

**INTERREGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
GENERAL BEST PRACTICES COMMITTEE
REPORT
JULY 29, 2020**

- **General progress,**

The General Best Practices Committee has held meetings on July 15, July 21, and July 28 where the committee reviewed the General Best Practice Resource Documents on the Council Webpage, Chapter 8 Policy Recommendations in the 2021 Initially Prepared Plans by Regional Water Planning Groups A, B, F, I and M represented on the Committee, the Council's problem and goal statement, and brainstormed identifying sub problems and possible solutions. Committee members have begun drafting using "Outline for Interregional Planning Council Report Section II" to provide a consistent format for the individual committee recommendations to assist the TWDB staff in preparing the report for the committee's final recommendations.

- **Status of any committee draft recommendations**

The Committee has reviewed, and is going forward with drafting preliminary recommendations regarding the following topics:

- Simplified Planning
- Membership engagement
- TWDB information dissemination to membership
- Ex officio member participation from other agencies
- TWDB Funding administrative planning costs
- Web-based video conferencing platform legislative authorization under open meetings
- RWPG using the guides and documents already prepared by the TWDB.
- Regional Water Planning Process Improvement.

- **General sense of the number of recommendations the Committee will be developing**

Currently, the committee is considering 8 subtopics that may be combined into fewer issues. Some topics may have multiple recommendation alternatives.

- **Whether you need some flexibility in your Committee's problem statement that was adopted by the Council**

I believe that the General Best Practices Committee can work under the Problem and Goals adopted by the Council. I would recommend the Council consider any committee proposed amendments to those statements since the committees may have identified additional problems related to RWP that should be addressed.

- **Tentative timing of committee report prep to the Council**

The committee intends to have draft recommendations by August 6th for the TWDB staff to put into a format that will be reviewed and considered by the Committee on August 20 and

the report finalized on August 27th. The committee has tentatively scheduled two additional meetings on September 10th and September 17th for any outstanding issues. We will be prepared to present initial recommendations that are very succinct and with the recommendation justification / benefit by the August 12th IPC meeting.

This concludes my report. If you have any questions or comments please contact me by email swalthour@northplainsgcd.org or by my direct phone 806-922-7402 unless you are a council member then do not call or email.

Sincerely,



Steven D. Walthour, PG
General Manager
North Plains Groundwater Conservation District

