
Groundwater Management Area 15 Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2026

The Groundwater Management Area 15 meeting convened at the Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District Office, 1501 E. Mockingbird Lane, Suite 104, Victoria, Texas, on January 8, 2026 at 9:30 AM.

Agenda Item 1 - Call to order and welcome guests.

Mr. Andruss called the roll of the representatives of member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15:

- Bee Groundwater Conservation District - No Representative
- Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation District - Tim Andruss
- Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District - Neil Hudgins
- Coastal Plains Groundwater Conservation District - Neil Hudgins
- Colorado County Groundwater Conservation District - Aaron Weishuhn
- Corpus Christi ASR Conservation District - No Representative
- Evergreen Underground Water Conservation District - Ed Griffin
- Fayette County Groundwater Conservation District - David Van Dresar
- Goliad County Groundwater Conservation District - Terrell Graham
- Pecan Valley Groundwater Conservation District - Cindy Parma
- Refugio Groundwater Conservation District - Tim Andruss
- Texana Groundwater Conservation District - Tim Andruss
- Victoria County Groundwater Conservation District - Tim Andruss

Agenda Item 2 - Receive public comment.

Mr. Andruss offered to accept public comment. No public comment was provided to the representatives.

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

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

Action: Mr. Van Dresar moved to accept and approve the meeting minutes for October 9, 2025, as drafted.

Ms. Parma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Andruss provided a summary of contributions to the GMA 15 Joint Planning Fund:

Member Districts of GMA 15	Contribution
Bee GCD	\$4,750.00
Calhoun County GCD	\$9,500.00
Coastal Bend GCD	

	\$9,500.00
Coastal Plains GCD	\$9,500.00
Colorado County GCD	\$9,500.00
Corpus Christi ASRCD	\$0.00
Evergreen UWCD	\$4,750.00
Fayette County GCD	\$4,750.00
Goliad County GCD ¹	\$2,500.00
Pecan Valley GCD	\$9,500.00
Refugio GCD	\$9,500.00
Texana GCD	\$9,500.00
Victoria County GCD	\$9,500.00
Total	\$90,250.00

Note 1: GCGCD contribution is not to be used for technical work utilizing the groundwater availability model.

Reporting Period Ending Balance: \$62,010.18

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.

The representatives neither discussed nor took action regarding this item.

Agenda Item 6 - Consideration of and possible action on reports from Texas Water Development Board representatives to Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Perez with TWDB was present and provided an update on grant fund opportunities.

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.

Topic 1 - Presentations by Technical Consultants

Mr. Lamkey with Intera presented reports regarding feasibility of desired future conditions, and other factors for consideration when proposing desired future conditions. Mr. Lamkey also provided the member districts with a draft DFC Explanatory Report.

Board Action: Mr. Van Dresar moved to accept the presentation given by Intera regarding GMA 15 Feasibility of DFCs. Mr. Hudgins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action: Mr. Graham moved to accept the presentation given by Intera regarding GMA 15 Other Factors. Mr. Weishuhn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 2 - Review of proposals to adopt new or amend existing desired future conditions for Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained Section 36.108, Water Code has been revised.

Item d-1a of Section 36.108 requires district representatives to "(1) adopt desired future conditions under this section for each approximately 50-year planning period identified by the executive administrator for the preparation of state and regional water plans; and (2) **identify interim values for the desired future conditions adopted under Subdivision (1) for time periods not to exceed 10 years solely to assist the districts in monitoring interim progress in achieving the desired future conditions adopted for the approximately 50-year planning period.**"

On December 19, 2025, David Van Dresar of Fayette County GCD submitted a memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Fayette County.

On January 5, 2026, Tim Andruss of Victoria County GCD submitted an memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Victoria County.

On January 5, 2026, Tim Andruss of Calhoun County GCD submitted an memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Calhoun County.

On January 5, 2026, Tim Andruss of Refugio GCD submitted an memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Refugio County.

On January 5, 2026, Tim Andruss of Texana GCD submitted an memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Jackson County.

On January 7, 2025, Terrell Graham of Goliad County GCD submitted a memorandum regarding identified interim DFC values for Goliad County.

