



# GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION **POLICY COMMITTEE**

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Chair  
**Vacant**

Vice-Chair  
**Ray Poland**  
Jones City Mayor

Secretary/Treasurer  
**Sheila Stevenson**  
Langston City Mayor

Executive Director  
**Mark W. Sweeney, AICP**

association of central oklahoma governments

4205 N. Lincoln Blvd. | Oklahoma City, OK 73105 | 405.234.2264 | [acogok.org](http://acogok.org)

## **GWPC AGENDA:**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2021, 2:30 P.M.**

**IF UNABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSON,  
PLEASE ACCESS THE CALL-IN  
INSTRUCTIONS:**

**DIAL-IN NUMBER: 800-326-0013**

**PARTICIPANT PASSCODE: 9476299**



acog

THE GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A COMBINATION **IN-PERSON AND CALL-IN** REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, APRIL 29, IN THE OKLAHOMA COUNTY BALLROOM (BEHIND THE ACOG BOARD ROOM), 4205 N. LINCOLN BLVD., OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

The Oklahoma County Ballroom ([download a short video of the Ballroom here](#)) is setup to follow social distancing guidelines. Masks are required during the meeting. For your convenience, masks and sanitizer will be available.

PLEASE NOTIFY ACOG AT 405-234-2264 (TDD/TTY CALL 7-1-1 STATEWIDE) BY 5 P.M. MONDAY, APRIL 26, IF YOU REQUIRE ACCOMMODATIONS PURSUANT TO THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OR SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT.

# AGENDA

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1. CALL TO ORDER ([ATTACHMENT 1](#))
2. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 25, 2021 MINUTES ([ATTACHMENT 2](#))
3. STAFF REPORT - John Harrington, Water Resources Director  
For information only.
  - A. SANDSTONE MAPPING UPDATE ([ATTACHMENT 3-A](#))
  - B. DROUGHT UPDATE ([ATTACHMENT 3-B](#))
  - C. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE APRIL 2021 ([ATTACHMENT 3-C](#))
4. PROGRESS REPORT - John Harrington, Water Resources Director  
([ATTACHMENT 4](#)) For information only.
5. NEW BUSINESS
6. ADJOURNMENT

**NEXT MEETING:**

June 24, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

# ATTACHMENT 1

## GARBER-WELLINGTON POLICY COMMITTEE

CITY/ORGANIZATION	MEMBERS	ALTERNATES
BETHANY	Hon. Chris Powell, Vice-Mayor	Hon. Kathy Larsen, Councilmember
		Hon. Nikki Lloyd, Mayor
CALUMET	Hon. Robert B. Wallace, Trustee	Hon. Steve Snow, Trustee
CHOCTAW	Hon. Mike Birdsong, Councilmember	Hon. Roger Malone, Vice-Mayor
DEL CITY	Hon. Floyd Eason, Mayor	Hon. Pam Finch, Councilmember
		Hon. Michael Dean, Councilmember
EDMOND	Hon. Josh Moore, Councilmember	Hon. Daniel P. O'Neil, Mayor
EL RENO	Hon. Matt White, Mayor	Hon. Tim Robinson, Councilmember
FOREST PARK	Vacant	Vacant
GEARY	Hon. Warren G. Carter, Councilmember	Hon. Tabbitha Kiener, Councilmember
		Hon. Bobby Allen, Mayor
GOLDSBY	Hon. Glenn Berglan, Mayor	Hon. Russ McReynolds, Trustee
		Hon. Susan Boehrer, Trustee
GUTHRIE	Hon. Steven J. Gentling, Mayor	Hon. Jeff Taylor, Councilmember
HARRAH	Vacant	Hon. Tom Barron, Councilmember
JONES CITY	Hon. Ray Poland, Mayor	Vacant
LANGSTON CITY	Hon. Sheila Stevenson, Mayor	Hon. Magnus Scott, Trustee
		Hon. Linda Williams, Trustee
LEXINGTON	Hon. Mike Donovan, Councilman	Hon. Max Punneo, Vice-Mayor
LUTHER	Hon. Jenni White, Mayor	Hon. William "Terry" Arps, Trustee
MIDWEST CITY	Hon. Matt Dukes, Mayor	Hon. Pat Byrne, Councilmember
		Hon. Christine Allen, Councilmember
MOORE	Hon. Mark Hamm, Councilmember	Hon. Glenn Lewis, Mayor
		Any Moore Councilmember
MUSTANG	Hon. Brian Grider, Vice-Mayor	Hon. Michael Ray, Councilmember

