

Emergency Meeting Public Hearing
Sabine County Commissioners' Court
Tuesday, February 27, 2001 7:00 P.M.

Members of the Court present:

Jack Leath	County Judge
Keith Clark	Commissioner Pct. #1
Lynn Smith	Commissioner Pct. #2
Doyle Dickerson	Commissioner Pct. #3
Gene Nethery	Commissioner Pct. #4
Louise Clark	Chief Deputy County Clerk

Judge Leath called the meeting to order.

Present at the meeting:

Approximately 35 members of the public
Keith Kindle with the Engineering Firm, Turner, Collie & Braden, hired by Sabine County
George Campbell-Chairman of Region I
Representative from the Sabine River Authority

Agenda item #1-Public Meeting/Regional Water Dist.-Regional Planning
Group-District Courtroom

Judge Leath briefly explained to the public present that there are 8 or 9 water corporations in Sabine County with G-M Water Supply being the largest. All are having trouble complying with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) regulations. At least 2 of these corporations are under order of the TNRCC to do upgrades to their systems that they can not afford to do. What the County is attempting to do is complete a study or plan for a Regional Water Supply District. We envision this to be a non-taxing district with the cost being covered by the water users. The small water corporations are not required to join this but it would be beneficial to them and to the entire County for them to. Water is the second most important issue you will be hearing about from Austin. We are going to have to do something to protect our water rights. What we want to do as a Commissioners' Court is to insure, as best we can, that the citizens of Sabine County have a good and adequate water supply. We got a \$105,000.00 grant from the Texas Water Development Board and the County is basically funding the rest of it. We will get some help from the Sabine River Authority.

Your water cost is going to go up. Some people believe that some day water will cost as much as gasoline. Legislation came up last session and will come up again this session and one day it will pass to pump water to other areas. Tonight we want to give you information on what we are doing.

Commissioner Smith thanked the people for coming tonight. He said the roll that the County is playing in this is to try to help form this new water district to supply the entire County with an adequate water supply. It would not be County owned or governed by the County. It will have it's own governing body that is elected by the people.

Commissioner Clark said the Court wants input from the citizens of Sabine County and is glad for the people that are here tonight.

Commissioner Nethery said that this is a long-term problem for the County as he sees it. We need to address this problem now not only for the people here now but for the people that will come to Sabine County in the future.

Commissioner Dickerson thanked the people for coming. It is good to have this size group here.

Judge Leath turned the meeting over to Keith Kindle to speak to the people and to answer questions.

Mr. Kindle introduced his staff. Mike Reedy is the project manager for the Regional Planning effort. Jennifer Helms is a senior staff member. They showed films and discussed the plans and needs of the area and the funding of the project.

The representative from the Sabine River Authority spoke to the group.

Mr. George Campbell spoke to the group of citizens present about the importance of working with the Corporation.

This is the first kickoff meeting on the Regional Water plan. We will be having more.

The floor was opened for questions from the audience. This was discussion only. No action was taken.

The public meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

John Leath COUNTY JUDGE

Keith Clark COMMISSIONER PCT. #1

Lynn Smith COMMISSIONER PCT. #2

Doyle Decker

COMMISSIONER PCT. #3

R. Grotting

COMMISSIONER PCT. #4

ATTEST:

Louise Clark

CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

**Regional Water and
Wastewater Planning**

**Public Meeting
February 27, 2001**

Introduction

- Jack Leath - County Judge
- Keith Clark - Precinct 1
- Lynn Smith - Precinct 2
- Doyle Dickerson - Precinct 3
- Gene Nethery - Precinct 4

Meeting Agenda

- Regional Planning Background
- Regional Planning Participants
- Regional Planning Tasks
- Regional Planning Benefits
- Project Schedules and Milestones
- Questions and Answers

Senate Bill 1 Background

- 1997 Senate Bill 1
- 50-year Water Planning
- 16 Regions
- Region I (East Texas)
- January 2001 Regional Plans
- January 2002 State Water Plan



Senate Bill 1 Summary

- February 2001 Regional Summary
- State population double in 50-years
- Growth in I-35 corridor, Gulf Coast, Rio Grande Valley
- 20 percent of the State's total water supply in Region I
- 25 percent of Region I supply in Toledo Bend and Sabine River

Region I (East Texas) Plan Findings

- Hemphill, Pineland, and County-Other only municipal WUG's
- Municipal shortages identified for Hemphill and County-Other
- Not enough groundwater to meet projected municipal demands



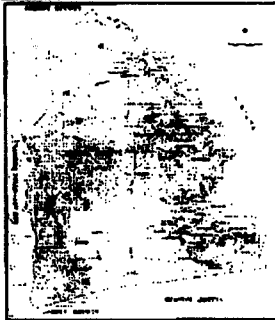
**Region I (East Texas)
Plan Findings (cont'd)**

- Majority of County-Other groundwater use from minor aquifers
- No growth recommended for minor aquifer use
- Majority of municipal growth met through increased surface supplies

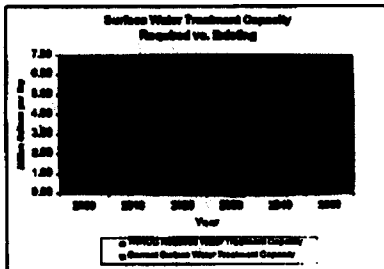


Why are we here today?

