

NOTICE OF THE SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING A REGULAR SRBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024, at 1:00 P.M. AT THE MOUNT PLEASANT CIVIC CENTER, 1800 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET MOUNT PLEASANT, TEXAS ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Notice is hereby given per the Texas Open Meeting Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, that the Board of Directors of the Sulphur River Basin Authority will conduct a meeting open to the public, on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., at the Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 North Jefferson Street, Mount Pleasant, Texas.

The Board of Directors may discuss, consider, and take all necessary action, including possible expenditure of funds, regarding any of the items below. The Board of Directors is authorized by The Texas Open Meeting Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, to convene in a closed executive session for certain purposes at any time to discuss items on the board meeting agenda. These purposes include receiving legal advice from its Attorney (Section 551.071); discussing real property matter (Section 551.072); discussing gifts and donations (Section 551.073); discussing personnel matter (Section 551.074); discussing security personnel or devices (Section 551.076); or discussing economic development matter (Section 551.087). If the Board of Directors makes a determination to go into closed executive session on any item on this agenda, the Presiding Officer, will announce that a closed executive session will be held and will identify the item to be discussed and provision of The Open Meeting Act that authorizes the closed executive session.

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order.
- 2. Invocation.
- 3. Roll Call and Announcement of Quorum.
- 4. Public Comments.

Public comments will be accepted only during designated portions of the Board meeting. If a member of the public inquiries about an item that is not on the agenda, the Board may not deliberate or discuss the topic except to provide brief factual information or direct the Executive Director to place the topic on a future agenda. At the presiding officer's discretion, speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes to facilitate the opportunity to comment by all those so interested and to support the orderly flow of the meeting.

5. Consent Agenda Items.

The Consent Agenda allows the Board of Directors to approve all routine, noncontroversial items with a single motion, without the need for discussion by the entire Board. Any item may be removed from consent agenda and considered individually upon request of a Board member or Authority staff, or at the request of a member of the public.

- (A) Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on the Minutes for the September 17, 2024, Board Meeting.
- (B) Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on the Monthly Financial Reports.

This item will include a presentation of the Board Meeting Minutes and Monthly Financial Reports. Staff recommends approval.

Action Item: Consider the Motion to Adopt the Consent Agenda.

6. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Sponsorship and Funding for Grant Workshop in Partnership with ATCOG, Region 2 Flood Planning Group, and Halff Engineers.

This item will include discussion and possible action on the sponsorship and funding for a grant workshop, presented in cooperation with ATCOG, Region 2 Flood Planning Group, and Halff Engineers. Staff recommends approval.

Action Item: Consider a Motion to approve and fund the grant workshop sponsorship.

7. Updates on the Clean Rivers Program (Randy Rushin-Water Monitoring Solutions).

Prepared in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The preparation of this report was financed in part through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding activities with the Clean Rivers Program.

8. Regional Entities Reports:

- (A) Funding Partners
- (B) Riverbend Water Resources District
- (C) Region D Water Planning Group
- (D) Region 2 Flood Planning Group

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding activities of the abovelisted entities.

9. Reports and Update from Executive Director:

- (A) 2026 Region C Presentation on Marvin Nichols Reservoir Project
- (B) Texas Old and New The Perryman Group
- (C) How Storms Like Helene Will Transform the American South New York Times
- (D) The Lone Star Lithium Boom Texas Monthly
- (E) Region D Water Planning Group Special Called Meeting October 30, 2024
- (F) Partner Outreach and Development
- (G) Rural River Authority Coalition
- (H) Board Tour of Lake Ralph Hall October 29, 2024

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding the above-listed reports and updates.

10. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on New Business to be Placed on a Future Meeting Agenda.

This agenda item will include discussion and possible action on future agenda items.

Action Item: Possible Motion to place items discussed on the agenda of a future meeting.

11. Announcements from the Chairman/Board and/or Staff.

12. Next Regular Meeting

Sulphur River Basin Authority Regular Meeting, November 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 North Jefferson Street, Mount Pleasant, Texas.

13. Adjournment.

Sulphur River Basin Authority is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call David Weidman, Executive Director, at (903) 223-7887 for information.

AGENDA

NOTICE OF THE SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2024, at 1:00 P.M.
AT THE MOUNT PLEASANT CIVIC CENTER, 1800 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET
MOUNT PLEASANT, TEXAS
ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

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- 1. Call to Order.
- 2. Invocation.
- 3. Roll Call and Announcement of Quorum.



4. Public Comments.

Public comments will be accepted only during designated portions of the Board meeting. If a member of the public inquiries about an item that is not on the agenda, the Board may not deliberate or discuss the topic except to provide brief factual information or direct the Executive Director to place the topic on a future agenda. At the presiding officer's discretion, speakers will be limited to three (3) minutes to facilitate the opportunity to comment by all those so interested and to support the orderly flow of the meeting.



5. Consent Agenda Items.

The Consent Agenda allows the Board of Directors to approve all routine, noncontroversial items with a single motion, without the need for discussion by the entire Board. Any item may be removed from consent and considered individually upon request of a Board member or Authority staff, or at the request of a member of the public.

- (A) Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on the Minutes for the September 17, 2024 Board Meeting.
- (B) Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on the Monthly Financial Reports.

This item will include a presentation of the Board Meeting Minutes and the Monthly Financial Reports. Staff recommends approval.

Action Item: Consider the Motion to Adopt the Consent Agenda.



SULPHUR RIVER BASIN AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING TITUS COUNTY CIVIC CENTER TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

MINUTES

PRESENT: Kelly Mitchell, Chairman
Wally Kraft, Vice President
Kirby Hollingsworth, Director
Emily Glass, Director

STAFF: David Weidman, Executive Director

Reeves Hayter, Director

Christi McIntosh, Administrative Assistant

ABSENT: Gary Cheatwood, Director

VISITORS: Sandy Cash, Kyle Dooley, David Orr

ITEM# 1: Call to Order:

Chairman, Kelly Mitchell called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

ITEM# 2: Invocation:

The Invocation was given by Chairman Kelly Mitchell.

ITEM# 3: Roll Call and Announcement of Quorum:

Chairman Kelly Mitchell, Vice President Wally Kraft, and Directors Kirby Hollingsworth, Emily Glass, and Reeves Hayter were in attendance. A quorum was present.

ITEM# 4: Public Comments:

None.

ITEM# 5: Consent Agenda Items:

(A). Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Minutes for August 20, 2024 Board Meeting.

(B). Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on the Monthly Financial Reports:

A motion was made by Vice President Wally Kraft and seconded by Director Emily Glass to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

August 20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes and the Monthly Financial Reports are attached.

ITEM# 6: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Quarterly Financial Report.

A motion was made by Director Reeves Hayter and seconded by Director Kirby Hollingsworth to approve the Quarterly Financial Report.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

The Quarterly Financial Report is attached.

ITEM# 7: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Quarterly Investment Report.

A motion was made by Director Emily Glass and seconded by Director Kirby Hollingsworth to approve the Quarterly Investment Report.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

The Quarterly Investment Report is attached.

ITEM# 8: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Amended FY 24-25 Budget.

A motion was made by Director Reeves Hayter and seconded by Director Emily Glass to approve the Amended FY 24-25 Budget.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

The Amended FY 24-25 Budget is attached.

