

Groundwater Management Area # 7

Joint Planning Meeting

Minutes

August 14, 2025

Pursuant to notice posted in accordance with Section 36.108(e) of the Texas Water Code and Chapter 552 of the Government Code, the meeting of Groundwater Management Area 7 was called to order on **August 14, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. at the Sutton County Civic Center, 1700 N Crockett, Sonora, TX 76950.**

1. The Meeting was called to Order at 10:30 am and a quorum was established by GMA 7 coordinator, Meredith Allen. Allen gave an update on the funeral information for long time Coke County UWCD Manager, Winton Milliff and asked for prayers for Santa Rita UWCD Manager, JJ Weatherby for the loss of her father. Cards were passed around for each. An invocation was given by Dale Adams.
2. Following the invocation, introduction of member districts and other persons in attendance were made:

GMA 7 Districts present:

Coke County UWCD – Jnae Walls
Crockett County GCD – Slate Williams
Hill Country UWCD – Paul Babb
Irion County WCD – Ashley Masters
Kimble County GCD – Meredith Allen
Kinney County GCD – Wes Robinson
Lipan-Kickapoo WCD – Leon Braden
Menard County UWD – Meredith Allen
Middle Pecos GCD – Ty Edwards
Plateau UWC & SD – Cindy Cawley
Real-Edwards C&RD – Tim Marlin
Sterling County UWCD – Diana Thomas
Sutton County UWCD – Meredith Allen
Uvalde County UWCD – Vic Hilderbran
Wes-Tex GCD – Dale Adams

GMA 7 Districts Absent:

Glasscock GCD
Hickory UWCD #1
Lone Wolf GCD
Santa Rita UWCD
Terrell County UWCD

Public Attendees:

Lana Tolleson – Sutton County UWCD
Bill Hutchinson – GMA 7 Consultant
Genell Hobbs – Kinney County GCD
Lydia Damon – Menard County UWD
Betty Hilderbran – UCWCD
Sandra Pfeuffer – self/rancher
Jerry Simpton – Region J
Allison Strube – CRMWD
Julie Lewey – Texas Nature Conservancy
Sharon Wolfe – Fort Clark Springs
Constance Kilgore – Fort Clark Springs
Jim Burton – Eco Kai
Vince Clause – Freese & Nichols
Jean Perez – TWDB
Tim Cawthon – TWDB
Dee Dee Brown – Kinney Co. citizen
Gage Brown – Kinney Co. / CMSCA
Teri Marsh – citizen

3. The following Public Comment was received:
 - Written comments received by Sharon Wolfe, representing Fort Clark Springs, titled “Request for Immediate Corrective Action by GMA 7 to Rectify Erroneous MAG Submission for Kinney County Groundwater Conservation District” were received via email to the GMA 7 Coordinator, Meredith Allen on July 25, 2025 and distributed to all

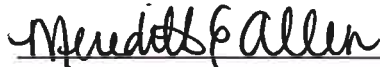
GMA 7 members on the same date. The letter will be included as an exhibit to the minutes.

- Jerry Simpton, representing Region J. Mr. Simpton requested that the GMA vote to declare Val Verde County not relevant for the purpose of joint planning, which would allow Region J, which has Val Verde representatives, to plan accordingly.
 - Julie Lewey, representing the Texas Nature Conservancy. Ms. Lewey stated that, the Edwards-Trinity Aquifer in Val Verde County is a vital source of water for the people of Val Verde County and the Lower Rio Grande. She requested that, if the GMA 7 board deems the aquifer in Val Verde County as non-relevant for the purpose of joint planning, that they include in the explanatory report a note explaining the significance of the county's water resources and the serious detriment of a 50,000 ac/ft MAG to those resources.
 - Gabe Brown, representing Los Moras Springs and Landowner in Kinney County. Ms. Brown informed GMA 7 that Las Moras Springs went dry in 2022 for the 1st time in recorded history. She requested that the GMA respond to the letter submitted to the GMA Coordinator by the Kinney County citizens. She requested that the GMA remedy the MAG issues in Kinney County.
4. The minutes of GMA 7 April 10, 2025, meeting were presented. Leon Braden made the motion to approve the minutes, Diana Thomas seconded. The motion passed.
 5. Jean Perez with the Texas Water Development Board updated GMA 7 that language for the grant program for research funds will be available for review next month. The funds will be available when the new fiscal year starts, but TWDB Groundwater staff is working on the language for proposal requests. Additionally, TWDB will hire two new employees to manage the grants. Tim Cawthon reported that the High Plains GAM has been extended through 2020. This GAM includes the Dockum Aquifer.
 6. Diana Thomas, representing Region F, noted the next meeting will be on September 18. Dale Adams, representing Region G, noted the next meeting will be on October 7. Genell Hobbs representing Region J, the next meeting will be October 8. Paul Babb, representing Region K, noted the next meeting will be September 25. Vic Hilderbran, representing Region L, noted that the next meeting will be August 28. All public hearings have been completed, and RWPGs are at various stages of incorporating public comments and adoption of plans.
 7. Dr. Bill Hutchison gave a presentation title "GMA 7 Joint Planning: Comparison of Measured Drawdown and Simulated Drawdown from 2021 DFC Simulation". Dr. Hutchison reviewed HB 2078 and the new requirements for Districts' management plans and explanatory reports. He detailed the new requirements of the review process of the DFCs and achieving the established DFCs. Dr. Hutchison presented GAM simulation results for average drawdown calculations, reviewed aquifers and GAMS evaluated. He noted for GMA 7 there are 5 GAMS and 10 Relevant Aquifers. In summary, Dr. Hutchison recommended the following:

