



ASSOCIATION OF
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
GOVERNMENTS

GARB- WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE

Chair

Tim Rudek

Harrah Councilmember

Vice-Chair

Vickie Douglas

Warr Acres Mayor

Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Sharpton

Logan County Commissioner

Executive Director

Mark W. Sweeney, AICP

AGENDA: THURSDAY
APRIL 30, 2026
2:30 P.M.

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments
4205 N. Lincoln Blvd. | Oklahoma City, OK 73105 | 405.234.2264 | acogok.org

THE GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2026, AT ACOG IN THE OKLAHOMA BOARD ROOM, 4205 N. LINCOLN BLVD., OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA.

Please notify ACOG at 405.234.2264 (TDD/TTY Call 711 Statewide or [email title.vi@acogok.org](mailto:title.vi@acogok.org)), by 5 p.m. Monday, April 27, if you require accommodations pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** ([ATTACHMENT 1](#))
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - FEBRUARY 26, 2026** ([ATTACHMENT 2](#)) *Action requested.*
3. **STAFF REPORT:** Benjamin Matsumura, Water Resources Manager *For information only.*
 - A. What A Water Emergency Looks Like ([ATTACHMENT 3-A](#))
 - B. Adjusting to Changing Rainfall Patterns ([ATTACHMENT 3-B](#))
 - C. 2025 Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan Update ([ATTACHMENT 3-C](#))
4. **PROGRESS REPORT:** Benjamin Matsumura, Water Resources Manager ([ATTACHMENT 4](#)) *For information only.*
5. **NEW BUSINESS**
6. **ADJOURN**

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, June 25, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

ATTACHMENT 1

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE

CITY/ORGANIZATION	MEMBERS	ALTERNATES
BETHANY	Hon. Amanda Sandoval Mayor	Hon. Brian Magirowsky Councilmember
		Hon. Ken Smart Councilmember
CALUMET	Hon. Laurie Morris Mayor	Hon. Terry Brungardt Trustee
CHOCTAW	Hon. Cody Brewer Councilmember	Hon. Chad Allcox Mayor
CRESCENT	Hon. Greg Cummings Mayor	Vacant
DEL CITY	No Designee	Hon. Pam Finch Vice-Mayor
		Hon. Claudia Browne Councilmember
EDMOND	Hon. Maggie Murdock Nichols Councilmember	Hon. Mark A. Nash Mayor
EL RENO	Hon. Amy Neathery Councilmember	Hon. J. Steven Jensen Mayor
		Hon. David Black Vice-Mayor
FOREST PARK	Hon. William Jones Trustee	Hon. George Smith Mayor
		Hon. Stephen Miller Trustee
GEARY	Hon. Sandra Cleveland Councilmember	Hon. Lois Hicks Mayor
		Hon. Darrla Golden Councilmember
GOLDSBY	Hon. Kari Madden Vice-Mayor	Hon. David White Trustee
GUTHRIE	Hon. Grant Aguirre Councilmember	Hon. Jeff Taylor Councilmember
HARRAH	Hon. Tim Rudek Councilmember	Hon. Jennifer McCammond Councilmember
		Hon. Bill Lisby Councilmember
JONES CITY	Hon. Casey Burwell Trustee	Hon. Dan Wells Mayor
		Hon. Scott Meyer Trustee
LANGSTON CITY	No Designee	Hon. Magnus Scott Trustee
		Hon. Misty B. Mayes Mayor
LEXINGTON	Hon. Mike Donovan Mayor	Hon. TaRena Furr Vice-Mayor
		Hon. Sarah Callen Councilmember
LUTHER	Hon. Carla Caruthers Vice-Mayor	Hon. Cindy Harris Baker Trustee
		Hon. William T. Arps Mayor

