



*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

Interim Executive Director
John G. Johnson

AGENDA

**GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE
March 27, 2008 (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 February 28, 2008 meeting.
- IV. STAFF REPORT
 - A. **Legislation.** As usual, the State Legislature has several water issues on the agenda. Staff will review these bills and their status.
Action Requested: None, for information only.
 - B. **Canadian River Wasteload Allocation Project.** Staff will report on the progress of the project and the consultant selection process.
Action Requested: None, for information only.
- V. PROGRESS REPORT ([Attachment V](#))
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION
POLICY COMMITTEE

February 28, 2008

The second regularly scheduled meeting of the Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee for the calendar year 2008 was convened on February 28, 2008 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

Piedmont

POLICY COMMITTEE PRESENT

Hon. Roger Malone, Councilmember

Choctaw

Hon. Rod Cleveland, Commissioner

Cleveland County

Hon. Ken Bartlett, Councilmember

Del City

Hon. Dan O'Neil, Mayor

Edmond

Hon. Mark Sharpton, Commissioner

Logan County

Hon. Margaret Graham, Councilmember

Luther

Hon. Russell Smith, Mayor

Midwest City

Hon. Kathy McMillan, Councilmember

Moore

Hon. David Hopper, Councilmember

Norman

Hon. Sam Bowman, Councilmember

Oklahoma City

Hon. Bob Cleveland, Councilmember

Slaughterville

Hon. Earnest Ware, Mayor

Spencer

Hon. Larry Kesler, Councilmember

Union City

GUESTS

Elizabeth Kesler

Citizen

Bryan Mitchell

CDM, Inc.

Noel Osborn

Oklahoma Water Resources Board

Louis Smitherman

Spencer

ACOG STAFF PRESENT

POSITION

John G. Johnson	Interim Executive Director
John M. Harrington	Division Director, Water Resources
Jane Sutter	Division Director, IGS
Don Bown	Counsel
Debbie Cook	Director of Finance and Budget
Jerry Church	Communications Program Coordinator, IGS
Ellen Owens	Division Secretary, Water Resources

I. CALL TO ORDER

Director Brown called the meeting to order at 3:10 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 Ware made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2008 meeting. Director Brown seconded the motion and the motion carried with the following vote:

AYE: Brown, Malone, R. Cleveland, Bartlett, O'Neil, Sharpton, Graham, Smith, McMillan, Hopper, Bowman, B. Cleveland, Ware, and Kesler

NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

IV. STAFF REPORT

The State Water Plan and the Garber-Wellington Yield Study

Mr. Harrington introduced Noel Osborn from the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) and Bryan Mitchell from CDM, Inc., noting that CDM has been contracted to work on part of the State Water Plan. He said that ACOG has been working with the OWRB on a project that is being proposed to the state legislature. He indicated that the OWRB is finishing the yield study on the Simpson-Arbuckle Aquifer and they will be starting the next yield study which would be in central Oklahoma. He mentioned that the study will be done in honor of Zach D. Taylor, who started the Garber-Wellington Association in 1978.

Ms. Osborn referred Committee Members to a draft Water Management Study and indicated that the main goals of the Study are to address the issues which include the growing population in a region that depends on the Garber-Wellington Aquifer for its municipal, industrial, and domestic water supplies. She said that, with the exception of Oklahoma City, all the major communities in central Oklahoma depend on groundwater. She also mentioned that there are also water quality issues such as arsenic and other contaminants and said that there is also human-induced pollution, such as oil field contamination in some areas.

Ms. Osborn said that some of the primary tasks that have been identified are to construct a groundwater flow model, which is typically used for the larger aquifers to determine the maximum annual yield for water. She said that the maximum annual yield for the Garber-Wellington Aquifer has not yet been determined. She indicated that the model that is being developed takes into consideration the rate of natural recharges, total discharge, and aquifer transmissivity. She said that the Garber does not have a mandate to protect surface water.

She said the goals are to construct a model to test ideas with, to determine the optimum locations for growth. She commented that Mr. Harrington would like to expand some of the work that he has done in Edmond and Nichols Hills to other parts of the Aquifer. She said they would also like to develop and implement a long term monitoring plan.