ITEM# 9: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Selecting a New Logo for the Authority.

A motion was made by Director Kirby Hollingsworth and seconded by Vice President Wally Kraft to adopt the new logo as presented.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

The Authority's new logo is attached.

ITEM# 10: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Adopting FY 24-25 Calendar for the Authority.

A motion was made by Director Kirby Hollingsworth and seconded by Vice President Wally Kraft to adopt the FY 24-25 Holiday Calendar for the Authority as presented.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

The FY 24-25 Holiday Calendar is attached.

ITEM# 11: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving Cellular Telephone Allowance for the Administrative Assistant.

A motion was made by Vice President Wally Kraft and seconded by Director Kirby Hollingsworth for a monthly cellular telephone allowance of \$35.00 for the Administrative Assistant.

The motion carried with all members present voting AYE.

ITEM# 12: Updates on the Clean Rivers Program (Randy Rushin – Water Monitoring Solutions)

Water Monitoring Solutions provided a written update.

The update is attached.

ITEM# 13: Regional Entities Reports:

(A) Funding Partners – Sandy Cash gave a report on behalf of Upper Trinity Regional Water District. He stated that things are going according to plan at Lake Ralph Hall, and everything is still on schedule for the SRBA Board and staff to take a tour at the end of October.

- **(B) Riverbend Water Resources District** Kyle Dooley gave a report for Riverbend Water Resources District. He stated that they are still working on a plan for a water treatment plant but making good progress. He said it looks like it may be around late Spring or Summer before they start the project itself.
- (C) Region D Water Planning Group Kyle Dooley gave a brief update regarding Region D Water Planning Group. He stated that the next meeting will be September 18th at Region 8 Education Center at 10:00 A.M. There will be a presentation by Texas Water Development Board regarding the draft Marvin Nichols Reservoir Feasibility Report.
- (D) Region 2 Flood Planning Group Director Reeves Hayter gave a report for Region 2 Water Planning Group stating that the group had one of two Water Development Board required preplanning meetings on September 5, 2024 with the second preplanning meeting to be held October 3, 2024 at the new operations center at Bois D'Arc Lake. He stated that the consultants for round two planning want the Board to meet every month for the next six months. The consultants have offered to bring in representative from the Army Corp of Engineers, Water Development Board, and other agencies involved in flood planning to do a half day seminar for the region to learn about flood planning, and financing. There have been discussions of SRBA sponsoring this event if the Board does not object, but no date has been set.

ITEM# 14: Reports and Updates from Executive Director:

The Executive Director gave an update on the Texas Water Development Boards release of the draft Marvin Nichols Feasibility Report.

The Report is attached.

(A) Annual Partner Report – The Executive Director provided a copy of the Annual Partner Report along with a section of the agreement that states the requirement of the annual report to the partners.

The Report is Attached.

(B) River Authority Sunset Uniformity Presentation – The Executive Director gave a brief synopsis of the River Authority Sunset Uniformity Presentation by the Texas Water Conservation Association which discusses the push for uniformity among River Authorities.

The Presentation is attached.

(C) Fort Worth Star Telegram Article – Four Texas Cities are Among the Fastest Growing in the U.S.

The Executive Director provided an article from the Fort Worth Star regarding population growth in the entire country showing that two North Texas Cities made that list. The article is attached.

(D) Region C Water Planning Group Meeting – The Executive Director stated that Region C Water Planning Group will be having a meeting on September 30, 2024, in Arlington at 1:00 P.M. to make a presentation on the Marvin Nichols project. Region C has invited

- Region D to the meeting to ask questions and make public comment. Region D has a meeting September 18, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. at Region 8 Education Service Center.
- (E) Onsite Stakeholder Meeting Regarding Concerns Over HWY 37 Logjam Impact The Executive Director stated that a meeting was held at the Sulphur River on Highway 37 North of Mount Vernon to discuss stakeholder concerns over the logjam situation. The staff attended this meeting along with multiple other local government officials from Franklin and Red River Counties as well as State Senator Bryan Hughes.
- (F) Partner Outreach and Development
 - The Executive Director spoke with several partners at the meeting in Wylie. SRBA is still receiving positive feedback from the partners with the direction the Authority is going.
- **(G) Rural River Authority Coalition** The Executive Director reported that the Rural River Authority Coalition is continuing to communicate, and SRBA is still waiting on an executed agreement by the rest of the entities.
- (H) Board Tour of Lake Ralph Hall October 29, 2024

The Executive Director included a map for the Directors with the population changes in Sulphur River Basin for the 2010-2020 figures as well as a copy of Governor Abbott's appointment of Tonya Miller to the Texas Water Development Board.

ITEM# 15: Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on New Business to be Placed on a Future Meeting Agenda.

ITEM# 16: Announcements from the Chairman/Board and/or Staff.

THESE MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 WERE ADOPTED ON _____

Chairman Kelly Mitchell stated he would not be able to attend the October 2024 Board Meeting.

ITEM# 17: Next Regular Meeting:

Sulphur River Basin Authority Regular Meeting, October 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 North Jefferson Street, Mount Pleasant, Texas.

ITEM# 18: Adjournment.	
Chairman Kelly Mitchell announced meetin	ng Adjourned at 2:15 P.M.
Kelly Mitchell, Chairman	Attested By: David Weidman, Secretary



Monthly Financial Report

Sulphur River Basin Authority
For the period ended September 30, 2024

Prepared by

David Weidman, Executive Director

Prepared on

October 8, 2024

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Balance Sheet

As of September 30, 2024

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Certificate of Deposit (6 Months)	105,785.92
Checking-Guaranty	29,145.84
TexPool	224,932.65
Total Bank Accounts	359,864.41
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	26,777.50
Total Accounts Receivable	26,777.50
Other Current Assets	
Other Current Asset	
Firewall License	613.03
Mt Pleasant Civic Center	2,750.03
Network Technologies	499.83
Prepaid Web Services	600.00
TWCA Legislative Monitoring	1,484.06
Total Other Current Asset	5,946.95
Total Other Current Assets	5,946.95
Total Current Assets	392,588.86
TOTAL ASSETS	\$392,588.86
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	5,509.21
Total Accounts Payable	5,509.21
Total Current Liabilities	5,509.21
Total Liabilities	5,509.21
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	345,044.11
Unrestricted Net Assets	64,119.58
Net Income	-22,084.04
Total Equity	387,079.65
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$392,588.86