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE

CITY/ORGANIZATION	MEMBERS	ALTERNATES
MIDWEST CITY	No Designee	Hon. Pat Byrne Vice-Mayor
		Hon. Rick Favors Councilmember
MOORE	Hon. Kathy Griffith Councilmember	Any Moore Councilmember
MUSTANG	Hon. Nathan Sholund Vice-Mayor	Hon. James Wald Councilmember
NICHOLS HILLS	Hon. Sody Clements Vice-Mayor	Hon. Colin M. FitzSimons Councilmember
NICOMA PARK	Hon. Mark Cochell Mayor	Hon. Mike Czerczyk Councilmember
NOBLE	Hon. Phil Freeman Mayor	Hon. George Schmerer Councilmember
		Hon. Chad Terrill Councilmember
NORMAN	Hon. Stephen T. Holman Mayor	Hon. Scott Dixon Councilmember
OKARCHE	Hon. Jeff Brueggen Trustee	Hon. Judd Kroener Trustee
OKLAHOMA CITY	Hon. Matt Hinkle Councilmember	Any Oklahoma City Councilmember
PIEDMONT	Hon. Rob Jones Councilmember	Hon. Byron Schlomach Councilmember
		Hon. Matt Myers Councilmember
SLAUGHTERVILLE	Hon. Kathy Snellbaker Trustee	Hon. Leah Grady Trustee
SPENCER	No Designee	Hon. Charmin Williams Mayor
THE VILLAGE	Hon. David Bennett Councilmember	Hon. Braxton Banks Vice-Mayor
TUTTLE	Hon. Larry Watson Councilmember	Hon. Sarah Hites Councilmember

GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE

CITY/ORGANIZATION	MEMBERS	ALTERNATES
UNION CITY	Hon. James Smith Trustee	Hon. Chad Fisher Trustee
WARR ACRES	Hon. Vickie Douglas Mayor	Hon. Judy Myers Councilmember
YUKON	Hon. Shelli Selby Councilmember	Vacant
CANADIAN COUNTY	Hon. Lacey Dawson Commissioner	Hon. Tracey Rider Commissioner
		Hon. Tomas Manske Commissioner
CLEVELAND COUNTY	Hon. Rusty Grissom Commissioner	Hon. Rod Cleveland Commissioner
LOGAN COUNTY	Hon. Mark Sharpton Commissioner	Hon. Monty Piearcy Commissioner
		Hon. Floyd Coffman Commissioner
OKLAHOMA COUNTY	No Designee	Hon. Brian Maughan Commissioner
TINKER AIR FORCE BASE (Associate Member)	Stephanie Wilson Base Civil Engineer	Vacant



ATTACHMENT 2

SUBJECT:

MINUTES OF THE GARBER-WELLINGTON ASSOCIATION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE:

FEBRUARY 26, 2026

A regular meeting of the Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee (GWAPC) convened at 2:48 p.m., Thursday, February 26, 2026, at Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) in the Oklahoma Board Room, 4205 N. Lincoln Blvd., 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 24 hours prior to the meeting.

PRESIDING CHAIR

Hon. Vickie Douglas, Mayor

ENTITY

Warr Acres

P.C. MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Maggie Murdock Nichols, Councilmember
Hon. William Jones, Trustee
Hon. Kari Madden, Vice-Mayor
Hon. Misty Mayes, Trustee
Hon. Kathy Griffith, Councilmember
Hon. Sody Clements, Vice-Mayor
Hon. Phil Freeman, Mayor
Hon. Matt Hinkle, Councilmember
Hon. Kathy Shellbaker, Trustee
Hon. David Bennett, Councilmember
Hon. Braxton Banks, Vice-Mayor
Hon. Judy Myers, Councilmember
Hon. Shelli Selby, Councilmember
Hon. Lacey Dawson, Commissioner
Hon. Mark Sharpton, Commissioner

ENTITY

Edmond
Forest Park
Goldsby
Langston
Moore
Nichols Hills
Noble
Oklahoma City
Slaughterville
The Village
The Village
Warr Acres
Yukon
Canadian County
Logan County

