



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

# SUMMARY

### Water Resources Council

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Virtual, via Microsoft Teams

**Chair:** Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth

**Vice-Chair:** Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District

### 1. Welcome and Introductions.

NCTCOG introduced a new intern, [Sarah Foxx](#).

### PRESENTATION

**2. Texas Water Resources Institute's Urban Water Program.** Kelly Albus, Ph.D., and Bardia Heidari, Ph.D., P.E., both Research Scientists with Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI), will provide an overview of their work in TWRI's Urban Water Program, which includes activities to broaden public engagement in water conservation efforts and support for regional expansion of Blue-Green Infrastructure.

Doctors Albus and Heidari shared research on the benefits of developing and implementing Blue-Green Infrastructure, which include an increase in water conservation and improvement in regional water quality. Outreach and education programs regarding this subject were also highlighted. They also shared how interested parties can be further involved in The Blue-Green Infrastructure Network (BGIN). Their presentation begins on slide 5 of the [presentation slides](#).

### ACTION ITEMS

**3. Meeting Summary.** The [April 3, 2024 meeting summary](#) will be presented for approval.

Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, made a motion to approve the meeting summary. Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. FY2025 Water Resources Council Membership.** The FY2025 roster, recommended by the FY2025 Ad Hoc Nominations Subcommittee, will be presented to the WRC for approval. The WRC will also vote on the WRC Chair and Vice-Chair. Pending WRC approval, the FY2025 WRC roster will be presented to NCTCOG's Executive Board for approval at its meeting on September 26, 2024. FY2025 membership terms begin on October 1, 2024.

Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities, made a motion to approve the FY2025 WRC roster. Valerie Miller, Olsson, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Prior to the meeting, the current WRC Chair, Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, and Vice-Chair, Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, expressed interest in being reappointed to their

current officer positions. The council opened the floor for new nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, per WRC Bylaw requirements. Seeing none, Glenn Clingenpeel, Trinity River Authority, made a motion to reappoint Stacy Walters as WRC Chair and Rachel Ickert as WRC Vice-Chair. Kevin Mercer, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Approval of the Draft 2024 Update to the North Central Texas Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP).** Comments received on the [Draft 2024 WQMP](#) during the public comment period will be summarized and the WRC will vote to locally adopt the Draft 2024 WQMP, pending any revisions needed based on public comments. If approved by the WRC, the Draft 2024 WQMP will be recommended for endorsement by NCTCOG's Executive Board at its meeting on August 22, 2024.

The council reviewed the draft plan and advised NCTCOG on a question from the public comment period regarding the Water Service Area map. Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities, stated the map is correct as is if the map displays raw water service providers, but a map showing potable treated water service providers would require more updates. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, advised that water service boundaries change due to legislative action and that service areas are defined by members of a given district. NCTCOG was encouraged to develop further maps to show secondary service and a listing of regional wastewater treatment plants to provide supplemental information in future WQMP updates.

Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities, made a motion to approve the Draft 2024 WQMP Update. Valerie Miller, Olsson, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

- 6. NCTCOG Updates.** NCTCOG will update the WRC on recent and upcoming items of interest.
- a. Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan: Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Update**

NCTCOG staff summarized the work done to develop the [Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan: Priority Climate Action Plan](#), submitted to EPA this past spring, and asked the council for feedback on measures to incorporate into the Dallas-Fort Worth Air Quality Improvement Plan: Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, a document that will contain strategies to improve regional air quality from 2025-2050. NCTCOG staff shared that projects were selected in part by the amount of greenhouse gas emissions that could be eliminated per dollar spent, as well as accounting for regional interest and other available funding sources in response to questions about project selection. NCTCOG will share a recap of the [Water, Wastewater, and Watershed Management measures](#) of the Priority Climate Action Plan in follow-up communications.

- b. Total Maximum Daily Load Meetings and Updates.**
- Now available! [2023 TMDL Annual Program Summary](#).
- c. 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Public Works Roundup.** Thursday, August 22, 2024; Hurst Convention Center. [Registration is now open](#).
- d. NCTCOG Webinar: *Utilizing Water Reuse to Create Resilient Water Systems*.** Tuesday, July 16, 2024; 10:30 a.m. [Register here](#)

- e. **NCTCOG Webinar: *Fighting PFAS Through Regulations and Remedies***. Thursday, August 15, 2024; 1:00 p.m. [Register here](#)

**7. Future Agenda Items.** The committee can request future agenda items.

- Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, confirmed that the October meeting would contain a presentation on the origin and purpose of the WRC.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, proposed that the WRC could have a presentation from the Region C Water Planning team to get an update on strategies, status, and a schedule for the 2026 Region C Water Plan.
- Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, suggested that the council could get an update on the 2025 Texas Legislative session and water-related bills. This was suggested to take place at the April WRC meeting.
- Cynthia Baughman, City of Garland, proposed to have speakers from Water ISAC present to the council about cybersecurity. The council agreed to discuss cybersecurity at the January meeting.

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

- Tim Abbott, City of Plano, is working on water quality issues that result from an increase in rain and demand decrease.
- Cynthia Baughman, City of Garland, reported that Garland Water Utilities moved into a brand new building. They are also working to convert social media posts to Spanish and Vietnamese to increase their audience reach through the use of AI, which is reviewed by city staff afterward to check for accuracy. Additionally, they are filling vacant management positions.
- Glenn Clingenpeel, Trinity River Authority, shared that the Lake Livingston Dam hit an all-time high flow rate due to a series of one-off storm events that brought rain bombs over the reservoir and considerable downstream scour. The Authority is looking at long-term solutions to combat the dam's erosion.
- Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, shared that her members are concerned about PFAS and want to understand more about what is being done and what treatment options work.
- Bill Gase, City of Arlington Water Utilities, shared that Arlington hired a new utility director and moved their lab to a new facility.
- Kevin Mercer, Lantana – Upper Trinity Regional Water District, shared that the district is working to provide education on watering lawns twice a week, maximum.
- Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, shared the university has a new president, Harrison Keller. Michael shared he is looking to get the word out about twice a week lawn watering to promote water conservation.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, shared that a number of member cities are changing their water conservation plan, including using metering systems to track use and alert customers when they are over the allotted use. Additionally, he shared that the lakes are full, with Lake Lewisville being up 3.5-4ft. Lake Ralph Hall is still under construction and the District is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year.
- Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, shared the city is working to manage the growth of their system and demand increase due to population growth. They are also engaging in PFAS testing and engaging with industrial users to source PFAS. The city is moving towards complying with new PFAS regulations, as the monitoring for compliance starts in 2027.

- Haley Salazar, City of Denton, (alternate for Stephen Gay) shared that the city is engaging with residents regarding the changed irrigation schedule, including some residents who have expressed displeasure at the change. Staff have been teaching classes regarding smart watering systems and controls for interested parties.

**9. Next Meeting.** The next WRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2024, and will be held in person at the NCTCOG offices. [Add to Calendar](#)

**10. Adjournment.**

#### **Additional NCTCOG Meetings of Interest**

- Wastewater and Treatment Education Roundtable (WATER)-** [Add to Calendar](#)
- Regional Stormwater Management Coordinating Council-** [Add to Calendar](#)
- Trinity River National Water Trail Task Force Meeting-** [Add to Calendar](#)
- Public Works Council-** [Add to Calendar](#)

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](mailto:aknox@nctcog.org).

If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Ashley Barnett by phone at (817) 608-2363 or by email at [abarnett@nctcog.org](mailto:abarnett@nctcog.org) 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your needs.

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