Profit and Loss by Class

September 2024

	Maintenance and Operating	TOTAL
INCOME		
Interest Income		0.00
Guaranty Bank and Trust	15.12	15.12
TexPool	1,026.75	1,026.75
Total Interest Income	1,041.87	1,041.87
Total Income	1,041.87	1,041.87
GROSS PROFIT	1,041.87	1,041.87
EXPENSES		
Board Meeting Venue	183.33	183.33
Director's Fees	250.00	250.00
Employee Benefits		0.00
Employee Health Insurance	2,297.37	2,297.37
Total Employee Benefits	2,297.37	2,297.37
Employee Bonds	114.82	114.82
Information Technology		0.00
Equipment and Supplies	143.86	143.86
Information Technology Services	330.00	330.00
Website	6,635.00	6,635.00
Total Information Technology	7,108.86	7,108.86
Mileage		0.00
Administration	598.67	598.67
Director	227.44	227.44
Total Mileage	826.11	826.11
Office Expense		0.00
Cellular Telephone	104.84	104.84
Copier	30.30	30.30
Office Supplies	57.80	57.80
Office Telephone	82.29	82.29
Total Office Expense	275.23	275.23
Office Rental	900.00	900.00
Payroll Expenses		0.00
Company Contributions		0.00
Retirement	269.86	269.86
Total Company Contributions	269.86	269.86
Taxes	688.12	688.12
Wages	8,995.08	8,995.08
Total Payroll Expenses	9,953.06	9,953.06
Professional Services		0.00
Bookkeeping	115.50	115.50
Total Professional Services	115.50	115.50

	Maintenance and Operating	TOTAL
Reimbursements	35.00	35.00
Subscription		0.00
Firewall-Sophos	55.69	55.69
Legislative Monitoring	59.38	59.38
NextCloud Business	166.63	166.63
Quick Books	120.86	120.86
Total Subscription	402.56	402.56
Travel and Training		0.00
Training and CEU	450.00	450.00
Travel Expense	214.07	214.07
Total Travel and Training	664.07	664.07
Total Expenses	23,125.91	23,125.91
NET OPERATING INCOME	-22,084.04	-22,084.04
NET INCOME	\$ -22,084.04	\$ -22,084.04

Open Invoices Report

CUSTOMER	DATE	TRANSACTION TYPE	NUM	TERMS	DUE DATE	OPEN BALANCE
TCEQ						
TCEQ	08/31/2024	Invoice	16	Net 30	09/30/2024	\$26,777.50
Total for TCEQ						\$26,777.50
						\$26,777.50

Sulphur River Basin Authority

Checking-Guaranty, Period Ending 09/30/2024

RECONCILIATION REPORT

Reconciled on: 10/07/2024

Reconciled by: Kathy Williams

Any changes made to transactions after this date aren't included in this report.

Summary	USD
Statement beginning balance	
Uncleared transactions as of 09/30/2024 Register balance as of 09/30/2024 Cleared transactions after 09/30/2024 Uncleared transactions after 09/30/2024 Register balance as of 10/07/2024	0.00 4,928.04 24.217.80

DetailsChecks and payments cleared (28)

DATE	TYPE	REF NO.	PAYEE	AMOUNT (USD)
08/27/2024	Bill Payment	9535	Wally Kraft	-115.50
08/27/2024	Bill Payment	9534	Edward Jones	-554.96
08/27/2024	Bill Payment	9538	Rogers Trophy & Sign Company	-58.00
08/28/2024	Bill Payment	9539	Belinda C McIntosh	-26.86
08/31/2024	Bill Payment	9542	Water Monitoring Solutions	-19,130.00
08/31/2024	Bill Payment	9540	Lower Colorado River Authority	-5,210.00
08/31/2024	Bill Payment	9541	Sledge Law Group PLLC	-826.50
09/01/2024	Bill Payment	ACH	Dearborn Life Insurance Com	-106.06
09/04/2024	Bill Payment	DD	Kathy Williams	-211.46
09/04/2024	Expense	DC	Amazon	-143.86
09/06/2024	Bill Payment	384843896	CNA Surety	-114.82
09/06/2024	Payroll Check	DD	David I. Weidman	-2,668.00
09/06/2024	Payroll Check	DD	Christi McIntosh	-865.67
09/11/2024	Tax Payment		IRS	-1,123.00
09/16/2024	Bill Payment	ACH	Nextiva, Inc.	-82.29
09/16/2024	Bill Payment	9543	David Weidman	-159.89
09/16/2024	Expense	19425	Staples	-26.55
09/16/2024	Expense	4256000020764	WalMart	-31.25
09/16/2024	Bill Payment	ACH	AT&T Mobility	-104.84
09/16/2024	Expense	05798	Texas Water Conservation As	-450.00
09/19/2024	Bill Payment	9547	Edward Jones	-589.72
09/20/2024	Bill Payment	DD	Kirby Hollingsworth	-78.82
09/20/2024	Payroll Check	DD	David I. Weidman	-2,668.01
09/20/2024	Payroll Check	DD	Christi McIntosh	-950.66
09/20/2024	Bill Payment	DD	Emily Glass	-102.40
09/20/2024	Bill Payment	DD	Kelly Mitchell	-131.22
09/25/2024	Tax Payment		IRS	-1,123.00
09/30/2024	Bill Payment	ACH	Blue Cross and Blue Shield	-2,297.37

Total -39,950.71

Deposits and other credits cleared (2)

DATE	TYPE	REF NO.	PAYEE	AMOUNT (USD)
09/09/2024	Transfer			25,000.00
09/26/2024	Transfer			10,000.00

Total 35,000.00

Additional Information

Uncleared checks and payments as of 09/30/2024

ATE	TYPE	REF NO.	PAYEE	AMOUNT (USD)
3/27/2024	Bill Payment	9536	Reeves Hayter	-50.00
9/19/2024	Bill Payment	9546	Network Technologies	-6,270.00
9/19/2024	Bill Payment	9545	Wally Kraft	-50.00
9/19/2024	Bill Payment	9544	Reeves Hayter	-115.00
otal				-6,485.00
	ayments after 09/30/2024	REF NO.	PAYEE	AMOUNT (USD)
ncleared checks and p	TYPE	REF NO.		AMOUNT (USD)
ATE		REF NO.	PAYEE QuickBooks Payroll David I. Weidman	AMOUNT (USD) -1,123.02 -2,667.99
ATE 0/04/2024	TYPE Tax Payment		QuickBooks Payroll	-1,123.02
ATE 0/04/2024 0/04/2024	TYPE Tax Payment Payroll Check	DD	QuickBooks Payroll David I. Weidman	-1,123.02 -2,667.99

Sulphur River Basin Authority

TexPool, Period Ending 09/30/2024

RECONCILIATION REPORT

Reconciled on: 10/07/2024

Reconciled by: Kathy Williams

Any changes made to transactions after this date aren't included in this report.

Summary	USD
Statement beginning balance Interest earned Checks and payments cleared (4) Deposits and other credits cleared (0) Statement ending balance	35,930.30
Register balance as of 09/30/2024	224,932.65

Details

Checks and payments cleared (4)

DATE	TYPE	REF NO.	PAYEE	AMOUNT (USD)
09/09/2024	Transfer			-25,000.00
09/25/2024	Bill Payment		Titus County	-900.00
09/26/2024	Bill Payment	1	Ashley Office System	-30.30
09/26/2024	Transfer			-10,000.00
Total				-35,930.30

6. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on Approving the Sponsorship and Funding for Grant Workshop in Partnership with ATCOG, Region 2 Flood Planning Group, and Halff Engineers.

This item will include discussion and possible action on the sponsorship and funding for a grant workshop, presented in cooperation with ATCOG, Region 2 Flood Planning Group, and Halff Engineers. Staff recommends approval.

Action Item: Consider a Motion to approve and fund the grant workshop sponsorship.