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT

None

P.C. MEMBERS ABSENT

Hon. Amanda Sandoval, Mayor
Hon. Laurie Morris, Mayor
Hon. Cody Brewer, Councilmember
Hon. Greg Cummings, Mayor
Hon. Floyd Eason, Mayor
Hon. Amy Neathery, Councilmember
Hon. Sandra Cleveland, Councilmember
Hon. Grant Aguirre, Councilmember
Hon. Tim Rudek, Councilmember
Hon. Casey Burwell, Trustee
Hon. Mike Donovan, Mayor
Hon. Carla Caruthers, Vice-Mayor
Hon. Matt Dukes, Mayor
Hon. James Wald, Councilmember
Hon. Mark Cochell, Mayor
Hon. Stephen T. Holman, Mayor
Hon. Jeff Brueggen, Trustee
Hon. Rob Jones, Councilmember
Hon. Charmin Williams, Mayor
Hon. Larry Watson, Councilmember
Hon. James Smith, Trustee

ENTITY

Bethany
Calumet
Choctaw
Crescent
Del City
El Reno
Geary
Guthrie
Harrah
Jones City
Lexington
Luther
Midwest City
Mustang
Nicoma Park
Norman
Okarche
Piedmont
Spencer
Tuttle
Union City

P.C. MEMBERS ABSENT (Cont.)

Hon. Rusty Grissom, Commissioner
Hon. Myles Davidson, Commissioner

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ABSENT

Stephanie Wilson, Base Civil Engineer

GUESTS PRESENT

Pete White, Attorney
Casey Davis, Attorney
Hon. Ken Smart, Councilmember
Andrew Fleet, Water Conservation
Steve Griffith, Guest
A.J. Kreiger, City Manager
Micheal Taylor, Asst. City Manager

ACOG STAFF PRESENT

Mark W. Sweeney
Ben Matsumura
John Harrington
John Sharp
Jennifer Sebesta
Beverly Garner
Shana Sapp
Jimmy Smith
Ethan Mazzio

ENTITY

Cleveland County
Oklahoma County

ENTITY

Tinker Air Force Base (TAFB)

ENTITY/AGENCY/BUSINESS

ACOG Legal Counsel
Davis Law Group
Bethany
Oklahoma State University
Moore
Edmond
Nichols Hills

POSITION

Executive Director
Water Resources Manager
Water Resources Consultant
Deputy Director
Transp. Planning Services (TPS) Div. Mgr.
Executive Assistant
Administrative Assistant
IT Operations Specialist II
Transportation Planner III - Mobility

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Presiding Chair Vickie Douglas called the meeting to order at 2:48 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - DECEMBER 18, 2025

Mayor Misty Mayes made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2025, Garber-Wellington Association Policy Committee meeting. Councilmember Kathy Griffith seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. STAFF REPORT

A. Introduction and Position Goals

Ben Matsumura introduced himself as ACOG’s new Water Resource Manager. He highlighted his education and background as an environmental geologist. He said he will continue developing and updating the Garber-Wellington Aquifer models and databases and will also continue expanding community outreach programs to include K - 12 stormwater demonstrations. He will be working with city managers and utility directors to coordinate resources for “smart water development.” Mr. Matsumura will be working with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) on the Groundwater Monitoring and Assessment Program (GMAP) to stay up to date on water conditions around Central Oklahoma.

B. EPA Rule Change

Mr. Matsumura highlighted the information as detailed in the agenda memorandum regarding the EPA Rule Change. He explained that under the Clean Waters Act, Waters Of The United States (WOTUS) defines the waters subject to federal jurisdiction. He noted that WOTUS has been updated several times in the past 15 years, and the EPA rule change will have similar effects to HR 3898, as this will give more power to the state

on how to manage water resources and remove some of the federal water protections. He said the EPA rule change also clarifies that groundwater is not considered WOTUS. This update is supported by the National Groundwater Association. He added that the EPA rule will not have the same stability for permitting and usage.

C. Data Center Water Usage

Mr. Matsumura highlighted the information as detailed in the agenda memorandum regarding the Data Center Water Usage. He said that most on-site water is used to cool equipment and must meet certain treatment requirements, and that potable water is an option for data center usage, non-potable and reclaimed water can also be used when treated correctly. He noted efficient planning and negotiation during construction can help reduce overall water usage and ensure drinking water supplies are not severely impacted.

Mr. Matsumura discussed the Power Production for the data centers, stating that the largest water demand for data centers comes in the form of power production. He said the increased water demand can cause regional strain over time and residents may see this impact in the form of increasing energy bills, noting that communities looking to build data centers should consider setting Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) and Water Usage Effectiveness (WUE) requirements for new developments.