- Senate Bill 1 Planning addressed water supply and demand only
- Existing infrastructure needs
- TNRCC minimum requirements
- Impact on economic growth
- Wastewater treatment needs
- Plan for bringing supply to the individual end users



Surface Water Treatment Needs



Surface Water Availability

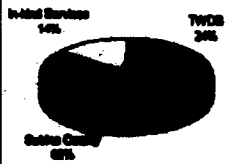
- SRA Surplus 827,000 ac-ft/yr
- Sabine County Needs
 - 2000 4,838 ac-ft/yr
 - 2010 5,123 ac-ft/yr
 - 2020 5,488 ac-ft/yr
 - 2030 5,845 ac-ft/yr
 - 2040 6,224 ac-ft/yr
 - 2050 6,629 ac-ft/yr

Regional Planning Participants

Resolutions and Letters of Support

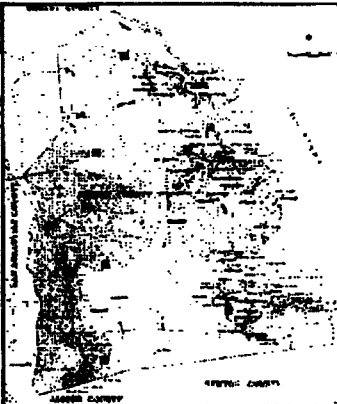
- Sabine County
- Sabine River Authority
- City of Elmoreville
- City of Hamlet
- G-M Water Supply
- Tangle-Island Forest Products
- El Cerrito Water Supply
- Frontier Water Supply
- Fanchon Barber Water Supply
- Beachwood Water Supply Corp.
- South Sabine Water Corp.
- Dogwood Estates

Financial Commitments



Sabine County Today

- 8 Water Supply Corporations
- 5 Wastewater treatment plants
- 2 Incorporated Municipalities
- Over 60 Incorporated Subdivisions
- Private Well Owners
- Private Septic Tanks
- No Regionalization of Services
- No Cost Sharing



Regional Planning Goals

- Is a regional system the best way to go?
- Proposed regional facilities
- Proposed sub-regional improvements
- What are the economic impacts?
- Maximize use of existing infrastructure
- Maximize existing water resources

Regional Planning Tasks

- Population projections
- Water demand projections
- Wastewater projections
- Potential sources of water
- Regional water treatment facilities
- Regional wastewater treatment facilities

Regional Planning Tasks
(cont'd)

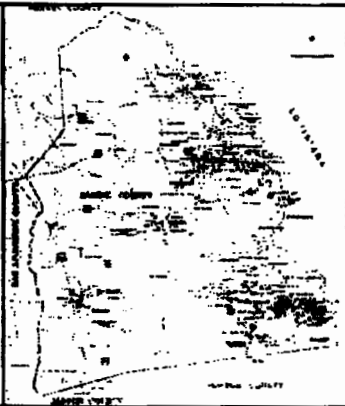
- Cost development and rate study
- Regional versus sub-regional analysis
- Environmental Assessment
- EDAP Facility Engineering Plan
- Management Authority Creation
- Public Involvement

Regional Facilities Funding

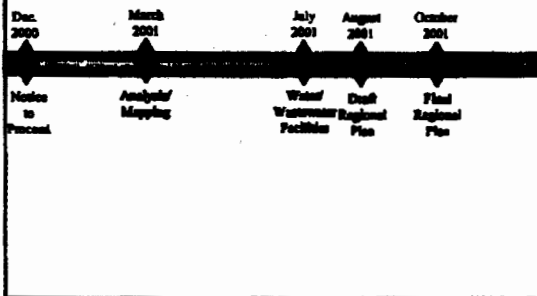
- TWDB State Revolving Fund
- TWDB State Participation Program
- EDAP grants and loans
- Rural Development grants and loans
- Local water and wastewater user fees
- Local taxes

Regional Planning Benefits

- Secure future surface water sources
- Maximize existing water resources
- Provide long-term solutions
- Economic development for County
- Economies of scale



Schedule and Milestones



Public Participation

February 2001	June 2001	August 2001	September 2001	October 2001
Public Kickoff	State Meeting	Draft Plan/ EID Public Meeting	Public Hearing	Final Regional Plan

Contacts

In the State of Texas
County of Sabine

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE DOCUMENTS WERE FILED AND DULY RECORDED IN THE COMMISSIONER COURT MINUTES OF SABINE COUNTY, TEXAS.

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JANTICE McEWELL, COUNTY CLERK

BY Nicole Corley
Deputy