7. Updates on the Clean Rivers Program (Randy Rushin-Water Monitoring Solutions).

Prepared in cooperation with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

The preparation of this report was financed in part through funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding activities with the Clean Rivers Program.



From: Randy Rushin randy@water-monitor.com @

Subject: Clean Rivers Program Update Date: October 2, 2024 at 2:44 PM

> To: David Weidman dweidman@srbatx.org Cc: Christi McIntosh cmcintosh@srbatx.org

David,

Update on CRP activities over the past month:

- Participated in CRP Partner Quality Assurance Conference Call on 9/12.
 Performed a field audit of NTMWD staff on Lake Jim Chapman on 9/17 and submitted the report on 10/1. NTMWD followed all TCEQ protocols, and no deficiencies were identified.
- We will be conducting a fall bioassessment in Auds Creek on October 3 5.

 We are scheduled to attend/present data/lead a field training session at the TCEQ SWQM Workshop in Corpus Christi on October 8 10.
- Routine quarterly sampling is planned for the weeks of October 21 and 28.

I had planned to attend this month's meeting but was asked to lead a flow measurement training session for the TCEQ Water Master Program, Harris-Galveston Area Council, University of Houston, and Gulf Coast Water Authority staff in Houston on October 15 - 17.

I plan to attend the November board meeting to provide an update on our activities.

Randy Rushin

Water Monitoring Solutions.



903-439-4741 randy@water-monitor.com www.water-monitor.com
A HUB-Certified, Woman-Owned Small Business

---This email was Anti Virus checked by a Sophos Security Gateway. Contact Network Technologies for further information. www.net-techs.com

8. Regional Entities Reports:

- (A) Funding Partners
- (B) Riverbend Water Resources District
- (C) Region D Water Planning Group
- (D) Region 2 Flood Planning Group

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding activities of the above-listed entities.



- 9. Reports and Update from Executive Director:
 - (A) 2026 Region C Presentation on Marvin Nichols Reservoir Project
 - (B) Texas Old and New The Perryman Group
 - (C) How Storms Like Helene Will Transform the American South New York Times
 - (D) The Lone Star Lithium Boom Texas Monthly
 - (E) Region D Water Planning Group Special Called Meeting October 30, 2024
 - (F) Partner Outreach and Development
 - (G) Rural River Authority Coalition
 - (H) Board Tour of Lake Ralph Hall October 29, 2024

This item will include discussion and possible action regarding the above-listed reports and updates.





1

AGENDA

- Introductions
 - Historical Overview of Inter-regional Coordination
- Region C Water Needs
- Marvin Nichols Reservoir
 - Description
 - Evaluations
- Schedule
- Discussion

2

1

2

HISTORICAL COORDINATION OVERVIEW

- Participating Entities formed the Joint Committee on Program Development (JCPD)
- 1999 2001: Regions C and D coordinate to select MNR as preferred Sulphur Basin water project
- 2015: Conflict declared between Regions C and D
 - Conflict resolved by recommending a smaller MNR (313.5 msl) in 2070 and joint strategy with Wright Patman (2050)
- **2019:** Texas Legislature created the Interregional Planning Council to coordinate water planning between regions
- 2019-2020: Regions C and D hold multiple inter-regional coordination meetings
- 2020: 2021 Regional Water Plans submitted to TWDB with no interregional conflict
 - Recommended WMS is full size MNR (328 msl)
- 2021: Receive letter from Region D requesting coordination on MNR

3

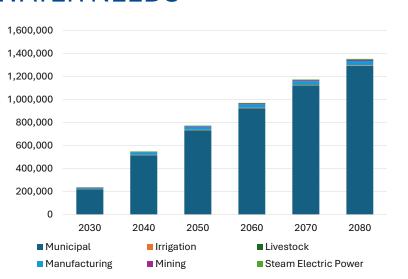
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3

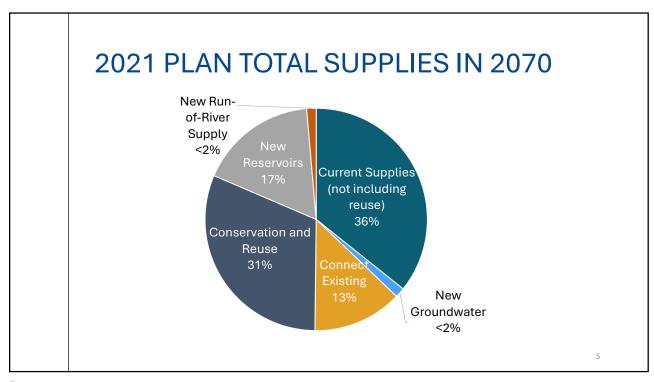
REGION C WATER NEEDS

Projected water needs:

- 1.3 million AF/Y by 2080
- Most is for municipal use



4





DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

- Located on Sulphur River in Titus and Red River Counties
- Approximately 100 miles from Metroplex
- Conservation Elevation = 328 ft
 - 1,532,000 acre-feet of storage
 - 66,103 acres surface area
- Reservoir on Sulphur River was first included in State Water Plan in 1968

7

7

SULPHUR BASIN STUDY

- USACE Comprehensive Sulphur Basin Study
 - Sponsors: SRBA, TRWD, NTMWD, DWU, UTRWD, Irving
 - Completed in 2013
 - Basis for much of data for MNR and past RWPs (2016 and 2021)
- Most Recent Study Completed in 2024
 - Yields using 2019 Sulphur Basin WAM (new drought of record)
 - Updated design requirements and costs
- 2026 Region C Water Plan
 - · Reviewed and updated data as appropriate

8

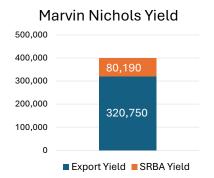
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YIELD ASSUMPTIONS

- Sulphur Basin WAM, Run 3
 - Priority of currently granted rights
 - No return flows (unless authorized in water right)
- E-Flows for entire Sulphur basin
 - E-Flows are senior to Marvin Nichols

	Total Yield	SRBA	Exported Yield
Yield	400,940	80,190	320,750

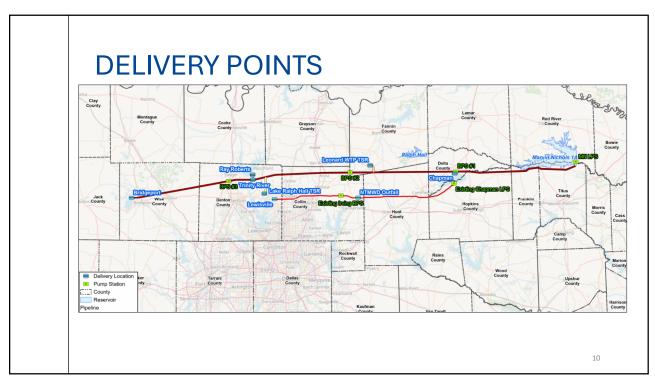
Values in acre-feet per year



9

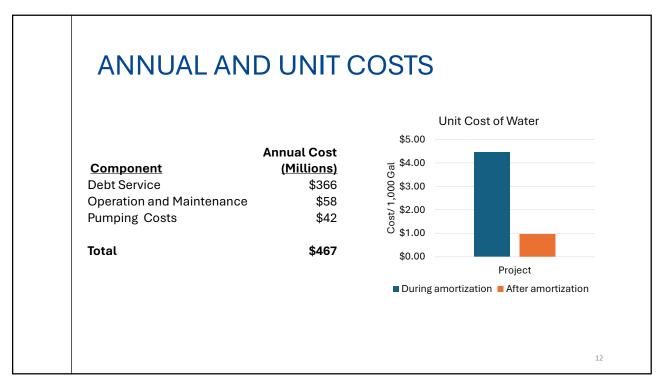
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10

