



*association of central oklahoma governments
Garber-Wellington Association*

Chair John Brown
Piedmont Councilmember

Vice-Chair Jim Pumphrey
Nicoma Park Councilmember

Secretary/Treasurer Russell Smith
Midwest City Mayor

Executive Director
Zach D. Taylor

AGENDA

**GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 27, 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 August 16, 2007 meeting.
- IV. STAFF REPORT
 - A. **State Water Plan** - Staff will review draft of comment letter for the state water plan.
Action Requested: Suggestions and comments to be incorporated in the position paper.
- V. PROGRESS REPORT ([Attachment V](#))
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 16, 2007

The seventh regularly scheduled meeting of the Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee for the calendar year 2007 was convened on August 16, 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. Jim Pumphrey, Mayor, Acting Chairperson	Nicoma Park
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POLICY COMMITTEE PRESENT

Hon. Phillip Shirey, Councilmember	Bethany
Hon. Shawn Davis, Trustee	Calumet
Hon. Roger Malone, Councilmember	Choctaw
Hon. Rusty Sullivan, Commissioner	Cleveland County
Hon. Dan O'Neil, Mayor	Edmond
Hon. Julie Rozsypal, Mayor	El Reno
Hon. Bill Lisby, Councilmember	Harrah
Hon. Ray Poland, Councilmember	Jones City
Hon. Mark Sharpton, Commissioner	Logan County
Hon. Margaret Graham, Councilmember	Luther
Hon. Kathy McMillan, Councilmember	Moore
Hon. Keith Bryan, Councilmember	Mustang
Hon. David Hopper, Councilmember	Norman
Hon. Willa Johnson, Councilmember	Oklahoma City
Hon. Jodi Lewis, Councilmember	Piedmont

GUESTS

Joe Blough, Deputy Commissioner	District 1, Oklahoma County
Rick Buchanan	District 3, Oklahoma County
Carol Cline, Special Projects Coordinator	Oklahoma County

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 G. Johnson	Legal Consultant
Doug Rex	Division Director, TPDS
Jerry Church	Communications Program Coordinator, IGS
Ellen Owens	Division Secretary, Water Resources

I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Pumphrey called the meeting to order at 2:05 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 Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2007 meeting. Director Hopper seconded the motion and the motion carried with the following vote:

AYE: Pumphrey, Shirey, Davis, Malone, Sullivan, O'Neil, Rozsypal, Lisby, Poland, Sharpton, Graham, McMillan, Bryan, Hopper, Johnson, Lewis

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

IV. STAFF REPORT

State Water Plan – John Harrington referred the Committee to the Garber-Wellington Association Survey for State Water Plan issues. He said the State Water Plan is a work in progress and indicated that he has attended three meetings regarding the Plan that have taken place in El Reno, Oklahoma County, and Norman. He commented that there is a need to put together a policy paper for ACOG to address the State Water Plan issue. The survey is a compilation and distillation of some of the comments and issues that were raised at the three meetings. He asked that the Committee members review the survey and fill it out. He indicated that he would like the survey to be filled out within the next

three to four weeks. Mr. Harrington said that the range of issues was quite large and that the difference in the regional concerns between the different cities in which the meetings took place was quite interesting. He said the survey will be on ACOG's web site.

Director O'Neil referred to the first issue in the survey which states that regulations should recognize the connection between surface and groundwater. He asked if the owner of the property on the surface owns the water underneath. Mr. Harrington replied that the big problem in the Oklahoma water law is that the groundwater and surface water laws are two distinct issues and that there is no connection except for the Simpson-Arbuckle Aquifer.

Mr. Taylor commented that what is really distinct over that discussion in the past is the direct one to one relationship between surface water and groundwater and that dewatering the groundwater basin or a substantial withdrawal could deplete the surface water supply and vice versa. He said that interconnection has not been regulated in the past. Mr. Harrington indicated that Oklahoma is not unique in that regard and that there are about 25 other states that are dealing with this same issue right now. He said that 100 years ago when Oklahoma water laws were being generated, groundwater and surface water were two distinct entities and the law evolved in two distinct ways with groundwater being property right and surface water being a state right.

V. PROGRESS REPORT

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Harrington briefly mentioned the Governor's Water Conference taking place on October 23-25, 2007 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City. He said there is a Brownfields Conference conducted by the Department of Environmental Quality also taking place at the Cox Convention Center on September 5-6, 2007.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Poland seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Garber-Wellington Policy Committee
FROM: John M. Harrington, Division Director, Water Resources
DATE: September 27, 2007
SUBJECT: Progress Report

Nitrate loading research project is continuing – DEQ public water supply databases are being “mined” for relevant information; databases being updated and acquired.

Staff is reviewing plans for potential aquifer test project east of Lake Draper.

Workplans for new 604(b) projects drafted and submitted to OSE and EPA. Comments have been addressed. Approval letters are expected by October 1.

Staff is reviewing surface water models for Oklahoma City planning report to analyze options regarding future sites or increasing present capacities.

Staff attended brownfields grant writing seminar.