



North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Water Resources Council

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Virtual, via Microsoft Teams

[Link to join the meeting](#)

Call-in info:

[+1 903-508-4574](#)

Phone Conference ID: 140 140 863#

Chair: Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth

Vice-Chair: Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District

1. Welcome and Introductions. The new Water Resources Council (WRC) members below will be recognized and given the opportunity to introduce themselves. Welcome and thank you for serving!

- Tim Abbott, Pumping Facilities Superintendent, City of Plano
- Bill Gase, Assistant Director - Water Treatment, City of Arlington
- Paul Hackleman, Director of Public Works, City of Watauga
- Michael Kivlan, Area Manager, Texas Water Utilities
- Valerie Miller, Industry Expert, Olsson
- Eduardo Valerio, Assistant Director, City of Dallas

New members were called on to introduce themselves and share background on their previous experience and current roles.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Meeting Summary. The [July 12, 2023 meeting summary](#) will be presented for approval. Glenn Clingenpeel, Trinity River Authority, made a motion to approve. Tim Abbott, City of Plano, seconded. The summary was approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION

3. Essential Strategies for Water Purveyors: Addressing PFAS in Water and Wastewater.

Swaroop Puchalapalli, Associate Vice President and Dallas Water Practice Manager, STV, will share updates on pending future PFAS regulations and the best methods for treatment.

[Swaroop Puchalapalli, STV, provided an overview of PFAS and where it is commonly located. The presentation discussed PFAS testing and treatment options, and the potential impacts these decisions have on water utilities. Swaroop's full presentation can be found in the \[presentation slides\]\(#\), beginning on slide 6.](#)

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DISCUSSION

4. FY2024 Water Resources Council Membership. NCTCOG will present the final FY2024 Water Resources Council [roster](#) and [structure](#), which have been approved by the WRC and NCTCOG's Executive Board. The terms for new and recently reappointed members began on October 1, 2023, and expire on September 30, 2025. Approximately half of the WRC members are up for reappointment each year.

NCTCOG provided an overview of the final FY2024 WRC roster and structure.

5. Water Resources Education and Outreach. The WRC will be asked to provide input on topics and speakers for webinars or workshops that NCTCOG will hold this fiscal year.

Sally Wright, City of Dallas, suggested a webinar on workforce challenges- specifically how to promote and attract new people to the industry. The 2024 Water Resources Questionnaire, to be distributed in January, will also allow participants an opportunity to suggest workshop topics.

Members are encouraged to email Elena Berg at eberg@nctcog.org, or Alyssa Knox at aknox@nctcog.org with additional workshop ideas.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

6. NCTCOG Updates. NCTCOG will update the WRC on recent and upcoming items of interest.

- a. **Final 2023 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).** NCTCOG's Executive Committee endorsed the [2023 Update to the WQMP](#) at its August meeting and NCTCOG submitted it to TCEQ on August 30, 2023.
- b. **NCTCOG Webinar: Germinating Equitable Outcomes Through Urban Forestry**
 - Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. [Register and Add to Calendar](#).
- c. **Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER).**
 - Next meeting – October 19, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. In-person at NCTCOG and online; NCTCOG asks that attendees RSVP ahead of time. [RSVP and Add to Calendar](#).
 - WATER is accepting financial commitments for the [FY2024 WATER Work Program](#). Staff contact: Hannah Allen, hallen@nctcog.org.
- d. **Floodplain Seminar for Elected Officials and Municipal Staff**
 - October 19, 2023, 9:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. In-person at NCTCOG; [Add to Calendar](#). Participants are asked to [register](#) ahead of time. An agenda can be found on the [Community Rating System User Group webpage](#).
- e. **Public Works Council.** November 16, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. Online; [Add to Calendar](#).
- f. **Holiday Grease Roundup.** November 13, 2023 – January 12, 2024. The deadline to sign up is November 1, 2023. Contact Hannah Allen at hallen@nctcog.org for more information.

Future Agenda Items. The committee can request future agenda items. [Council members suggested adding the following agenda items to the running list:](#)

- Best practices and operations currently in use to reduce the carbon footprint. This could be a presentation from a specific entity or shared during a roundtable discussion.
- Different funding opportunities for water utilities, specifically where to go for funding at the state and federal level and a review of the best funding strategies.

- Best and newest practices to enhance water conservation. This could include discussions from cities, environmental agencies, and/or special interest groups. This could also touch on ways to incite changes in behavior regarding water conservation. The council stated this topic should be the focus of the January WRC meeting.
- Resources for landscaping and water conservation, including NCTCOG's iSWM strategies, Texas SmartScape, and model landscape ordinances from the region.

7. Roundtable. WRC members are invited to share what is happening in their communities.

- [Tim Abbott, City of Plano](#)- The city is focusing on winter water utility preparation.
- [Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities](#)- The Texas Association of Clean Water Agencies (TACWA) will be meeting in Garland on November 17, 2023. The City of Arlington is waiting for winter demand to take one of the plants offline for the season.
- [Billy George, North Texas Municipal Water District](#)- Focusing on the Region C Plan due in Spring 2024. NTMWD is making progress on the Sister Grove Regional Water Resource Recovery Facility.
- [Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District](#)- Focused on fall projects and moving forward with the second wetlands system at the Cedar Creek reservoir.
- [Michael Kivlan, Texas Water Utilities](#)- SouthWest Water Company is merging with Quartz Utility and will be renamed as the Nexus Water Group.
- [Kevin Mercer, Lantana – UTRWD](#) – Expressed concerns about the financial strain archaeological requirements can place on projects and discussed the need for checks and balances and oversight.
- [Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas](#)- Enrollment at the University of North Texas went up from 45,000 to 47,000, highlighting the continued growth in the region and the need for growth management strategies, including regionwide transportation.
- [Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth](#)- The American Water Works Association's Water Quality Technology Conference will be held November 5-9, 2023, in Dallas. Agenda items include a presentation on PFAS.

NCTCOG asked council members if they still wished to receive monthly emails about the creation of new Municipal Utility Districts along with the TCEQ new and renewed permit notices. Council members stated these notices were useful and that they would still like to see these items.

8. Next Meeting. The next WRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, 10:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. and will be held online. [Add to Calendar](#).

Meeting Dates for the remainder of 2024:

- Wednesday, April 3, 2024 - NCTCOG; [Add to Calendar](#) (Please note that this is a change from the previously announced April 10, 2024 meeting. That date posed a conflict for council members and the meeting has been moved to April 3, 2024)
- Wednesday, July 10, 2024 - Online; [Add to Calendar](#)
- Wednesday, October 9, 2024 - NCTCOG; [Add to Calendar](#)

10. Adjournment.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting or agenda items, please contact Alyssa Knox by phone at (817) 695-9221 or by email at aknox@nctcog.org.

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If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Liana Sheppard by phone at (817) 695-9231 or by email at lsheppard@nctcog.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

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