CAPITAL CC	STS	
Component Reservoir Transmission Mitigation/Permitting Conflicts Land Subtotal	Capital Cost (Millions) \$543 \$4,241 \$888 \$191 \$329 \$6,192	Land Interest 12% Conflicts 3% Mitigation 12%
Interest during construction	\$851	Transmission 60%
Total	\$7,043	11



IMPACTS OF PROJECT

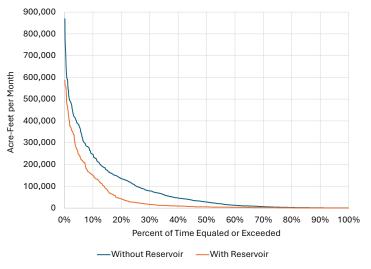
- · Quantitative Reporting of:
 - Environmental water needs
 - · Wildlife habitat
 - · Cultural resources
 - Effect on bays, estuaries, and arms of the Gulf of Mexico
 - Threatened and Endangered Species
 - Agricultural Resources
 - · Other Natural Resources

13

13

ENVIRONMENTAL WATER NEEDS

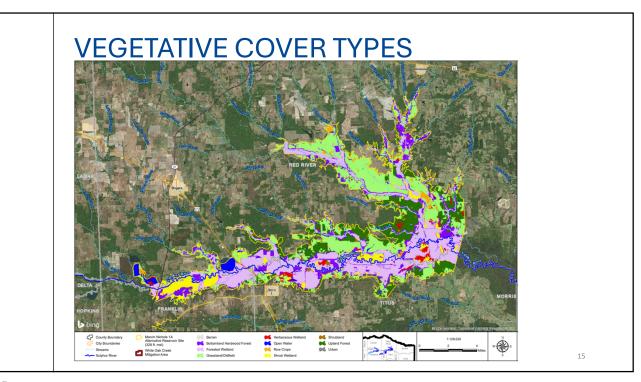
- No SB3 flows established in Sulphur Basin
- Used Lyons Methods for e-flow releases
- Little difference in frequencies of low flows



14

7

14



WILDLIFE HABITATS

Cover Type	Acres
Barren	<1
Bottomland Hardwood Forest	9,289
Forested Wetland	19,622
Grassland/Old Field	18,241
Herbaceous Wetland	1,244
Open Water	1,162
Row Crops	706
Shrub Wetland	4,093
Shrubland	444
Upland Forest	11,223
Urban	78
Total	66,103

Updated September 2024

CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Much of site has high potential for cultural resources
- 13% of project area has been surveyed for cultural resources
- 1 known cemetery
- 63 known archeological sites
 - 34 are likely eligible for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)

17

17

EFFECT ON BAYS AND ESTUARIES

- No effect on bays and estuaries
- Discharges to Atchafalaya Bay in Louisiana Gulf Coast



18

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

- In 3 counties where Marvin Nichols Reservoir is located,
 - 3 Federally-listed endangered species
 - 2 potential to be impacted (American burying beetle, Ouachita rock pocketbook)
 - 4 federally-listed threatened species
 - 1 high potential for impacts (Yellow-billed cuckoo)
 - 1 state-listed endangered species
 - 13 state-listed threatened species
 - 6 potential to be impacted

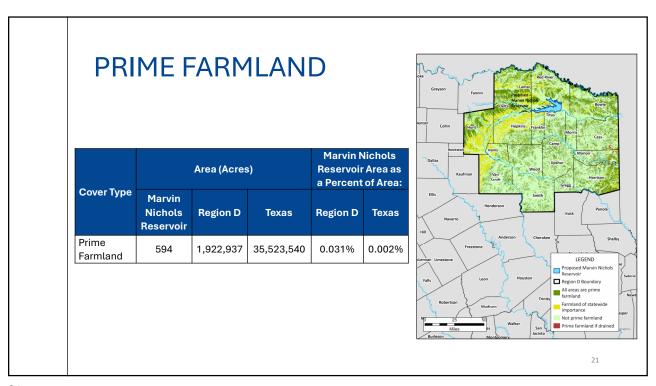
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19

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

Cover Type		Area (Acres)		Marvin Nichols
		Marvin Nichols Reservoir	Region D	Reservoir Area as a Percent of Region D
Timberlands	Bottomland Hardwood Forest	9,289	416,398	2.2%
	Forested Wetland	19,622	412,751	4.8%
	Upland Forest	11,223	2,869,079	0.4%
Active/Potential Agricultural and Pasture Lands	Row Crops	706	314,184	0.2%
	Grassland/Old Field	18,241	2,843,656	0.6%
Non-Agricultural Lands	Other Land Cover Types	7,022	477,707	1.5%
Total		66,103	7,333,774	0.9%

20



21

TIMBER RESOURCES Percent in Area (Acres) **Marvin Nichols** Potential Timberland in Marvin Nichols Reservoir 9,289 **Bottomland Hardwoods** 19,622 Forested Wetlands **Upland Forest** 11,223 **Total in Marvin Nichols** 40,134 Total Timberland in Red River, Titus, & Franklin 523,629 7.7% Counties Total Timberland in Region D 3,520,917 1.1% Total Timberland in East 11,906,539 Texas 0.3% 22

22

MITIGATION ASSUMPTIONS

- Assume mitigation land requirements equal reservoir acreage
 - Consistent with recently permitted reservoirs
 - Costs include land and improvements for mitigation
- Mitigation preferences
 - Mitigation banks
 - User-developed mitigation within same watershed (Sulphur River)
 - User- developed mitigation within same River Basin (Red River)
 - Does not need to be in same counties
- Mitigation amounts and locations will be decided during the permitting process
- Mitigation will offset impacts to natural resources

23

23

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Socio-economic impacts of **developing** Project

- Construction of project boost economic activity >\$5 billion
- Operation of project boost economies > \$120 million/year
- Increased visitor/resident spending > \$325 million/year
- Most economic growth occurs in Region D

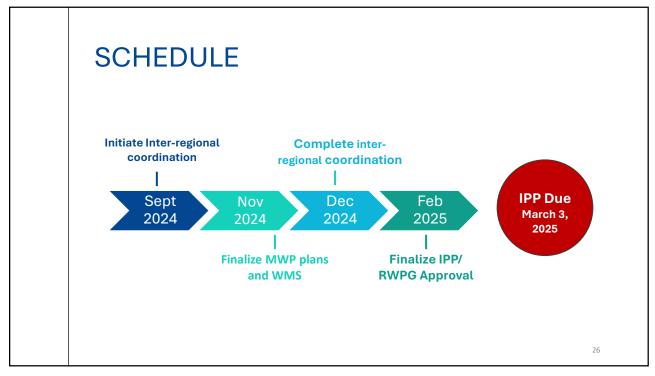
Socio-economic impacts of **not developing** additional water