CITY/ORGANIZATION	MEMBERS	ALTERNATES
NICHOLS HILLS	Hon. Peter Hoffman, Councilmember	Vacant
NICOMA PARK	Hon. Brian Foughty, Mayor	Hon. Mike Czerczyk, Vice-Mayor
NOBLE	Hon. Marjorie Hill, Councilmember	Hon. Gail Hatfield, Councilmember
		Vacant
NORMAN	Hon. Breea Clark, Mayor	Hon. Stephen Holman, Councilmember
OKARCHE	Hon. Joe Frisby, Trustee	Hon. Jeff Sadler, Trustee
OKLAHOMA CITY	Hon. Todd Sloan, Councilmember	Any Oklahoma City Councilmember
PIEDMONT	Hon. Kevan Blasdel, Councilmember	Hon. Melissa Ashford, Councilmember
		Hon. Austin Redus, Councilmember
SLAUGHTERVILLE	Hon. Valerie Stockton, Trustee	Hon. Steve Easom, Mayor
SPENCER	Hon. Frank Calvin, Mayor	Hon. Jim Scanlan, Vice-Mayor
		Hon. Kerry Andrews, Councilmember
THE VILLAGE	Hon. David Bennett, Mayor	Hon. Cathy Cummings, Vice-Mayor
		Hon. Adam Graham, Councilmember
TUTTLE	Hon. Mary Smith, Vice-Mayor	Hon. Austin Hughes, Councilmember
UNION CITY	Hon. Charlie Ross, Vice-Mayor/Trustee	Hon. Bob McGregor, Trustee
WARR ACRES	Hon. Jim Mickley, Mayor	Hon. Roger Godwin, Councilmember
		Hon. John Knipp, Councilmember
		Unnamed
YUKON	Hon. Shelli Selby, Mayor	Hon. Rick Cacini, Councilmember
CANADIAN COUNTY	Hon. Marc Hader, Commissioner	Hon. Jack Stewart, Commissioner
		Hon. David Anderson, Commissioner
CLEVELAND COUNTY	Hon. Rod Cleveland, Commissioner	Hon. Darry Stacy, Commissioner
		Hon. Harold Haralson, Commissioner
LOGAN COUNTY	Hon. Kody Ellis, Commissioner	Hon. Marven Goodman, Commissioner
		Hon. Monty Pearcey, Commissioner
OKLAHOMA COUNTY	Hon. Carrie Blumert, Commissioner	Hon. Brian Maughan, Commissioner
		Hon. Kevin Calvey, Commissioner

## ATTACHMENT 2

### SUBJECT:

### MINUTES OF THE GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

### DATE:

**FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee was convened at 3:07 p.m. on February 25, 2021 in the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) Board Room, 4205 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The meeting was held as indicated by a notice filed in advance with the Oklahoma County Clerk and by notice posted at the ACOG offices at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

#### **PRESIDING**

Hon. Ray Poland, Vice-Chair

#### **CITY/AGENCY**

Jones City

#### **POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON**

Hon. Chris Powell, Councilmember  
Hon. Roger Malone, Vice-Mayor  
Hon. Josh Moore, Councilmember  
Hon. Glenn Berglan, Mayor  
Hon. Steven J. Gentling, Mayor  
Hon. Sheila Stevenson, Mayor  
Hon. Matt Dukes, Mayor  
Hon. Brian Grider, Vice-Mayor  
Hon. David Bennett, Mayor  
Hon. Mary Smith, Vice-Mayor  
Hon. Rod Cleveland, Commissioner  
Hon. Kody Ellis, Commissioner