Vice-Mayor Sody Clements asked for a definition of K-12 program.

John Harrington said before Covid-19, the K-12 program was a science demonstration for students. He said since Covid, the program has not been able to restart.

4. PROGRESS REPORT

Mr. Matsumura said staff will continue to work with Newcastle on increased water needs for their 2050 population projection. He said staff will follow up on Opossum Creek and Cowbell Creek modeling projects. He also noted that he is waiting for developers to obtain a formal response from Edmond on whether the Edmond Treatment Plant will accept wastewater discharge.

Mr. Matsumura stated that staff will continue to work on the following 604(b) projects to source tracking of bacteria in the North Canadian River and monitor the effects on aquifer recharge from the proposed turnpike section in Norman. He said the 604(b) project will also monitor the Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) for the Norman Groundwater model update and Noble Groundwater model update.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Douglas said there will be a western event on the 2nd floor of the Oklahoma State Capitol on March 9, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

6. ADJOURN

There being no other business, Chair Douglas adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.



SUBJECT

WHAT A WATER EMERGENCY LOOKS LIKE

DATE:

APRIL 30, 2026

FROM:

BENJAMIN MATSUMURA

Water Resources Manager

INFORMATION:

Corpus Christi, Texas is home to the largest crude oil export terminal in North America, and the third-largest export terminal in the world. In addition, the city hosts multiple large refineries that supply fuel to the port and local users. However, all that is threatened by an impending Level 1 Water Emergency.

In 2021 Corpus Christi experienced the third rainiest season (45.39 inches) in its history. But since then, it has faced a challenging 5-year drought. The area still received 26-28 inches yearly from 2022-2025, but that was less than past averages and not in the right spots to fill reservoirs. Not only that, but industrial water demand skyrocketed, and multiple water supply projects fell flat. All this culminated in local reservoir levels dropping from 57.4 percent full in 2021, to 8 percent full as of April 2026. Planners now estimate that May 2026 will mark the Level 1 Emergency point, meaning the city will be 180 days away from running out of water.

To combat all this and avoid a potential billion-dollar disaster, water well permits are being expedited, old infrastructure projects are being revived, and water is being brought in from Lake Texana. All this comes with the risk of groundwater overdraw and rapid depletion of backup water used by multiple communities. Furthermore, most revived projects will not be ready until at least 2028, even with emergency funding and shortened timelines.

Reducing industrial water usage may seem like the obvious solution at first glance, but refinery usage complicates the issue. Changes in refinery production must be made slowly to avoid dangerous pressure and temperature spikes. A steady water supply is critical during this time for continued cooling, as overheating equipment can cause severe damage or worse - explosions. Some of these facilities are also key players in our national and international supply chain, with contractual obligations that must be met.

Corpus Christi's situation provides an important case study for Oklahoma communities and water planners. Both states are seeing similar changes to their rainfall patterns and multiple Oklahoma cities are experiencing rapid water demand growth. While Oklahoma has worked hard to update its Comprehensive Water Plan - forward thinking city and regional planning is still essential. Avoiding overallocation, planning for future demand, updating local supply projections, and maintaining diverse backup sources are critical strategies to avoid water emergencies.

ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.



ATTACHMENT 3-B

SUBJECT:

ADJUSTING TO CHANGING RAINFALL PATTERNS

DATE:

APRIL 30, 2026

FROM:

BENJAMIN MATSUMURA

Water Resources Manager

INFORMATION:

Climate change is affecting rainfall patterns across the United States, and new data are emerging for the Southern and Central Plains regions. If you feel like Oklahoma's rainy season keeps changing, or you have experienced heavier flooding during storms, there is a reason for that.

Multiple studies have found that intense rainfall events are increasing across the United States. At the same time, many areas now see less consistent rainfall throughout the year. In Oklahoma and other affected states, this means our traditional "100-year floodplain" models are losing relevance as severe flooding comes more frequently. Additionally, the inconsistent rain means less effective recharge for aquifers and surface reservoirs.

