of the meeting will be to data, and discuss the potential benefits and cost of a centralized database.

## GCD Staff & Board Member Training

(9:00 AM - 4:30 PM)

**Objective:** to provide GCD staff and Board members with a comprehensive review of groundwater science, policy and management.

### Morning General Sessions (9:00-10:30 AM)

- **Introduction to Groundwater Today**  
TAGD overview of the most pressing issues within the Texas groundwater world
- **Chapter 36 Fundamentals**  
Historical overview of GCD's guiding statute, Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code, and discussion on where we are now
- **Groundwater Legislation Overview**



Overview of significant groundwater legislation in the past, and summary of most recent legislative session

## **Morning Break Outs (10:30 - 11:30 PM)**

### **Board Member Break Out**

- **Board Meeting Etiquette**  
Review Robert's Rules, the importance of good minutes, board meeting recordings, and going into executive session.
- **Legal Terminology 101**  
Become familiar with the terms and phrases used to talk about case law

### **Staff Break Out**

- **Administrative Duties & Responsibilities**  
Learn about what Chapter 36 requires you to do in GCD administration
- **Importance of Good Data**  
Review good database and record keeping practices

## **Lunch (11:30 - 12:30 PM)**

Lunch Keynote "Myth Busting: how to address common misconceptions about GCDs"

## **Afternoon General Session (12:30 - 2:00 PM)**

- **Case Law**  
Review of the most important case law, past and present, shaping groundwater management
- **Groundwater Science 101**  
Familiarize yourself with basic concepts and principles in understanding groundwater from a scientific perspective

## **Afternoon Break Outs (2:15 - 3:00 PM)**

### **Board Member Break Out**

- **GMA 101**  
What is a DFC, why is important, and how are we measuring it? Review a GCDs statutory requirement to adopt a DFC.

### **Staff Training Break Out**

- **Water Well Level Training**  
Learn about good water level measurement practices and how it can help you in DFC tracking

### **Technical Training Closing Session (3:00 – 4:30 PM)**

- **Importance of Good PR & Public Outreach**  
Understand the importance of good public relations, and learn tactics on how to build educational programs and community dialogue
- **Region specific issue**  
Hear a presentation on a project or issue specific to your region

### **Public Engagement & Legislator Dinner (5:00 PM – 7:30 PM)**

**TAGD and local GCDs invite the public to join us for dinner and an educational seminar on Texas Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs). RSVP requested.**

- **GCD 101**  
Hear a review on the powers and duties of a Texas GCD. Learn about Groundwater Management Areas, Desired Future Conditions, and how to effectively provide input to your local GCD.
- **GMA Panels**  
Get to know your local GCDs, their collaboration on Groundwater Management Areas, and what DFCs mean for you
- **Legislator Panel**  
Hear from your local legislators on the 85<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, and learn about how to communicate your priorities to them

### **Groundwater Database Stakeholder Meeting (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM)**

**TAGD invites interested stakeholders to join us in a discussion about groundwater databases. The objective of the meeting will be to assess how groundwater data is currently collected and organize, and to consider the benefits and challenges of a central repository for data collection.**

Good morning. My name is Terrell Graham. We live in northern Goliad county near the county line with Karnes county. Since we are in Goliad County GCD, we can get a permit to pump up to ½ acre-foot of groundwater per acre we own. A well-reasoned amount. Our neighbor right next to us in the Evergreen UWCD can get a permit for 2 acre-feet per acre they own. We can drawdown the aquifer 10 feet. Our neighbor can drawdown the aquifer 50 feet. Goliad limits the flow rate we can pump at, by depth of screening. Evergreen does not. There isn't anything different about our properties. The topography, geology hydrology, etc. are the same. The only real difference is a political boundary. The science is the same.

For the year 2020 the modeled available groundwater for the Gulf Coast Aquifer within Evergreen UWCD is 3,235 acre-feet per year. For 2020 the modeled available groundwater for the Gulf Coast Aquifer within Goliad GCD is 11,699 acre-feet per year.<sup>1</sup> By only comparing the modeled available groundwater for Goliad and Evergreen, we should be able to pump 3.6 times as much groundwater as our neighbor in Karnes county. This is an oversimplification of the issue.

What is being discussed doesn't make any scientific sense. It is not a just and equitable distribution of ground water. It is a capricious and arbitrary distribution of groundwater, decided by an arbitrary political boundary without any basis in science. Our neighbor just a short distance away is entitled to 4 times as much groundwater as we are. Our neighbor can drawdown our shared aquifer 5 times as much as we can. Our neighbor can pump at any rate he chooses to. We can't.

I respectfully request that GMA 15 consider this matter and see if more uniformity can be had between the various districts within GMA 15 to achieve a more just and equitable distribution of the groundwater in the Gulf Coast aquifer. Many of our neighbors have property in both Goliad and Karnes counties. Without some uniformity in rules between members of GMA 15, many questions will be asked in the near future. Distribution of groundwater should be based solely upon unbiased science, not arbitrary political subdivisions, with an overall goal of conservation for present and future generations.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> GAM Run 10-041 MAG, Table 5

NOTICE OF MEETING

Groundwater Management Area 15

*Julie Karstedt*  
JULIE KARSTEDT *mk*  
CO. CLERK, FAYETTE CO., TEXAS

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 36 of the Texas Water Code that the groundwater conservation districts located wholly or partially with Groundwater Management Area 15 consisting of Aransas County Groundwater Conservation District, Bee Groundwater Conservation District, Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District, Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District, Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District, Corpus Christi Aquifer Storage and Recovery Conservation District, Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District, Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District, Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District, Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District, Refugio Groundwater Conservation District, Texana Groundwater Conservation District, and Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District will hold a joint planning meeting at 9:00 AM on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at the Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District Offices, 118 S. Market Street Goliad, TX. 77963. The meeting will be open to the public.