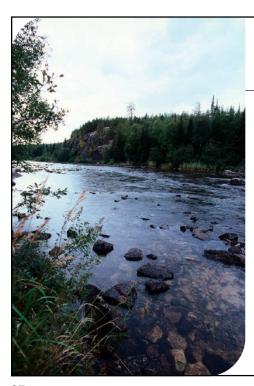
- \$48 million in income losses in 2070
- 473,000 job losses in 2070
- Direct impacts to Region C

24

12







CONTACT

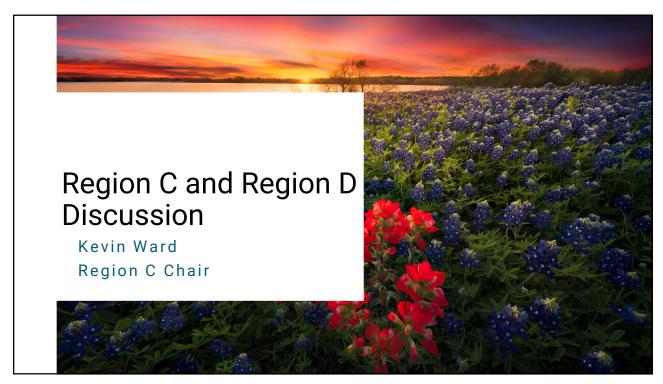
Simone Kiel, P.E. Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Region C website:

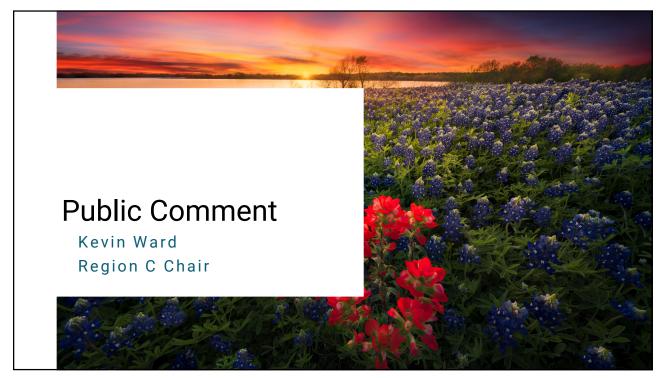
Region C – Water Planning For North Texas (regioncwater.org)

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28



Texans Old and New

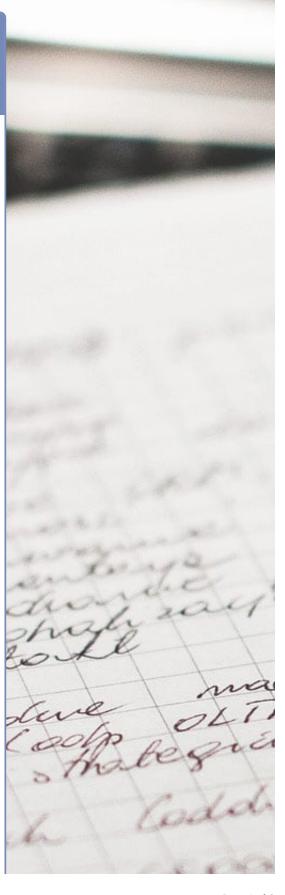
By: Dr. M. Ray Perryman Published in syndication September 18, 2024

New demographic information has been released by the US Census Bureau, and it confirms what we already knew - Texas is experiencing rapid population growth, notable job gains, and higher incomes. Let's take a brief look at a few highlights.

The state population rose by nearly 474,000 between 2022 and 2023 (about 1,300 people per day) to top 30.5 million. That 1.58% increase more than triples the US rate of gain of 0.49%. In fact, the Lone Star State comprised more than 29% of the total net national increase. The change stemmed from natural increase as well as people moving from other parts of the US and other countries (a topic for another day). In fact, since the pre-pandemic days of 2019, Texas has added 5.20% to its population, well above the national pace of 2.03%.

Texas also remains significantly more youthful, with higher concentrations of residents in the youngest age ranges than the nation. Although trending upward with the aging of the baby boom generation, the median age in the state is 35.9 years, well below the US level of 39.2 years. The larger proportion of young people will help Texas meet future workforce needs, and, assuming they are well-educated, provide a decided competitive advantage.

With regard to race/ethnicity, 47.7% of Texans identify as white, 12.3% as Black, and 5.7% Asian; about 23.3% of people in the state indicate they are two or more races. More than 12.1 million persons are of Hispanic or Latino



ethnicity (39.8% of the population), which can be of any race.

The state's labor force rose by about 363,500, with the number employed up 348,300. Since 2019, the Census data indicates an increase in employed persons of nearly 1.1 million. While numerous types of occupations saw strong growth between 2022 and 2023, others decreased (including a loss of almost 71,100 in sales and office occupations). Performance was also uneven on an industry basis.

Median household income in Texas (the level at which half earn more and half earn less) rose to almost \$75,800 from \$72,300. Although median income in the US remains slightly higher, the gap is narrowing. Moreover, the cost of living in Texas compares favorably to many areas. The numbers of households in all of the lowest income ranges are falling significantly.

This robust population growth reflects substantial opportunities and the associated in-migration, as well as greater concentration in younger age ranges. With appropriate investments in education and infrastructure, Texas is well positioned to leverage its many other assets for a prosperous future. Without requisite levels of commitment to human capital and supporting power, water, transportation, and other needs, the situation will be very different. Stay safe!

The New York Times

https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/02/opinion/hurricane-helene-florida-insurance.html

GUEST ESSAY

The People Fleeing Climate Disasters Are Going to Transform the American South

Oct. 2, 2024

By Abrahm Lustgarten

Mr. Lustgarten is an environmental reporter for ProPublica and the author of "On The Move: The Overheating Earth and the Uprooting of America."

This article is co-published with ProPublica, a nonprofit newsroom that investigates abuses of power.

When Hurricane Helene, the 420-mile-wide, slow-spinning conveyor belt of wind and water drowned part of Florida's coastline and then barged its path northward through North Carolina last week, it destroyed more than homes and bridges. It shook people's faith in the safety of living in the South, where the tolls of extreme heat, storms and sea level rise are quickly adding up.

Helene was just the latest in a new generation of storms that are intensifying faster, and dumping more rainfall, as the climate warms. It is also precisely the kind of event that is expected to drive more Americans to relocate as climate

change gets worse and the costs of disaster recovery increase.

Researchers now estimate tens of millions of Americans may ultimately move away from extreme heat and drought, storms and wildfires. While many Americans are still moving into areas considered high risk, lured by airconditioning and sunny weather, the economic and physical vulnerabilities they face are becoming more apparent.

One study by the First Street Foundation, a research firm that studies climate threats to housing, found that roughly 3.2 million Americans have already migrated, many over short distances, out of flood zones, such as low-lying parts of Staten Island, Miami and Galveston, Texas. Over the next 30 years, 7.5 million more are projected to leave those perennially flooded zones, according to the study.

All of this suggests a possible boom for inland and Northern cities. But it also will leave behind large swaths of coastal and other vulnerable land where seniors and the poor are very likely to disproportionately remain.

