

**Brazos Watermaster Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: February 20, 2018 Time: 1:30 pm**  
**Location: Brazos River Authority Offices,**  
**4600 Cobbs Drive, Waco, Texas, 76710**

**Primary Meeting Topic(s):** TCEQ staff update (staffing, general programming); 2018 drought status and spring and summer outlook

**List of Brazos Watermaster Advisory Committee (BWAC) Members:**

~~Morriss Barney, Texas Municipal Power Agency VACANT~~  
Scott Blasor, Palo Pinto MWD #1  
Brad Brunett, Brazos River Authority  
Carl Burch, NRG  
~~Sherie Burnette, Irrigator VACANT~~  
Jonathan Dulus, City of Waco  
Timothy D. Finley, Dow Chemical Company  
Robert George, Irrigator  
Tommy Hodges, Alcoa  
David Sauer, Gulf Coast Water Authority  
Gary Spicer, Luminant Power  
Rodney Stephens, Irrigator  
Kevin Taylor, Somervell County Water District  
Nicole Torralva, City of Temple  
Brent Wheeler, Irrigator

BWAC Members absent: Gary Spicer, Carl Burch, Tommy Hodges

**TCEQ staff present:**

Amy Settemeyer – Manager, Watermaster Section  
Molly Mohler – Brazos Watermaster  
Nancy Ragland – Assistant Brazos Watermaster  
Ben Jacobson – Watermaster Deputy (Waco)  
Guy Falzarano – Watermaster Deputy (Angleton)  
Steven Dyer – Watermaster Deputy (DFW)  
Ashley Titus – Watermaster Deputy (Stephenville)  
Sean Jurkis – Watermaster Deputy (College Station)  
Paula Swearingen – Administrative Assistant (Waco)  
Stephen Kinal – Watermaster Liaison (Austin)  
Brooke McGregor – Watermaster Liaison (Austin)

**Guests present:** Gene Fisseler (retired), Jordan Furnans (consultant), James Kowis (for Tommy Hodges)

- TCEQ delayed evaluation and did not recommend extending the program, therefore Brazos watermaster program remains the same as it has been.
- Unless TCEQ staff is asked to evaluate it again, they will wait to revisit the issue for another 5 years (as required).
- Brad Brunett asks whether there are any issues related to usage and curtailment.
- Molly responded that besides Proctor, no. With today's rains, may prolong the need to move toward curtailments.
- Amy replies that drought preparations are still underway, working on team preparation to be ready when the time does come.

### **2018 Drought Status - Spring and Summer Outlook (Brad Brunett)**

- Brad Brunett presented an update of basin conditions.
- Hurricane Harvey saturated the lower basin in September.
- Currently, 4" to 12" behind. Near Lake Limestone, up to 12" behind.
- Been dry for 5 to 8/10 months.
- Drought monitor map for 2/13/18 discussed, most of the basin is in a severe to extreme category.
- While map shows conditions, there are varying levels of drought.
- 2011, red was in lower part of the Brazos (flip flopped from what we've got now).
- In Lubbock & Amarillo set record for lack of consecutive measurable rainfall.
- Various discussion on certain lakes and Corps operations of flood waters.
- Some discussion on power demands at Whitney related to support of hydropower.
- U.S. seasonal drought outlook shows some improvement in the Brazos, should get better between now and May for our area.
- NOAA, April to June precipitation outlook shows a slightly better chance for lower rainfall.
- For the immediate 5-day forecast, lots of rain is projects.
- David Sauer pointed out that there has been a tremendous impact on the river with the rains from last summer and fall. Banks and beds have changed and there is concern about what the basin will look like in the future considering recent floods.

### **Old Business**

- None

### **New Business**

- There is a vacancy in the Vice Chair position with Morris Barney not on the board anymore.
- Suggestion was made to maybe pull the nominating committee back for a new nomination for Vice Chairman
- Need to review Bylaws to ensure procedure is followed.
- David Sauer will send out an email with path forward.

*Adopted and Approved in Session of the Brazos Watermaster Advisory  
Committee on the 18th day of July, 2018.*



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David Sauer, BWAC Chair



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~~Vacant~~, BWAC Vice-Chair

Scott Blasor



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Nicole Torralva, BWAC Secretary