

**TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
IRRIGATOR ADVISORY COUNCIL
AUGUST 13, 2003
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carole Baker	Harvey McLarty	Don Weiss	Dave Coleman
Alice Megna	Willie Gossett	Jerry Lewis	Gene Barnes

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENT:

Edmund Archuleta

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:

J. Carl Causey, Texas Turf and Irrigation Association (TTIA)
Scott Long, TTIA
David Brannen, TTIA
John Schwartz, TTIA
John and Bea Morton, Lone Star Irrigation Association
Doug Goodwin, Contractor and Member of Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association
Johnie Madison, Rain Bird Corporation
Dee Cunningham, Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association
Romeo Montalvo, Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association

TCEQ STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Craig	Tony Franco	Gene Reagan	Bettye Jean Urban
Sandra Gallegos			

AGENDA ITEM #1:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Harvey McLarty at 9:30 a.m. in Room 202, Building A, 12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, Texas 78753.

AGENDA ITEM #2, APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Willie Gossett to adopt the minutes of the February 19, 2003 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Gene Barnes. The motion passed with no opposition.

AGENDA ITEM #3, INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Gene Barnes introduced the three new council members, Carole Baker, Don Weiss, and Jerry Lewis.

AGENDA ITEM #4, INTRODUCTION OF TCEQ COMPLIANCE SUPPORT DIVISION DIRECTOR

Richard Craig introduced the new Director of Compliance Support Division (CSD), Tony Franco. Mr. Franco discussed the current and future activities of CSD and the Landscape Irrigation Program.

AGENDA ITEM #5, COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committee appointments were made by Mr. McLarty.

Rules Committee: Willie Gossett, chairman; Don Weiss; Harvey McLarty; Gene Barnes.

Water Conservation Committee: Gene Barnes, chairman; Edmund Archuleta, Dave Coleman, Carole Baker.

Legislative Committee: Dave Coleman, chairman; Edmund Archuleta, Harvey McLarty, Jerry Lewis.

AGENDA ITEM #6, REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES

TCEQ staff reported to the Council that the legislature did not provide funds to reimburse council members for their travel expenses during the next biennium.

AGENDA ITEM #7 - IRRIGATION RELATED LEGISLATION

Staff discussed the repeal of Texas Water Code Chapter 34 on June 1, 2003. It has been replaced by Occupations Code Chapter 1903. Council members noted that a number of bills were introduced in the legislature, and apparently, interest in landscape irrigation was high. Members and guests from the irrigation industry discussed the need for more involvement by the industry in developing good legislation to encourage water conservation in the landscapes.

Carole Baker noted that as a result of the Water Conservation Implementation Bill that was passed, a task force has been formed through the Texas Water Development Board. The task force will submit a report to the Governor November 1, 2004.

AGENDA ITEM #8 - TRAINING, EXAMINATIONS, AND LICENSE RENEWALS

Staff discussed the recent changes in the irrigator training and examination. Council members discussed methods for emphasizing water conservation in the training and examination.

AGENDA ITEM #9 - ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Staff discussed the procedures for handling complaints and investigations.

AGENDA ITEM #10 - RULES REVISIONS

Staff discussed opening 30 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 344 for revisions. Changes in the rules would be based on protection and conservation of the state's water, and improving enforceability of the rules. Staff explained the rule writing process.

AGENDA ITEM #11 - RECOGNITION OF BETTYE JEAN URBAN

The Council recognized Bettye Jean Urban, who is retiring. She was awarded a certificate for 20 years of dedicated service to the Landscape Irrigation Program. The Council recognized Richard Craig, who is retiring.

AGENDA ITEM #12 - DISCUSSIONS OF INTEREST

Council discussed setting the next meeting date for November 6, 2003.

AGENDA ITEM #13 - ADJOURNMENT

David Coleman moved for adjournment. Alice Megna seconded.