The Southern United States stands to be especially transformed. Extreme heat, storms and coastal flooding will weigh heavily on the bottom third of this country, making the environment less comfortable and life within it more expensive and less prosperous.

The young, mobile and middle class will be more likely to leave to chase opportunity and physical and economic safety. That means government — from local to federal — must now recognize its responsibility to support the communities in climate migration's wake. Even as an aging population left behind will require greater services, medical attention and physical accommodation, the residents that remain will reside in states that may also face

diminished representation in Congress — because their communities are shrinking. Local governments could be left to fend alone, but with an evaporating tax base to work with.

In December, the First Street Foundation created one of the first clear pictures of how this demographic change is unfolding. It looked at flood risk and migration patterns down to the census tract, across the country, and identified hundreds of thousands of so-called abandonment zones where the out-migration of residents in response to rising risk had already passed a tipping point, and people were making small, local moves to higher ground.

The research contains plenty of nuance — cities like Miami may continue to grow overall even as their low-lying sections hollow out. And the abandonment areas it identified were scattered widely, including across large parts of the inland Northeast and the upper Midwest. But many of them also fall in some of the very places most susceptible to storm surges from weather events like Helene: Parts of low-lying coastal Florida and Texas are already seeing population declines, for instance.

In all, the First Street report identified 818,000 U.S. census blocks as having passed tipping points for abandonment — areas with a combined population of more than 16 million people. A related peer-reviewed component of the organization's research forecasts that soon, whole counties across Florida and Central Texas could begin to see their total populations decline, suggesting a sharp reversal of the persistent growth that Florida has maintained as climate pressures rise, by the middle of this century.

Such projections could turn out to be wrong — the more geographically specific such modeling gets, the greater its margin of error. But the mere fact that climate research firms are now identifying American communities that people

might have to retreat from is significant. Retreat has not until recently been a part of this country's climate change vernacular.

Other research is putting a finer point on which Americans will be most affected. Early this year Mathew Hauer, a demographer at Florida State University who has estimated that 13 million American will be displaced by rising sea levels, was among the authors of a study that broke out what this climate-driven migration could mean for the demographics of the United States, examining what it might look like by age.

Mr. Hauer and his fellow researchers found that as some people migrate away from vulnerable regions, the population that remains grows significantly older. In coastal Florida and along other parts of the Gulf Coast, for example, the median age could increase by 10 years this century — far faster than it would without climate migration.

This aging means that older adults — particularly women, who tend to live longer — are very likely to face the greatest physical danger. In fact, there is notable overlap between the places that Mr. Hauer's research suggests will age and the places that the First Street Foundation has identified as the zones people are abandoning.

The exodus of the young means these towns could enter a population death spiral. Older residents are also more likely to be retired, which means they will contribute less to their local tax base, which will erode funding for schools and infrastructure, and leave less money available to meet the costs of environmental change even as those costs rise. All of that is very likely to perpetuate further out-migration.

The older these communities get, the more new challenges emerge. In many coastal areas, for example, one solution under consideration for rising seas is to raise the height of coastal homes. But, as Mr. Hauer told me, "adding steps might not be the best adaptation in places with an elderly population." In other places older residents will be less able and independent, relying ever more on emergency services. This week many of Helene's victims have simply been cut off, revealing the dangerous gaps left by broken infrastructure, and a mistaken belief that many people can take care of themselves.

In the future authorities will have to adapt the ways they keep their services online, and the vehicles and boats they use, in order to keep flooded and dangerous places connected. Such implications are worrisome. But so is the larger warning inherent in Mr. Hauer's findings: Many of the effects of climate change on American life will be subtle and unexpected. The future demographics of this country might look entirely unfamiliar. It's past time to give real thought to who might get left behind.

Abrahm Lustgarten is an environmental reporter for ProPublica and the author of "On The Move: The Overheating Earth and the Uprooting of America."

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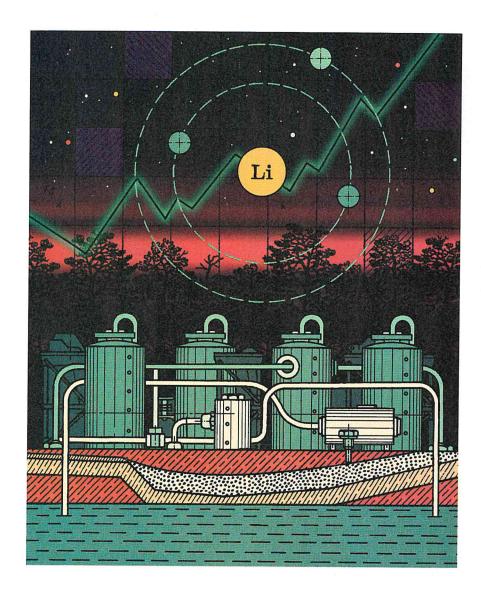
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The Lone Star Lithium Boom

An ingenious Texan's invention may soon bring extensive mining of the metal—vital for our increasingly battery-powered future—to the northeast corner of the state. by Russell Gold

lungful of hydrogen sulfide nearly killed John Burba a few months into his first job in the West Texas oil patch. He'd grown up in the region, where his dadworked for Gulf Oil as a drilling superintendent. The encounter with the toxic gas left him with headaches for the better part of a year. Afterward, even though he'd previously been an uninspired student, he concluded, "Maybe it's not such a bad idea to go to college after all."

He headed to Waco, leaving Baylor University nine years later with a doctorate in chemistry and an ascent family. His new wife, Carol, who'd also studied chemistry at Baylor, was pregnant, so he dropped his plans for further studies and went to work for a global chemical company. Dozens of patents followed.



Nearly five decades later, the 73-year-old Burba has amassed the trappings of a successful life. He and Carol live on two hundred acres in East Texas with a donkey, three horses, five cows, and a one-ton bull named Max. But Dr. Burba—everyone calls him doctor, likely because of his professorial demeanor—isn't ready to slow down. One of his inventions looks poised to become as critical to the twenty-first century as the rotary drilling rig was to the twentieth.

To understand the burgeoning need his innovation is serving, just peekinside Burba's garage. He owns a Porsche Taycan powered by alithium-ion battery, the same kind that keeps all electric vehicles running, not to mention iPhones and chainsaws and military drones and pacemakers and so on. Demand for batteries is growing exponentially. By 2040 nearly three quarters of new passenger vehicles bought globally are expected to rely on them. The revenue from the lithium-ion battery industry is projected to quintuple by the beginning of the next decade, to more than \$400 billion a year.

That won't be possible without the mining of hundreds of forested land?" To demonstrate that it could get to the metal with minimal disruption to the environment, Galvanic teamed with Burba in 2022. It was an opportunity to showcase his modular technology.

"Obviously, the first time you run anything through it, you're a little nervous," Layton told me. "I never doubted for one minute it was going to work. I just wasn't one hundred percent sure how well it was going to work." The results exceeded everyone's expectations. An independent test later showed that Burba's system recovered 97 percent of the lithium from the brine.

Exxon acquired mineral leases to Galvanic's 120,000 acres for about \$100 million, and Reuters has reported that the oil giant is considering using Burba's DLE at the heart of its operations. (Burba's company plans to provide its extraction technology to miners.) Houston-based SLB is looking to get into lithium extraction, as are Saudi Arabia's Aramco and the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company. A half dozen lithium-mining outfits are leasing land in northeast Texas's Bowie, Cass, Franklin, Morris, and Titus counties.