To understand why this is happening, we can look to the Clausius-Clapeyron equation. Put simply, as our climate increases in temperature, the air can hold more water. This means heavier rainfall when the storms finally break - and where they break is changing too. Thanks to the urban heat island effect, airflow disruptions, and pollution, storms are slowing down over cities and dropping more rain than before.

These changing patterns are particularly visible when looking at Oklahoma's 2025 rainfall numbers. Oklahoma received nearly all its significant rainfall in three months, with the rest of the year getting almost nothing. Although we received more water than average, that water was less effective than it could have been. Long dry periods allowed for more evaporation, and crops needed help from municipal systems and groundwater wells to maintain saturation.

What this means long term is that cities must reconsider their flood mitigation strategies and adjust their water supply planning. Long periods of drought followed by intense storms may be the new norm. Finding ways to effectively collect, direct, and retain the water from these intense bursts will be crucial moving forward.

ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.



ATTACHMENT 3-C

SUBJECT:

2025 OKLAHOMA COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN UPDATE

DATE:

APRIL 30, 2026

FROM:

BENJAMIN MATSUMURA

Water Resources Manager

INFORMATION

In an effort to plan for changing climate conditions and an ever-increasing demand on our water supply, the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) has completed its 2025 update to the Oklahoma Comprehensive Water Plan (OCWP). The various parts of this plan, including interactive dashboards and maps, can be accessed on the OWRB website -

<https://oklahoma.gov/owrb/water-planning.html>.

While the OCWP has a large trove of information for city managers and water planners, a few key items for Central Oklahoma are highlighted below:

- **Supply Planning**

- The Central Oklahoma planning region is expected to see the largest surface water gaps and alluvial aquifer depletions by 2075, with some seen as early as 2030.
- Although most planning basins will still have water available for appropriation through 2075 - the fact remains that demand is increasing while supply is not.
- These estimates still assume relatively stable recharge and withdraw conditions, which could change in the coming years.

- **Infrastructure**

- Central Oklahoma will need an estimated \$73 billion worth of infrastructure improvements and repairs by 2045.
- Costs will vary based on the needs, size, and age of each community - but now is the time to plan for future needs and apply for funding.

- **Reuse**

- A strong focus of the 2025 OCWP is water reuse options, which can help communities get the most out of limited supplies.

Based on the OCWP findings, Central Oklahoma is not predicted to face any large water disasters soon. However, severe drought and climatological shifts can always change the situation. The best time to prepare is now, and the OCWP provides invaluable tools and research to help do so.

ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

PROGRESS REPORT





SUBJECT:
PROGRESS REPORT

DATE:
APRIL 30, 2026

FROM:
BENJAMIN MATSUMURA
Water Resources Manager

INFORMATION

Since the February GWAPC meeting, the Water Resources Division has worked on the following projects:

- The drought report recharge maps and their associated scripts have been fully updated from the now unsupported ArcMap format to the latest ArcGIS format.
- The Water Resources Department Quality Management Plan (QMP) required for EPA grant projects has been revised.
- The Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for the Norman Groundwater Modeling project has been updated to the new required format.
 - The Noble Groundwater project QAPP is currently being revised to this same format, and both will be submitted alongside the QMP for EPA review.
- Work is ongoing for the “Effects on Aquifer Recharge from the Proposed Norman Turnpike” project.
 - Historic aerial photos have been georeferenced on previously developed turnpikes, and impermeable surface growth rates are being calculated.
- The Water Resources Department, alongside ACOG Deputy Director John Sharp, met with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and Newcastle leaders to finalize population projections and water discharge amounts from a new treatment plant.
 - The Water Resources Department is using these numbers to update water modeling in Walnut Creek and its Canadian River confluence.
 - The spring season modeling has been completed, and the summer/winter modeling is currently underway.
- The ACOG Water Resources Department has become an affiliate member of the Central Oklahoma Stormwater Alliance (COSWA).
 - COSWA and the Water Resources Department have identified shareable resources and contacts for education and outreach.
 - COSWA is reviewing the watershed planning sections of ACOG’s Climate Change Action Plan – which may include joint project work.
- The Water Resources Department’s FY 27 budget is being prepared for review by the Executive Director.

ACTION REQUESTED:
For information only.