Bethany  
Choctaw  
Edmond  
Goldsby  
Guthrie  
Langston City  
Midwest City  
Mustang  
The Village  
Tuttle  
Cleveland County  
Logan County

#### **POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT CALL-IN**

Hon. Steven T. Holman, Councilmember

Norman

#### **POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Hon. Bruce Wallace, Trustee  
Hon. Floyd Eason, Mayor  
Hon. Matt White, Mayor  
Vacant  
Hon. Warren G. Carter, Councilmember  
Hon. Mike Donovan, Councilmember  
Hon. Jenni White, Mayor  
Hon. Mark Hamm, Councilmember  
Hon. Peter Hoffman, Vice-Mayor  
Hon. Brian Foughty, Mayor  
Hon. Marjorie Hill, Councilmember  
Hon. Joe Frisby, Trustee  
Hon. Todd Sloan, Councilmember  
Hon. Ken Blasdel, Councilmember  
Hon. Ronnie Fulks, Trustee  
Hon. Frank Calvin, Mayor

Calumet  
Del City  
El Reno  
Forest Park  
Geary  
Lexington  
Luther  
Moore  
Nichols Hills  
Nicoma Park  
Noble  
Okarche  
Oklahoma City  
Piedmont  
Slaughterville  
Spencer

**POLICY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT (continued)**

Hon. Charlie Ross, Vice-Mayor  
Hon. Jim Mickley, Mayor  
Hon. Shelli Selby, Mayor  
Hon. Marc Hader, Commissioner  
Hon. Carrie Blumert, Commissioner

Union City  
Warr Acres  
Yukon  
Canadian County  
Oklahoma County

**GUESTS**

Pete White

ACOG Attorney

**STAFF**

Mark W. Sweeney  
John M. Sharp  
Beverly Garner  
John Harrington  
Anita Kroth  
Brent L. Hawkinson  
Eric Pollard  
Jimmy Smith

**POSITION**

Executive Director  
Deputy Director  
Executive Assistant  
Water Resources Director  
Administrative Assistant  
911 & Public Safety Director  
Air Quality & Clean Cities Coordinator  
IT Operations Specialist

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Ray Poland called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

Director Matt Dukes, Midwest City, made a motion to approve the February 25, 2021, Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee minutes. Director David Bennett, The Village, seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, including Call-In Vote.

**3. STAFF REPORT****A. ANNUAL STATE OF THE AQUIFER**

Overall, well drilling activity on the aquifer increased by 7.5% in 2020. This possibly reflects drier conditions as well drilling tends to be less in wet years such as in 2007, 2015, and 2019. Domestic well drilling was down by 10% in 2020 from 2019. 2020 ranks 12th in activity out of the past 30 years, with most of the activity in north Edmond and southeastern Oklahoma County.

Domestic well depths are trending deeper, but the deepest wells are getting shallower. This is due to more wells being drilled towards the edges of the aquifer in combination with drought conditions. Average domestic well depth has increased 40 feet since 1990.

In 2019 reported water levels were up due to the large recharge events in the spring. The aquifer has recovered from the drought of 2017-19. Static water levels are at elevations not seen since 2010. Average recharge to the aquifer over the past 20 years is 2.75 inches per year, making 2020 a dead average year for precipitation. 2020 ranks 9th wettest recharge over the past 21 years.

No significant recharge occurred after April 2020. Total recharge for the year was 80% of normal.

## **B. DROUGHT IN 2020**

A year ago the extent of drought nationally was 10.6%. Now the extent of drought nationally is 46%. In Oklahoma, the extent of drought was 8.4%. Now the extent of drought Oklahoma is 15.2%.