Based on the information provided by member districts, the following chart of interim values have been assembled for consideration:

County-Specific DFC	Identified Interim Values for the County-Specific DFCs by Decade				
	2030	2040	2050	2060	2070
Calhoun County	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Fayette County	20 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	20 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	25 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	35 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	40 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Goliad County	4.875 ft drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer	6.5 ft drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer	8.125 ft drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer	9.75 ft drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer	11.375 ft drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer
Goliad County	12.75 ft drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer	17 ft drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer	21.25 ft drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer	25.5 ft drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer	29.75 ft drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer
Goliad County	7.875 ft drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer	10.5 ft drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer	13.125 ft drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer	15.75 ft drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer	18.375 ft drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer

Goliad County	7.875 ft drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer	10.5 ft drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer	13.125 ft drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer	15.75 ft drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer	18.375 ft drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer
Jackson County	15 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	15 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	15 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	15 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	15 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Refugio County	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Victoria County	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System	5 ft drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Item d-3 of Section 36.108 has been expanded to include the following "(6) include an **explanation in plain language of why a desired future condition adopted for an aquifer was changed** if the desired future condition is different from the desired future condition adopted for the aquifer over the preceding five-year joint planning period; and (7) include **a summary of how each district is performing in achieving the desired future conditions.**"

Any proposal for and subsequent adoption of a new or amended DFC will establish a requirement for the representatives to explain, and presumably justify, the basis for the change but will also necessitate the evaluation and summary of each district performance in achieving the DFC.

The current Desired Future Condition for Groundwater Management Area 15 is as follows:

GMA-Wide DFC statement: The desired future conditions for the counties in the groundwater management area (gma-specific DFC) shall not exceed an average drawdown of 13 feet for the Gulf Coast Aquifer System at December 2080.

County-Specific DFCs: expressed as an average water level change between January 2000 and December 2080 for each county partially or completely within the geographic boundary of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Aransas County: 0 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Bee County: 7 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Calhoun County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Colorado County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers

Colorado County: 25 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer

Dewitt County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Fayette County: 44 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Goliad County: 4 feet of recovery of the Chicot Aquifer

Goliad County: 2 feet of recovery of the Evangeline Aquifer

Goliad County: 7 feet of drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer

Goliad County: 14 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer

Jackson County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Karnes County: 22 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System

Lavaca County: 18 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Matagorda County: 11 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers
Refugio County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Victoria County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Wharton County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers

Mr. Andruss submitted a memorandum, dated January 8, 2026, proposing amendments to the adopted desired future condition of Groundwater Management Area 15. Mr. Andruss proposed the following amended desired future condition and justification:

The Desired Future Condition for the relevant aquifers within Groundwater Management Area 15 are expressed as water level changes between January 2000 and December 2080 as follows.

Bee County: 7 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Calhoun County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Colorado County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers
Colorado County: 25 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer
Dewitt County: 17 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Fayette County: 44 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Goliad County: 4 feet of recovery of the Chicot Aquifer
Goliad County: 2 feet of recovery of the Evangeline Aquifer
Goliad County: 7 feet of drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer
Goliad County: 14 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer
Jackson County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Karnes County: 22 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Matagorda County: 11 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers
Refugio County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Victoria County: 5 feet of drawdown of the Gulf Coast Aquifer System
Wharton County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers

The basis and explanation for proposing the amended desired future condition is portions of Groundwater Management Area 15 are not located within a district boundary charged with the responsibility to regulate groundwater resources. The lack of regulatory authority regarding the spacing of wells and production of groundwater resources in these areas results in the complete inability by a member district of Groundwater Management Area 15 to, individually or collectively, actively manage groundwater resources to achieve any desired future condition encompassing those unregulated areas. Therefore, this proposal for an amended desired future condition eliminates the County-Specific DFCs" for those unregulated areas, Aransas County and Lavaca County, and eliminates the "GMA-Wide DFC Statement" which include applies to those unregulated areas.