- Capitan Reef Complex Aquifer: Recommend classification as not relevant for purposes of joint planning
- Edwards-Trinity (Plateau), Pecos Valley, and Trinity Aquifers:
 - i. Recommend Phase 2 of DFC comparison for counties with no TWDB baseline wells
 - ii. Recommend update of Alternative GAM
 - iii. Recommend update of MAG approach for Kinney County
 - iv. Recommend classification of Val Verde County as not relevant for purposes of joint planning
- High Plains Aquifer System: Dockum and Ogallala Aquifers: recommend classification as not relevant for purposes of joint planning
- Llano Uplift Aquifers
 - i. Marble Falls Aquifer: recommend keeping classification as not relevant for purposes of joint planning
 - ii. Ellenburger-San Saba and Hickory Aquifers: Phase 2 of DFC comparison for counties with no TWDB baseline wells
- Rustler Aquifer: Recommend classification as not relevant for purposes of joint planning

Lastly, Dr. Hutchison reviewed the scope of work, proposed meetings schedule and proposed budget.

8. Vic Hilderbran made a motion to approve the DFC historical comparison report plan for the preceding five-year period, listed as Phase 2 in the Presentation by Dr. Hutchison. Slate Williams seconded, and the motion passed.
9. Dr. Hutchison reviewed potential implications of HB 2078 on the 4th round of planning in his presentation. No action was taken.
10. Dr. Hutchison's presentation included scope and budget. No action was taken.
11. Ty Edwards made a motion to approve the scope and budget of the 4th round of joint planning presented by Dr. Hutchison. Wes Robinson seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
12. Meredith Allen gave the most recent reconciliation report for the GMA 7 account and updated the members of the collected money for 2025. Vic Hilderbran made a motion to pay the invoice from Dr. Hutchison for his meeting fee and approve the financial report. Cindy Cawley seconded, and the motion carried.
13. Meredith Allen noted to the public that there is a GMA 7 tab on the Sutton County UWCD website where all documents and notices are posted for meeting materials. She also noted that GMA 7 postings have to go out to 32 counties with various posting requirements and costs, so if you have an agenda item request, she requests that there is a month's notice.
14. The next meeting was tentatively set for October 23, 2025 in Sonora.
15. Slate Williams made a motion to adjourn, Leon Braden seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.


GMA 7 Coordinator


Attesting Signature

Groundwater Management Area # 7

(districts located wholly or partly within this GMA):

Coke County UWCD; Crockett County GCD; Glasscock GCD; Hickory UWCD No. 1; Hill Country UWCD; Irion County WCD; Kimble County GCD; Kinney County GCD; Lipan-Kickapoo WCD; Lone Wolf GCD; Menard County UWD; Middle Pecos GCD; Plateau UWC&SD; Real-Edwards C&RD; Santa Rita UWCD; Sterling County UWCD; Sutton County UWCD; Terrell County GCD; Uvalde County UWCD; and Wes-Tex GCD

Requests for additional information, questions and comments may be submitted to:

Meredith Allen
GMA # 7 Coordinator

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