Average recharge for January is 0.30 inches. Average recharge for January 2021 is 0.83 inches. This is similar to last year, where the largest recharge month was January. There is no good signal in the forecast models for spring showing if we go wet or dry.

La Niña winters set up dry conditions that can lead into drought. A La Niña in late 2010 set up the conditions for the drought of 2011-13. A persistent La Nina could keep the jet stream to the north of Oklahoma.

Long-term modeling is now suggesting that La Nina may not fade away this spring. This may be a La Nina year. The last extended La Nina event was 2010-12.

## **C. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2021**

So far, 24 bills have been filed for the 2021 session. Thirteen are shell bills. Eleven have language in them. During the drought years of 2011-13, there would be over 42 bills filed at this time. Some bills we are looking at are:

- HB 1878 allows the North Canadian River to be renamed “Oklahoma River” for economic development purposes. This affects the river only in Oklahoma County.
- HB 1093 modifies the Water Quality Standards to permit the development of watershed trading programs. Water quality trading can provide greater flexibility on the timing and level of technology a facility might install, reduce overall compliance costs, and encourage voluntary participation of non-point sources within the watershed. Trading can produce substantial cost savings while meeting the same water quality goal. It may also offer greater flexibility on the timing and level of technology a facility might install.
- HB 2330 restricts drilling of industrial and domestic wells to within a 600 feet distance of the boundary of dedicated or platted land of the municipality.
- SB109 requires instream flow studies on certain rivers east of Interstate 35. The Little River in Cleveland County is one of the streams listed. Lake Thunderbird dams the Little River.

**4.     **PROGRESS REPORT****

Vice-Chair Ray Poland pointed out that the progress report was available for review in the agenda.

**5.     **NEW BUSINESS****

None

**6.     **ADJOURNMENT****

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:29 p.m.



## ATTACHMENT 3-A

**SUBJECT:**  
**SANDSTONE MAPPING UPDATE**

**DATE:**  
APRIL 29, 2021

**FROM:**  
**JOHN HARRINGTON**  
*Water Resources Director*

**INFORMATION:**

As part of a 604(b) grant, staff is continuing and extending net sand maps originally created as part of a drilling project with the City of Norman. This effort will allow drillers to focus their efforts in areas with more sandstone, thus increasing well capacity.

Work commenced in March 2020. We are now entering the second phase of the project (19604(b) grant), which will focus on northern Oklahoma County. This will include the municipal well fields of Nichols Hills and Edmond and will (hopefully) extend a nice sand trend found near the communities of Choctaw and Jones City.

The project will be essentially identical in nature to the previous effort - eight structural cross-sections made through the northern part of Oklahoma County. These sections incorporate geophysical well logs along the strike and dip of the Garber sandstone. Approximately 120 well logs will be utilized in creating eight net sand maps on different intervals.

The 18604(b) report has undergone peer review and the final draft is waiting to be approved by EPA.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**  
For information only.

## ATTACHMENT 3-B

**SUBJECT:**  
**DROUGHT UPDATE**

**DATE:**  
APRIL 29, 2021

**FROM:**  
**JOHN HARRINGTON**  
*Water Resources Director*

**INFORMATION:**

A year ago the extent of drought nationally was 14%. Now the extent of drought nationally is 45%. The State of Oklahoma is on the very edge of a drought area that covers most of the southwest United States.

Forecasters now predict that we will have a weak La Nina that may go neutral this summer, then return in Fall 2021. La Niñas set up dry conditions that can lead into drought. A La Niña in late 2010 set up the conditions for the drought of 2010-12. A persistent La Nina could keep the jet stream to the north of Oklahoma and repeat the events of the last drought.

Accumulated recharge is a bit ahead of normal this year due to a large January recharge event. However, May and June are critical months - recharge was essentially nonexistent in Spring 2020.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**  
For information only.

