

Concho Water Master Advisory Committee – Meeting Minutes  
July 19, 2023

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Secretary Seidel postponed the start of the meeting as additional attendees were on the way. Secretary Seidel started the meeting and conducted the roll call at approximately 13:43.

Everyone including CWAC members, TCEQ staff, and visitors introduced themselves. In attendance included:

CWM Committee Members

Stuart Seidel  
James C. Furr  
Steven Hoelscher  
Jack Pool  
Shane Kelton  
Tommy Hiebert  
Danial Valenzuela  
Billy Gassiot  
Scott McWilliams  
Brenda Gunter

Visitors

Chase Clark  
David Kerce  
Harley Highsmith

Absent

Tom Thompson  
Brad Dannheim  
Todd Schwertner

TCEQ Staff

Kim Nygren  
Angela Sander  
Iliana Spaeth  
Larry Butler

A quorum was present.

Mrs. Sander discussed the new members and welcomed them. Ensured all members received their WAC appointment letters.

Mrs. Nygren discussed the issues brought up during the Sunset review regarding how the agency was handling the approval of committees by the Commission. She explained that an agency rule was required, and the rule was effective in July 2023.

Mrs. Sander stated that the by-laws were not in line with the statute regarding a quorum. Two-thirds vs. a simple majority. There were multiple comments made and discussion on the topic. Mayor Gunter arrived at approximately 13:50 and began leading the committee. A vote was made by Scott McWilliams regarding changing the committee's by-laws to be consistent with statute. Mayor Gunter seconded, and motion passed to change by-laws to match the statute.

Mrs. Sander moved to Section 2.02 regarding elections. She stated a new co-chair was required since Mr. AJ Jones was no longer on the committee. Mayor Gunter stated the

group should discuss. Shane Kelton nominated Steven Hoelscher as co-chair. Mayor Gunter seconded, and motion passed. The issue of term limits as referenced in current by-laws was also discussed. Mayor Gunter recommended the removal of term limits for the Co-Chair and Secretary. Jack Pool made the motion, Daniel Valenzuela seconded it, and motion passed.

WAC members agreed to leave section 3.04 in by-laws regarding a quorum as is.

WAC members agreed to update section 3.05(c) in by-laws regarding voting to be consistent with statutory requirements. Now therefore section 3.05(c) should read *"Two-thirds of members present at an official meeting shall be sufficient to establish a decision of the Advisory Committee."*

Mayor Gunter proposed a change to 3.07 (d) to add that the meeting minutes can be emailed instead of just mailed. Now therefore section 3.07(d) should read *"Minutes of each meeting shall be emailed or mailed by the Watermaster and/or Watermaster Staff to the TCEQ."*

Daniel Valenzuela made a motion to approve the by-law changes and to approve the 2022 minutes. Motion was seconded and both were approved.

#### New Business:

Mrs. Nygren discussed the need for a non-voting member for the South Texas WAC. There were no nominations. The issue was pushed to a later undetermined date.

#### Budget:

Mrs. Nygren explained the increase in the budget. The Concho Watermaster Program pre-purchased some FY2024 budget items using FY2023 funds. She stated that they will end up with approximately \$169,000 in the fund and that is \$50,000 over the goal and a new vehicle was planned. The mayor and others questioned if we got a new vehicle last year. It was explained that we did not. Mayor Gunter asked how many miles were on the 2011 Expedition, and it was stated it still had 20,000 more miles left on it. The mayor asked why there was an increase in salaries. Mrs. Nygren explained the 10% increase over two years that was applied to all state employees. She also stated that there was a study done in July 2022 that showed our agency, when compared to similar state agencies, was paying less for certain positions so an equality increase was planned to address the differences.

Someone in the room calculated it as a 23% salary increase. There was discussion.

Mrs. Nygren explained the line item for "Professional/Temp Services" is related to the development and maintenance for the backend of our databases. A question was also brought up about new equipment that was purchased this year and if it was being used. Mrs. Nygren asked Mr. Butler if he planned to use the Doppler that was recently purchased, and he stated yes.

Jack Pool made a motion to approve the budget. Scott McWilliams seconded, none opposed so the FY-24 budget was passed.

Old Business:

There was no old business to address.

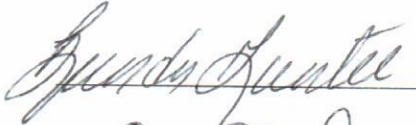
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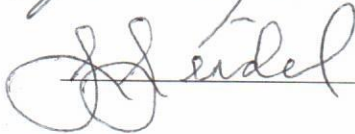
Mr. Hoelscher explained to the group that wells being placed close to the river is an ongoing issue for the area.

Adjourn:

A motion was made to adjourn which was seconded. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 15:04.

THESE MINUTES WERE READ AND APPROVED ON THIS, THE 17 DAY OF July, 2024.

 , Co-Chair

 , Secretary