

PLEASE NOTIFY ACOG AT 234-2264 (TDD 234-2217) BY 5:00 P.M. FEBRUARY 20
IF YOU DESIRE A SIGN-LANGUAGE INTERPRETER AT THE MEETING



*association of central oklahoma governments
Garber-Wellington Association*

Chair John Brown
Piedmont Councilmember

Vice-Chair Jim Pumphrey
Nicoma Park Councilmember

Secretary/Treasurer Marsha Jefferson
Spencer Mayor

Executive Director
Zach D. Taylor

AGENDA

**GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE
February 22, 2007 (Thursday) 2:30 P.M.
(or immediately following the ACOG Board of Director's Meeting)**

ACOG CONFERENCE ROOM
21 EAST MAIN, SUITE 100, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Roll Call
- II. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ([Attachment III](#))
Action Requested: Motion to approve minutes of the January 25, 2007 meeting.
- IV. STAFF REPORT
 - A. **Thunderhead Hills Resistivity Program** – Staff will review the Thunderhead Hills Resistivity Project and show data acquired thus far.
Action Requested: None, for information only.
 - B. **Drought Update** – A quick review of the drought status in Oklahoma.
Action Requested: None, for information only.
- V. PROGRESS REPORT ([Attachment V](#))
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 25, 2007

The first regularly scheduled meeting of the Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee for the calendar year 2007 was convened on January 25, 2007 in the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) Board Room, 21 E. Main Street, Suite 100, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The meeting was held as indicated by advance notice filed with the Oklahoma County Clerk and by notice posted at the ACOG offices at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

PRESIDINGCITY/AGENCY

Hon. John Brown, Councilmember

City of Piedmont

POLICY COMMITTEE PRESENT

Hon. Philip Shirey, Councilmember

City of Bethany

Hon. David Howe, Councilmember

City of Choctaw

Hon. Rusty Sullivan, Commissioner

Cleveland County, Dist. #1

Hon. Ken Bartlett, Councilmember

City of Del City

Hon. Julie Rozsypal, Councilmember

City of El Reno

Hon. Marianne Yarbrough, Trustee

Town of Forest Park

Hon. Doug Hehn, Councilmember

City of Guthrie

Hon. Gordon Jeney, Councilmember

City of Harrah

Hon. Mark Sharpton, Commissioner

Logan County

Hon. Margaret Graham, Councilmember

City of Luther

Hon. Kathy McMillan, Councilmember

City of Moore

Hon. Keith Bryan, Councilmember

City of Mustang

Hon. David Hopper, Councilmember

City of Norman

Hon. Sam Bowman, Councilmember

City of Oklahoma City

Hon. Jim Roth, Commissioner

Oklahoma County, Dist. #1

Hon. Scott Symes, Mayor

City of The Village

Hon. Larry Kesler, Councilmember

Town of Union City

GUESTS

Tony Rivera, City Manager

City of El Reno

Hon. Kevin Leach, Commissioner

Logan County

Mary Murphey, Administrative Assistant

Logan County, Dist. #1

ACOG STAFF PRESENT

POSITION

Zach D. Taylor	Executive Director
John M. Harrington	Division Director, Water Resources
Jane Sutter	Division Director, IGS
Debbie Cook	Director of Finance and Budget
John J. Johnson	Legal Consultant
Don Bown	Consultant
Jerry Church	Communications Programs Coord., IGS
Ellen Owens	Division Secretary, Water Resources

I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Brown called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m., noting that a quorum was present.

II. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

The aforementioned guests were present at the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Director Brown made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2006 meeting. Director Bryan seconded the motion and the motion carried with the following vote:

AYE: Brown, Shirey, Howe, Sullivan, Bartlett, Rozsypal, Yarbrough, Hehn, Jeney, Sharpton, Graham, McMillan, Bryan, Hopper, Bowman, Roth, Symes, and Kesler

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

IV. STAFF REPORT

A. Legislative Issues – Mr. Harrington commented that since the writing of this Agenda two events have occurred that are very important to water issues in the state of Oklahoma. He said that firstly, the federal courts have ruled that the state of Oklahoma will need to pay the \$68 million owed the federal government for the construction of Lake Sardis in southeast Oklahoma. Secondly, officials at the Tarrant County Water District in Ft. Worth, Texas have filed application with the Water Resources Board seeking to acquire a significant amount of water in the Red River Basin in three tributaries on the Oklahoma side. Mr. Harrington stated that in 2003, the Oklahoma Legislature put a moratorium on out of state sales of water. Texas has filed suit claiming that the moratorium violated the provisions of the Red River Compact and also violated provisions of interstate commerce. Mr. Harrington then showed a video promoting the sale of Oklahoma water to Texas.

Commission Sharpton asked why Texas could not use the water in the Red River. Mr. Harrington said that the Red River is too saline to process for drinking water and that it would be very expensive to treat it. He said a federal judge has agreed to extend the timeline so that Oklahoma can file additional briefs. Mr. Harrington also said that every state legislator has a copy of that promo video. Director Hehn asked if the facts presented in the promo are correct and Mr. Harrington replied that they are, to a point. He said the flow of the Red River downstream would be lessened, possibly causing adverse environmental impacts. He said the promo mentioned Texas taking less than 7% of the entire flow of the watershed (460 acre feet of water), which is a significant amount of water.

Director Brown mentioned that a couple of the tributaries are above the Red River and also said that although the Red River is very saline, these tributaries mix with that to reduce the salinity down the River. He said if fresh water is pulled out before it hits the River, the Red River will become even more saline and this would affect the quality of the water flowing into Lake Texoma. He also said that whatever water is elected to go to Texas affects our long term growth, whether it be 20 or 50 years from now.

Director Hopper raised the question of whether the water belongs to the state or whether it is a national resource. Mr. Harrington said one of the issues being discussed at the moment, is that the population of Texas is expected to double by 2060 and that there are no large sources of water left in north Texas. He also indicated that there are no stringent conservation measures in the Dallas/Ft. Worth at the present time. He questioned whether Oklahoma would ever get its water back, even in a drought, if Texas is dependent upon it. Director Brown commented that beneficial use would have to be shown for that water.

Mr. Harrington said that all of this emphasizes the importance of the State Water Plan. He commented that there was an onslaught of water bills this week, about 47. He said that HB1050 and HB1080 deal with the Eufaula watershed. They want to extend the state moratorium on out of state water transfer sales until the State Water Plan is finished, which will be in 2011.

- B. Drought Update – Mr. Harrington briefly spoke about drought conditions in the central Oklahoma region. He indicated that the last two months were extremely wet and said we will start to begin a dry-out phase, according to NOAA. He said the eastern two-thirds of the state will be back to normal conditions and it will stay that way up until April. Mr. Harrington indicated that central Oklahoma has actually gotten 59% more rain than normal and the water year so far is just under normal. However, it does not mean that the drought is over. He said the second wettest year on record for Oklahoma was 1916, with about 50 inches of rain that year, and that was in the middle of a ten-year drought. He said reservoir capacity is higher than it was last year.

V. PROGRESS REPORT

There was no discussion of the Progress Report at the meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed at the meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Sharpton made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Hehn seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

TO Garber-Wellington Policy Committee
FROM: John M. Harrington, Division Director, Water Resources
DATE: February 22, 2007
SUBJECT: Progress Report

Staff is attending State Water Plan meetings with the Department of Commerce.

Staff participated in the Crutch Creek Stream Team conference and prepared and conducted the field trip for the conference.

Staff started the Thunderhead Hills field work.

Staff submitted the final Cottonwood Creek pathogen model and the Deep Fork pathogen model to EPA for review.

Staff reviewed Canadian River dissolved oxygen model and submitted a report for the expansion of the Mustang plant from 1.50 to 2.86 mgd.