

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

First Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2025

Meeting Date: September 18, 2024

Place: Virtual Videoconference

Meeting No. 83

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Subcommittee Members Affiliation

Joel Pigg (Co-Chair)	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Peggy G Hunka (Co-Chair)	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Scout Vanderwal	Department of State Health services (DSHS)
Christine Peters	Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
Adam Foster	Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
David Villarreal	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
David Gunn	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Robert Bradley	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Linzy Foster	United States Geological Survey (USGS)

Other Agency Staff Affiliation / Program

Abiy Berehe	TCEQ / Water Availability Division (WAD)
Katie Brice	TCEQ / WAD
Alan Cherepon	TCEQ / WAD
Stephanie Escobar	TCEQ / WAD
Cindy Hooper	TCEQ / WAD
Kathy McCormack	TCEQ / WAD
Scott Underwood	TCEQ / WAD
James Harcourt	RRC

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda September 18, 2024
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, June 5, 2024
3. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
4. Outreach Events Status Report
5. Water Conferences list
6. Drought Monitor Report
7. [Draft TGPC_POE_FY2024_Annual_Report.docx](#)
8. [Draft POESubCommCharge 2024.docx](#)
9. Updated FAQs as follows:
 - Draft WaterOwnership_FAQ 03.docx
 - Draft OG_InjectionWell_FAQ 16.docx
 - Draft OG_Regulated_WQ_FAQ 19.docx
 - Draft OG_ConstructionStds_FAQ 20.docx
 - Draft OG_PermittingProc_FAQ 21.docx
 - Draft WellCapping_FAQ 26.docx
 - Draft WellTerms_FAQ 29.docx
 - Draft WellOwner_FAQ 31.docx
 - Draft MSD FAQ 41.docx
 - Draft What is a PGMA 43.docx

MEETING RECORD OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

The TGPC approves all Subcommittee products, and designated TGPC members attending this Subcommittee meeting participated as an employee of their agency or organization -- not as a designated TGPC member. Therefore, this Subcommittee meeting was not subject to the Open Meetings Act and was held 100% virtually. The public was able to attend this meeting via teleconference or videoconference at no cost.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension), Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Attendees were introduced. The meeting record for the June 5, 2024, meeting was provided to the members by email for review prior to the meeting.

STATUS REPORTS

TWON Training Activities

- Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the TWON training schedule. During the previous quarter, TWON staff held four one-hour events. Staff collected 318 samples. There have been 4,062 samples or attendees at TWON events since May 2021 with 1,469 in FY 2024.

Recent and Upcoming Outreach Events

The current Outreach Events Status Report was reviewed, and is available on the [POE Subcommittee webpage](#)¹ under the “Additional Resources” heading:

- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension) Water Well Screening Events

Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reported there are two events scheduled for July and two in August 2024. There are eight events planned for September, two in and one in November.

- TGPC Exhibit Booth:

There were two TGPC booth events the previous quarter. One at the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference and the other at the Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts 2024 Groundwater Summit with an estimated 73 people stopping by the booths. The Plant Protection association Conference will be held in Bryan, Texas in December.

Review Groundwater Conferences

- Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the upcoming conferences.

¹ <https://tgpc.texas.gov/tgpc-subcommittees/tgpc-public-outreach-and-education-subcommittee/>

Review Drought Monitor

- Joel Pigg (AgriLife Extension) reviewed the drought monitor report, which shows that most of Texas is coming out of a drought.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 4, 2024, by Teams Videoconference at 1:30 PM.

Review and discuss changes to the POE Annual Report and Charge

The POE Annual Report was reviewed and approved for submittal to the TGPC Committee in October 2024. Changes to the Charge were discussed and will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

REVIEW, DISCUSS, AND APPROVE DOCUMENTATION

Discussion of Education Outreach Opportunities

Discussion on displaying TGPC handouts at upcoming conferences and if other agencies would be willing to take some TGPC handouts to conferences they attend.

Publications

AgriLife Extension Reprints

There was no discussion on this topic.

FAQs and Fact Sheets:

The FAQs in the handout list were sent to the subject matter experts for review. All comments and suggestions were accepted, and the format of the FAQs were updated to a consistent format. Since these are updates, the FAQ has already been approved by the TGPC Committee and will simply be uploaded to the TGPC website. Subcommittee members have 10 days to provide further comment before the FAQs will be uploaded to the website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.