

TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE REPORT SUBCOMMITTEE
RECORD OF MEETING

First Meeting, Fiscal Year 2020

Meeting Date: March 4, 2020

Place: TCEQ Campus, Bldg. F

Room: 2210

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

Subcommittee Members

Abiy Berehe (Chair)	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Natalie Ballew	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Leslie Bruce	Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC)
TJ Helton	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)
Linda Ruiz-McCall (absent)	University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology (UTBEG)
Claire Satterwhite	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)
John Tracy	Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research)
David Van Dresar	Texas Alliance of Groundwater Districts (TAGD)
David Villarreal	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)
Evelyn Reategui-Zirena (absent)	Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS)

Agency Staff

<u>Agency Staff</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Program</u>
Al Cherepon	TCEQ	Water Availability Division
Grant Gibson	TCEQ	Water Availability Division
Cindy Hooper	TCEQ	Water Availability Division
Peggy Hunka	TCEQ	Water Availability Division
Kim Nygren	TCEQ	Water Availability Division
Scott Underwood	TCEQ	Water Availability Division

Interested Parties

<u>Interested Parties</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Diane Boellstorff	Texas A&M AgriLife Research (AgriLife Research)
Rebecca Storms	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

MEETING HANDOUTS

1. Legislative Report Subcommittee Agenda March 4, 2020
2. *Report to the 86th Legislature* SFR-047/18
3. Recommendations to the 86th Texas Legislature (pages 7-12 of SFR-047/18)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Abiy Berehe (TCEQ), Chair of the Legislative Report Subcommittee, called the meeting to order at 10:34 a.m. Subcommittee members introduced themselves.

2. DISCUSSION AND EDITING OF THE DRAFT ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TEXAS GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE: A REPORT TO THE 87TH LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Berehe outlined the plan for preparing the *Report to the 87th Legislature*. There will be two subcommittee meetings; today's meeting and a second meeting on June 10, 2020. The objective is to update the *Report to the 86th Legislature* and submit the draft *Report to the 87th Legislature* to the main committee in July. If there's a need for another meeting, we'll discuss it after the July main committee meeting. Mr. Berehe referred members to the table of contents for *Recommendations to the 86th Texas Legislature*. Mr. Berehe went through the report and pointed out which sections will be updated by the other subcommittees. This subcommittee is responsible for updating the Recommendations section. Mr. Berehe then referred members to the Recommendations section: a seven-page handout (pages 7-12) from the *Recommendations to the 86th Texas Legislature*. This is the document this subcommittee will work on. We will send subcommittee members an electronic copy so that any comments after the meeting can be tracked and sent to Mr. Berehe or Scott Underwood (TCEQ). Mr. Berehe initiated the review and update of pages 7-12:

26.401 Legislative Findings

No changes.

26.403 Creation and Members of TGPC

No changes.

26.405 Powers and Duties of TGPC

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Research) pointed out a typo in the last sentence: take out the word "in".

26.406 Groundwater Contamination Information and Reports; Rules

No changes.

26.407 Protection and Enhancement Plans

No changes.

26.408 Notice of Groundwater Contamination

No changes.

Abandoned Water Well Plugging and Education

Diane Boellstorff (AgriLife Research) suggested that the last sentence be reworded to take "...to teach the public how to properly plug and manage abandoned water wells." Dr. Boellstorff believes that her program is effective but its better to have licensed water well drillers plug the wells and submit reports. Dr. Boellstorff said that she and John Tracy (AgriLife Research) would work on the re- wording of the last sentence.

Mr. Berehe suggested that the subcommittee stop here and plan on discussing the *Support of Agency Programs* section during the June 10 meeting. Scott Underwood will send subcommittee members an electronic copy of pages 7-12 so that they can make comments on the *Support of Agency Programs* section and track their comments.

3. SET FUTURE MEETING DATE

After a scheduling discussion, Abiy Berehe (TCEQ) announced that the next meeting would be on June 10, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The were no announcements.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

6. ADJOURN

With the subcommittee's consensus, Abiy Berehe (TCEQ) adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m.