## ATTACHMENT 3-C

### SUBJECT:

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE APRIL 2021

### DATE:

APRIL 29, 2021

### FROM:

**JOHN HARRINGTON**

*Water Resources Director*

### INFORMATION:

So far, 24 bills have been filed for the 2021 session. Thirteen are shell bills. In a drought year, over 40 bills would have been filed. Some bills of interest:

- HB 1878 allows the North Canadian River to be renamed “Oklahoma River” for economic development purposes. This affects the river only in Oklahoma County. The bill passed the House 76-14. The bill passed the Senate Business, Commerce and Tourism Committee 9-3.
- HB 1093 modifies the Water Quality Standards to permit the development of watershed trading programs. Trading can produce substantial cost savings while meeting the same water quality goal. It may also offer greater flexibility on the timing and level of technology a facility might install. HB 1093 passed the House 79-8. HB 1098 passed Senate 46-1.
- HB 2330 restricts drilling of industrial and domestic wells to within a 600 feet distance of the boundary of dedicated or platted land of a municipality. The bill passed the House 96-0 and passed the Senate Energy Committee 10-0.
- SB109 requires instream flow studies on certain rivers east of Interstate 35. The Little River in Cleveland County is one of the streams listed. Lake Thunderbird dams the Little River. The bill died in committee.

### ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

## ATTACHMENT 4

**SUBJECT:**  
**PROGRESS REPORT**

**DATE:**  
APRIL 29, 2021

**FROM:**  
**JOHN HARRINGTON**  
*Water Resources Director*

**INFORMATION:**

**ACOG Drought Program**

Oklahoma is now experiencing a much different climate than in the 1980-90 decades. We are going back to the more severe dry/wet cycles seen in the 1950-60 era. Static water levels have finally returned to pre-drought levels seen in 2010, ending a nine and a half year cycle of groundwater drought.

However, in October 2020 a new La Nina formed. La Nina is the term given when Pacific Ocean equatorial temperatures reach a sustained value of at least 0.5 degree Celsius below average. La Nina presence has been correlated to hotter and drier conditions in the U.S. Midwest. The drought of 2011-13 started with a large La Niña event.

The drought in Oklahoma has progressed over the past weeks. About 49% of Oklahoma is in an abnormally dry condition and about 21% is in at least moderate drought conditions. About 370,236 people in Oklahoma are being affected by drought at the present time.

Recharge to the aquifer has been minimal since the last report. In January 2021, a generous 0.83 inches of recharge to the aquifer occurred. Since then central Oklahoma has been averaging only about 80% of normal recharge. Without a normal May and June rainfall, we will be in moderate to severe drought this summer.

Since the last progress report, two monthly drought reports have been generated.

**18604(b) - Stratigraphic Mapping Garber-Wellington Aquifer Oklahoma County**

As part of a 604(b) grant, staff is continuing and extending net sand maps originally created as part of a drilling project with the City of Norman. This effort will allow drillers to focus their efforts in areas with more sandstone, thus increasing well capacity.

Work commenced in March 2020. Draft report has been peer reviewed by EPA and OWRB. Final draft has been submitted.

**19604(b) - Stratigraphic Mapping Garber-Wellington Aquifer Southern Logan County**

As part of a 604(b) grant, staff will continue and extend net sand maps created in the 18604(b) project into northern Oklahoma County. This effort will allow drillers to focus their efforts in areas with more sandstone, thus increasing well capacity.

Work on the 19604(b) project started in April 2021.

**20604(b) - Stratigraphic Mapping Garber-Wellington Aquifer Southern Logan County**

As part of a 604(b) grant, staff will continue and extend net sand maps created in the 18604(b) and 19604(b) projects into southern Logan County and southern Cleveland County. This effort will allow drillers to focus their efforts in areas with more sandstone, thus increasing well capacity.

The Quality Assurance Program Plan was completed in April 2021.

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

For information only.