She said she would like to have the project coordinated by ACOG and OWRB jointly and have most of the study conducted by a multi-disciplinary agency team as has been done for the Simpson-Arbuckle Aquifer model. She said that the US Geological Survey (USGS) developed a groundwater model of the central Oklahoma aquifer in the 1990's and that model could be modified and updated for the current study.

Ms. Osborn indicated they would like to take a proposal to the legislature soon. She said she is hoping for state funding for the study and would like to have in the appropriations bill, the money to begin the study. She said the proposed study will be completed by 2012 and will have a total budget of \$4 million. Ms. Osborn informed the Committee that the participation of state agencies such as the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ), the Corporation Commission, and the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB) will be needed to assess contaminated areas due to industry and oilfield activities. She said that ACOG will work closely with municipalities, other stakeholders, and concerned citizens to identify concerns and prioritize objectives.

Director Kesler said the state is currently undergoing a five year water plan to be completed in 2011 and asked how this will impact the Water Management Study. Ms. Osborn said that she sees no major changes in the law occurring in the future. Director Brown commented that the State water plan will be more of a general outline for the whole state and will not be as specific as the Water Management Study. He said that the overall water plan will not address individual aquifers. Ms. Osborn commented that the Garber-Wellington Aquifer is a

lot different from other aquifers in that it is the most urban one and does have some unique issues that need to be addressed and that information from the Water Management Study can help with the statewide water plan. Director Kesler commented that most of the municipalities in Canadian County are drawing some of their water out of the Garber Aquifer through Oklahoma City. Mr. Harrington indicated that the idea behind the State water plan is where does the water come from and who has the available supply.

Mr. Harrington called attention to the Oklahoma Water Master Plan stating that all the COG's will be assembling about thirty people from each COG area as part of the public participation process. Director Brown said one of his concerns is how detailed the Garber-Wellington study will be. He asked if it will be detailed enough to show us where we can and cannot drill wells, will it show the extent of the Aquifer in more detail than what it shows now, how many monitor wells will be drilled and how will they be monitored in the future. He said that the Garber-Wellington Aquifer has not been designated as a sole-source Aquifer so we will not have to deal with the river and stream problems that the Simpson-Arbuckle does. Mr. Harrington said that he would like to do a cross-section using all of the well logs and indicated that he has a database of over 250 well logs on the Aquifer. He said he would like to do the mapping of it as well. Ms. Osborn said that the aerial extent is something that would be discussed, but indicated that the map she used was the USGS model.

Director Malone asked what the municipalities need to do to get this Study going. Ms. Osborn indicated that if everyone is in favor, it will move forward. Director Graham asked if this would be for agency appropriation. Ms. Osborn said it would be and that they will try to get federal matching funds as much as they can. Director Brown said that all of the cities in Canadian County are very interested in both arsenic mapping and the aerals.

Bryan Mitchell spoke briefly about the State Water Plan. He said that the Water Plan is composed of several different parameters. One is to assess the water needs throughout the state in ways to ensure that the areas that don't have enough for their projects needs have it as we advance into the future. He said that to date the OWRB is contracting with the Corps. of Engineers to hire CDM to do the technical studies. He said that the Water Resources Institute has been gathering public input and CDM is doing the assessment of resources throughout the state. He indicated that the project has just started and that the Work Plan is still in a draft form and will soon be clarified and resolved with the Corps. of Engineers. He said that some of the initial work that has already been approved specifically looks at southeast Oklahoma and also into the Washita River Basin, due to specific needs in that area that have a statewide impact. He commented that there will be a series of hundreds of presentations throughout the state to keep everyone informed about the progress of the State Plan.

V. PROGRESS REPORT

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Director O'Neil made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Kesler seconded the meeting and the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Garber-Wellington Policy Committee
FROM: John M. Harrington, Division Director, Water Resources
DATE: March 21, 2008
SUBJECT: Progress Report

The RFP on the Canadian River Project yielded 4 proposals from consultants. Selection committee chose Guernsey as the lead consultant in the project.

Nitrate loading research project is continuing – statistical models are being developed.

Staff is working with OWRB on proposed yield study project on the Garber-Wellington aquifer.

Workplans for new 604(b) projects were accepted by OSE and EPA. Staff is resubmitting QAPP on the Nichols Hills modeling project.

QAPP for the 06 604(b) project has been submitted to OSE. QAPP for the 2007 El Reno Wellfield survey is in preparation.