

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF MEETING

Fourth Quarter Meeting, Fiscal Year 2026

Meeting Date: June 3, 2026

Place: Virtual Videoconference
Meeting No. 90

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Subcommittee Members Affiliation

Joel Pigg (Co-Chair)	Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)
Katie Brice (Co-Chair)	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
David Villarreal	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
Chris Hooyboer	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
Robert Bradley	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Other Agency Staff Affiliation / Program

James-Eric Simon	TCEQ / Water Availability Division (WAD)
Peggy Hunka	TCEQ / WAD
Cindy Hooper	TCEQ / WAD
Kathy McCormack	TCEQ / WAD
Scott Underwood	TCEQ / WAD
April Hoh	TCEQ / WAD
Stephanie Escobar	TCEQ / WAD
Dan Hannah	TCEQ / WAD
Sarah Findlay	TCEQ / WAD
Guy Fipps	AgriLife Extension
Ben Kern	TDLR

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Texas Groundwater Protection Committee (TGPC) Public Outreach and Education (POE) Subcommittee Meeting Agenda
2. TGPC POE Subcommittee Meeting Minutes, March 4, 2026
3. Texas Well Owner Network (TWON) Training Activities Schedule
4. Outreach Events Status Report
5. Water Conferences list
6. Draft POE Educational Outreach Plan

MEETING RECORD OF JUNE 3, 2026

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

Katie Brice (TCEQ) Co-Chair of the TGPC POE Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Attendees were introduced. The meeting record for the March 4, 2026, 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 six one-hour events. Staff collected 530 samples over the past quarter.

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 17 events scheduled for the next quarter so far.

Katie Brice (TCEQ) asked what the most asked questions were during these Water Well Screening Events. Joel Pigg stated that people are asking how they create a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD); how much water do data centers actually use; and water issues in south Texas.

David Villareal (TDA) asked if TDLR funding the rehabilitation of private water wells comes up during the TWON events. Joel stated that he discusses water well plugging/capping at every event.

Katie Brice asked how AgriLife Extension picks areas to conduct events. Joel Pigg stated that he will reach out to areas or the local areas will reach out.

Katie mentioned that the University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology (UTBEG) is conducting a Water Well Survey online and would AgriLife Extension mind

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

displaying the flyer/URL at their Water Well Screening Events. Joel Pigg stated that he would and to send him the URL/flyer.

- TCEQ members attended the TCEQ Environmental Trade Fair in San Antonio in May.

At approximately 1:15 p.m., the TCEQ Building F fire alarm went off. Katie Brice and other TCEQ staff had to leave the meeting, but Joel Pigg continued the meeting.

- The next booth event will be the TCEQ Public Drinking Water Conference in August in Austin.

Review Groundwater Conferences

- Katie Brice (TCEQ) reviewed the upcoming conferences.

Review and Discuss Changes to the POE Educational Outreach Plan

- Katie Brice tabled the Draft POE Educational Outreach Plan (Plan) for next meeting in which the Plan will be finalized.

ANNOUNCE FUTURE MEETING DATE

The next TGPC POE Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 1:00pm by Teams Videoconference.

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

Joel Pigg mentioned he has reprints if any agency needs them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

ADJOURN

At approximately 1:33 p.m., the TCEQ members returned from the fire alarm drill.

The meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.