Board Action: Mr. Graham moved to accept the proposal for the amended DFCs for GMA 15 as written, and presented by memo, on January 8, 2026. Mr. Van Dresar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Graham proposed amendments to the adopted desired future condition of Groundwater Management Area 15 for Goliad County to comport with modeling results used to develop the adopted desired future condition.

Board Action: Mr. Andruss moved to accept the proposal to amend the adopted desired future condition of Groundwater Management Area 15, to read as follows:

1. Goliad County: 13 feet of drawdown of the Chicot Aquifer
2. Goliad County: 34 feet of drawdown of the Evangeline Aquifer
3. Goliad County: 21 feet of drawdown of the Burkeville Aquifer
4. Goliad County: 21 feet of drawdown of the Jasper Aquifer

Mr. Hudgins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hudgins proposed an amendment to the adopted desired future condition of Groundwater Management Area 15 for Matagorda County to increase the acceptable level of drawdown.

Board Action: Mr. Van Dresar moved to accept the proposal to amend the previously amended DFC for Matagorda County, as follows:

1. Matagorda County: 15 feet of drawdown of the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers

Mr. Weishuhn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Action: Mr. Graham moved to establish a single DFC Evaluation Factor of plus or minus 3 feet for all county wide DFCs. Ms. Parma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 3 - Review of accomplishments of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained Section 36.108, Water Code has been revised.

Item C of Section 36.108 requires "district representatives shall meet at least annually to conduct joint planning with the other districts in the management area. The representatives shall review:

- (1) the accomplishments of the **management area**;" (emphasis added)

The representatives agreed to review the individual accomplishments of the member districts of Groundwater Management Area 15 to satisfy the requirements of item C of Section 36.108 of the Texas Water Code.

On December 17, 2025, Michelle Shelton of Goliad County GCD submitted a memorandum regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Goliad County.

On December 18, 2025, Lonnie Stewart of Bee GCD submitted a copy of the Bee GCD Annual Report for FY2024 to GMA 15 for consideration.

On December 18, 2025, Aarin Teague of Evergreen UWCD submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Karnes County.

On December 19, 2025, Cindy Parma of Pecan Valley GCD submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for De Witt County.

On January 6, 2026, Tim Andruss of Victoria County Groundwater Conservation submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Victoria County.

On January 6, 2026, Tim Andruss of Calhoun County Groundwater Conservation submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Calhoun County.

On January 6, 2026, Tim Andruss of Refugio Groundwater Conservation submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Refugio County.

On January 6, 2026, Tim Andruss of Texana Groundwater Conservation submitted a report regarding the performance of the district in achieving the desired future conditions for Jackson County.

On January 7, 2026, David Van Dresar of Fayette County GCD submitted a report titled *2024 Annual Report of Water Level Monitoring and DFC Compliance* to GMA 15 for consideration.

Mr. Weishuhn of Colorado County GCD explained that he had previously submitted their Colorado County GCD's annual report to the GMA 15 Administrator for consideration under this topic. Mr. Weishuhn agreed to resubmit the report.

Board Action: Mr. Griffin moved to accept the reported accomplishments of the member district in accordance with Item C of Section 36.108, Water Code. Mr. Hudgins seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Topic 4 - Review of management plans of districts in Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained Section 36.108, Water Code has been revised.

Item c of Section 36.108 requires "district representatives shall meet at least annually to conduct joint planning with the other districts in the management area. The representatives shall review: ... (3) not less than once during each five-year period described by Subsection (d), the management plans of each district in the management area."

Item c-1 of Section 36.108 requires member districts of GMAs to "consider: (1) the goals of each management plan and its impact on planning throughout the management area; (2) the effectiveness of the measures established by each district's management plan for conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste, and the effectiveness of these measures in the management area generally; (3) any other matters that the boards consider relevant to the protection and conservation of groundwater and the prevention of waste in the management area; and (4) the **degree to which each district is achieving the desired future conditions** established during the joint planning process **through the implementation of the district's management plan and rules.**" (emphasis added)

While many methods of considering and evaluating performance of groundwater conservation district could be developed and used by the representatives, an approach of evaluating or classifying performance as either adequate/satisfactory/acceptable/effective versus inadequate/unsatisfactory/unacceptable/ineffective may prove to be the only practical method for the representatives reach consensus.