While the brine in south-central Arkansas contains between 200 and 250 milligrams of lithium per liter, testing suggests that concentrations rise to the west and reach much higher levels in the Texas portion of the Smackover. In March 2023, Standard Lithium, a Canadian company, announced it had drilled a well that tested at 634 milligrams per liter, reportedly in Cass County. Overnight, leasing activity in the area exploded.

Cass County has welcomed the new industry—albeit warily. The resistance isn't to extractive industries, which have long provided jobs and economic opportunities. It's not uncommon to see a flatbed truck piled high with recently cut trees rumbling past on county roads, and oil drilling has been

ticking up in recent years. But Craig Bohuslav, a local petroleum landman, told me that in 2022 he began receiving calls from concerned neighbors who were getting solicited to sign brine leases.

These earlyproposals were lousy: \$10 to \$25 an acre for a one time signing bonus and none of the royalty payments typical for fossil fuel exploration. (Oil leases regularly fetch \$300 an acre, plus a 20 percent royalty.) He counseled his neighbors to wait, and the offers have since improved markedly. "I'm not against leasing," Bohuslav said. "All I'm trying to do is get a fair deal."

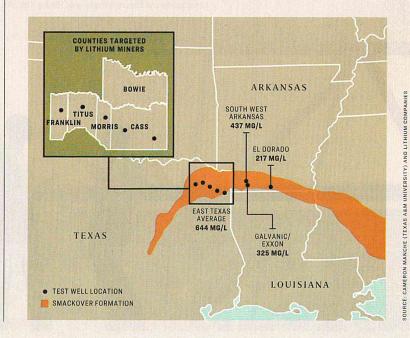
The county's highest elected official likewise is taking a wait-andsee approach. "We had an oil boom in the thirties—that's what brought my grandfather here," said Travis Ransom, the boyish-looking county judge. "Immense wealth was generated, but it didn't stay here. This is an opportunity, and I want to make sure we don't squanderit."

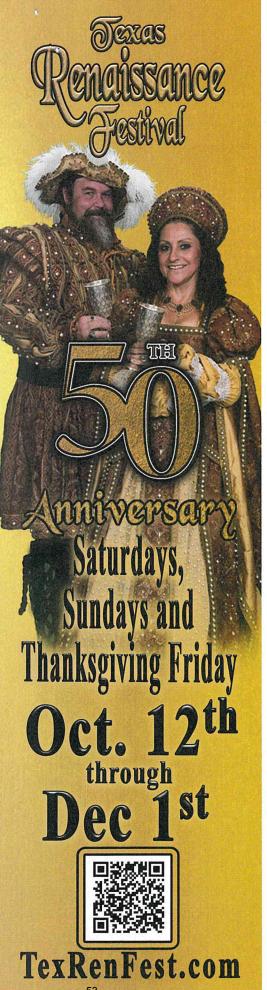
Driving through town in Ransom's red Chevy Avalanche with 152,000 miles on the odometer, we passed a line of sixty cars extending out onto the street from the parking lot of a Methodist church. They were waiting their turns to accept boxes of fresh produce from a onceamonth food pantry. "We're not a wealthy county," Ransom said. "We have a lot of generational poverty."

MAP

A Lithium Mother Lode

The briny water found within the Smackover formation contains relatively high concentrations of lithium. Amounts of the metal—measured in milligrams per liter—rise going westward from southern Arkansas into northeast Texas.





He likes that DLE doesn't require tearing up the earth as the lignite coal mines in nearby Harrison County once did. And he's proud that it could facilitate domestic production of an element vital to the U.S. economy, at a time when congressional leaders have expressed concerns about China's potential dominance in global lithium supplies. Extracting the metal, he figures, could make Cass County relevant in the twenty-first century. "The future is batteries and bandwidth."

Our lunch of hamburgers at the Rabbit Patch, a popular local restaurant, was regularly interrupted by friends of Ransom's coming over to say hello, including a loan officer from the local bank. He told us his parents and two of their neighbors had recently signed brine-mining leases. The bonus payments were more than \$250 an acre, and they were to receive 10 percent royalties. Ransom seemed pleased.

Burba may have invented DLE, but others have developed their own forms of the technology—using proprietary resins or other absorbent materials to filter the brine. Some of these competitors boast deep pockets. Houston-based oil giant Occidental Petroleum, for instance, owns a subsidiary with a patented DLE system and plans to demonstrate its technology at a California facility.

Further along is Standard Lithium. A ninety-minute drive east of Atlanta-south of El Dorado, Arkansas-the company announced in March that it had started mining. Its eight-foot cylinder hangs from a metal structure painted bright blue and yellow, like an IKEA erector set. Up to ninety gallons of salt water per minute run through the cylinder, which is full of a resin, developed by a subsidiary of Koch Industries, that resembles sesame seeds. "It is very quiet, very contained, highly automated," said Chad Martin, Standard's vice president of U.S. operations.

Standard plans to build a \$1.3 billion facility in Arkansas, called the

South West Arkansas Project, and is aggressively leasing in East Texas. In May, Norwegian oil giant Equinor agreed to invest up to \$160 million in these efforts. The El Dorado pilot could have been the first commercial DLE facility in the U.S., but until Arkansas finalizes rules on lithium-mining royalties, the lithium is being extracted, separated, and then put back into salt water that's pumped back into the ground. Martin shrugged in a "what can you do" manner when I asked him about it. "We're just proving the technology," he said.

That opened the door for Burba and International Battery to be the first to commercially mine lithium in North America using DLE. The company disassembled its modular plant in Louisiana, and shipped it on trucks to Skull Valley, Utah, where it was reassembled at a facility owned by U.S. Magnesium that has been producing magnesium from the Great Salt Lake for more than fifty years and has large ponds of leftover salts. Burba struck a deal to strip the lithium out of that waste. International Battery says it should initially produce 4,500 tons of lithium per year there, enough for more than 10,000 Tesla Model S batteries. The Utah opportunity simply came together faster than any of the potential plays

"I would have preferred the Smackover," Burba said, over barbecue beef sandwiches that Carol had prepared. Texas has many advantages, he noted: higher concentrations of lithium, proximity to battery factories in Mississippi and Tennessee, and easy access to drilling rigs. International Battery is ready to assist as soon as some client company in Texas needs its services.

Burba finished his lunch and scratched the ear of Ruger, an 85-pound Jack Russell and schnauzer mix. East Texas has long been known for its cotton, timber, and oil output. Next could be lithium. It could rival South America's so-called Lithium Triangle. "Ibelieve it will," Burbasaid. "I believe it absolutely will."

10. Consideration, Discussion, and Take Action on New Business to be Placed on a Future Meeting Agenda.

This agenda item will include discussion and possible action on future agenda items.

Action Item: Possible Motion to place items discussed on the agenda of a future meeting.



11. Announcements from the Chairman/Board and/or Staff.



12. Next Regular Meeting

Sulphur River Basin Authority Regular Meeting, November 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 North Jefferson Street, Mount Pleasant, Texas.