Agenda:

1. Call to order and welcome guests.
2. Receive public comment.
3. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to the minutes of the previous meeting.
4. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to budget and financial reports of Groundwater Management Area 15.
5. Consideration of and possible action on reports and communication from Groundwater Management Area 15 member districts and Groundwater Management Area 15 representatives to Regional Water Planning Groups.
6. Consideration of and possible action on reports from Texas Water Development Board representatives to Groundwater Management Area 15.

7. Consideration of and possible action on matters related to joint planning including the review of management plans and accomplishments of Groundwater Management Area 15 member districts.
8. Consideration of and possible action on administrative and organizational matters of Groundwater Management Area 15.
9. Consideration of and possible action on identification and scheduling of future agenda items and meetings.
10. Receive public comment.
11. Adjournment.

Please submit comments, questions, and requests for additional information to Tim Andruss of the Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District by mail at 2805 N. Navarro St., Suite 210, Victoria, Texas 77901, by email at [admin@vcgcd.org](mailto:admin@vcgcd.org), or by phone at (361) 579-6863.

*Honna Yanta for Tim Andruss*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tim Andruss, Administrator  
Groundwater Management Area 15

**FILED**  
8 AM  
OCT 02 2017

*Julie Karstedt*  
JULIE KARSTEDT *MK*  
CO. CLERK, FAYETTE CO., TEXAS

To the Evergreen water conservation board members  
City of Kenedy ,TX  
Karnes county commissioners board  
State legislators

We the undersigned do hereby declare our concerns and objections to the proposed water well field planned by the city of Kenedy , southeast of town off of FM 743.

Our concerns are based on experience from the past, for the most part we do not have recorded data, or scientific evidence. However we have all experienced well issues. They have ranged from pumping excessive sand to total failure. The cause was from some irrigation wells in the vicinity. When the wells were shut-in, most of our wells recovered. The springs and live creeks in the area DID NOT! The volume of water harvested by these wells was nothing compared to the projected water draw proposed by the city of Kenedy.

We strongly object to this project due to the impact it will have on us personally as well as the economic impact it will have on the city of Kenedy and land values in the area. Land with no water has very little value, therefore will be devalued in the county tax base.

This is not a sustainable plan, it will not only leave many tax paying ,productive citizens with devalued land and no water, it will also leave future city leaders to face the same dilemma, with no funding or water.

As stewards of our natural resources, we hope each of you will take into serious consideration the impact your decision will have on the entire community. We strongly encourage you to urge the city of Kenedy to explore other options. Such as conservation and upgrading existing sources, and perhaps drastic modifications to their plan. We implore you to be responsible guardians of our groundwater and help us reach a favorable outcome for all.

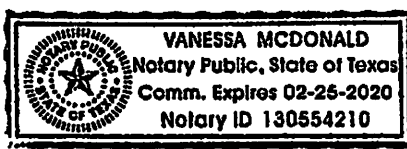
Signed: Jonathan Morgan

Date: 8-22-17

Notary: Vanessa McDonald

State of Texas  
County of Karnes

Sworn and subscribed before me this 22nd day of August 2017. by Jonathan Morgan.  
Produced Drivers license as identification.



Vanessa McDonald  
Vanessa McDonald  
Notary Public, State of Texas

# GMA 15

Actual Meeting Date was Oct. 12, 2017

Date of Meeting: October 11, 2017

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company or Organization</u>
TINA SHEARMAN	NADA
Wendy	GCGCD
...	VEED
Tim Andrews	VEED
Lonnie Stewart	Bee GCD
Barbara Smith	GCGCD
Robert Brock	THDB
TERRELL GRAHAM	NADA
Russell Lake	Evergreen VVCD
Chris McFarlane	" "
Wilfred Korth	GCGCD
Randy Amosino	CCGCD - CALHOUN
Frank Galle	CCGCD - CALHOUN
Art Robinson	GCGCD
DAVID N. MORGAN	NADA.
Lillee Dunnevan	RGCD
James Allison	Allison Bass & Morgan

# GMA 15

Date of Meeting: October 11, 2017

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company or Organization</u>
David Van Dusen	FCGCD
Lj Trencis	CC ASRCD
Neil Hudgins	CBGCD / CPBGA
Jim Brasher	CCGCD
ASHFORD TAYLOR	GCGCD
Jar Oneacre	Groundwater Solutions
Heather Simpton	Goliad County GCD



# GMA 15

Actual Meeting Date was Oct. 12, 2017

Date of Meeting: ~~October 11, 2017~~

**Name** **Company or Organization**

TINA SHEARMAN	NADA
Wendy	GCGCD
K. Ell	VEECD
Tim Andrews	VCBLU
Lonnie Stewart	Bee GCD
Barbara Smith	GCGCD
Robert Brock	TWDB
TERRELL GRAHAM	NADA
Russell Lewis	Evergreen UVCD
Chris McFarlane	" "
Wilfred Korth	GCGCD
Randy Amerino	CCGCD - CALHOUN
Frank Agallo	CCGCD - CALHOUN
Art Johnson	GCGCD
DAVID N. MORGAN	NADA.
Billee Dunnevan	BGCD
James Allison	Allison, Bass & Morgan