Mr. Andruss requested that each representative submit to the GMA 15 Administrator, by March 12, 2026, their written consideration of the performance of each member district or its management plan, as appropriate, using the following prompts:

Prompt 1: regarding 36.108(c-1)(1) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the impact of the district's management plan on planning throughout the management area.

Prompt 2: regarding 36.108(c-1)(2) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the effectiveness of the measures of the district's management plan for conserving and protecting groundwater and preventing waste within the district and the management area in general.

Prompt 3: regarding 36.108(c-1)(4) of the Texas Water Code, review and consider the degree the district achieving the relevant desired future conditions through the implementation of its management plan and rules.

Note 3a: please identify the specific management plan reviewed by specifying the district and the adoption date of the plan.

Note 3b: please identify the specific rules reviewed by specifying the district and the adoption date of the rules.

Note 3: please identify any additional information such as annual reports or monitoring data reviewed to support the consideration of the degree of achievement of the relevant desired

future conditions.

Topic 5 - Review of methods of evaluating achievement of desired future conditions of Groundwater Management Area 15.

Mr. Andruss explained at the request of a member district, this topic was placed within the meeting packet for consideration by the representatives.

Section 36.1071, Water Code requires each district explain how it has monitored and evaluated its performance "in achieving the desired future conditions established under Section 36.108..." which presumably includes an evaluation of its performance in achieving the GMA-wide DFC.

Groundwater Management Area 15 contains areas that are not located within the jurisdiction of a groundwater conservation district for which desired future conditions have been established such as Aransas County and Lavaca County. This situation eliminates the possibility of the member districts of GMA 15 from relying on the monitoring efforts and evaluations of County-Specific DFC achievements by member district as a method of evaluating achievement of the GMA-Wide DFC.

Furthermore, while Section 36.108, Water Code requires member district of groundwater management areas to consider "the degree to which each district is achieving the desired future conditions...",

Section 36.108, Water Code does not explicitly require the comprehensive evaluation of achievement of desired future conditions within the groundwater management area. As a result, the representatives of GMA 15 have never evaluated or assessed the achievement of the GMA-Wide DFC.

While each member district is likely evaluating its achievement of the relevant county-specific DFCs, the administrator anticipated that there is no consistent method employed by the member district to evaluate DFC achievement.

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

The representatives neither discussed nor took action regarding this item.

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

Mr. Andruss explained the next meeting of GMA 15 is scheduled for April 9, 2026, at 9:30 AM at 1501 E. Mockingbird Lane, Suite 104, Victoria, Texas. Victoria County GCD has reserved the meeting room for potential meetings of GMA 15 on the following dates: February 12, 2026, and March 12, 2026.

Agenda Item 10 - Receive public comment.

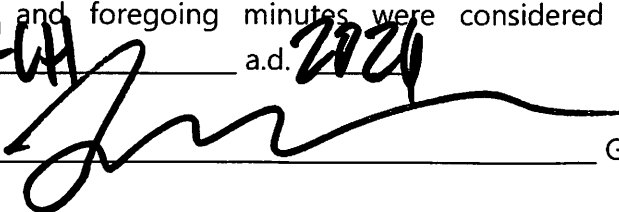
No public comments were given at this time.

Agenda Item 11 - Adjournment.

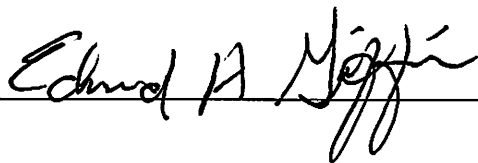
Action: Mr. Van Dresar moved to adjourn the meeting after concluding all business of the groundwater management area at approximately 11:56 AM. Mr. Griffin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Prepared by: Tim Andruss

The above and foregoing minutes were considered and approved on this the 12 day of MARCH 2026 a.d.


Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund A. McGinnis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. It is positioned above a horizontal line that spans the width of the signature.

Groundwater Management Area 15 Representative