

North Central Texas Council of Governments

SUMMARY

Water Resources Council

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

In-Person at NCTCOG

Chair: Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth

Vice-Chair: Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District

1. Welcome and Introductions.

At the start of the meeting, the Water Resources Council (WRC) Chair and Vice-Chair were not present due to previously communicated scheduling conflicts. As a result, the WRC had to elect a Chair Pro Tem to conduct business until an officer arrived. Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, motioned to appoint Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, as the Chair Pro Tem. Jeff Price, City of Mansfield, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

2. What Can the Texas Optimization Program (TOP) Do for You? Andrew Waite, TOP Contractor, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), will showcase the possibilities available through TCEQ's Texas Optimization Program (TOP), which provides no-cost complex drinking water technical assistance, training, and support to the regulated community through onsite and remote assistance. His presentation will cover the TOP Mission, Team Composition, TOP team Dos & Don'ts, and Direct Assistance Modules.

Andrew Waite, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, was unable to join the meeting as scheduled. His presentation content on the Texas Optimization Program is available in the [meeting presentation slide deck](#), beginning on slide 4.

3. North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Call for Projects. Savana Nance, NCTCOG, will present on Round 2 the [North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles \(NTxZEV\)](#) call for projects, open now. This funding would assist public and private sector fleets in replacing existing ICE Class 6 and 7 vehicles with ZEVs.

Savana Nance, NCTCOG, presented on the North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles (NTxZEV) call for projects. This is a competitive program that supports the deployment of Class 6 and 7 hydrogen fuel and electric vehicles. The second round of funding closes May 1, 2026, with the potential for additional rounds of funding until October 2027. Discussion with the council included adaptation to using new technology and funding for hydrogen fuel stations. Savana's full presentation is available on the [meeting presentation slide deck](#), beginning on slide 21.

ACTION ITEM

4. Meeting Summary. The [January 14, 2026 meeting summary](#) will be presented for approval.

At this portion of the meeting, the WRC Vice-Chair, Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, arrived and relieved Larry Patterson of Chair Pro Tem duties. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, motioned to approve the summary. Stephanie Griffin, Halff, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

5. Review of Outreach and Engagement Projects. NCTCOG will provide an update on outreach and engagement activities and will seek input on the development of [a new activity book to promote regional water conservation](#).

NCTCOG staff presented projects recently developed to promote regional water conservation. NCTCOG used extra grant funding to post billboards in FY2025 and FY2026 featuring a comic-book style superhero and the tagline “Save Water, Save the Day”, followed by water-saving directives. This fiscal year, NCTCOG also developed a comic book/activity book with the same tagline to educate K-5 students on ways to save water at home. The staff presented the storyline to the council and received feedback on the materials. James Smith, Xylem, mentioned the value of coordinating with the US Water Alliance and similar groups to promote cohesive messaging. Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, encouraged further coordination with conservation staff at water districts to enhance messaging, and staff confirmed the possibility of a future meeting with conservation staff as activities continue.

6. 2026 Water Resources Questionnaire. NCTCOG will allow the WRC to review and provide input on the [2026 North Central Texas Water Resources Questionnaire](#) before distribution. This deliverable is used to direct future water-related planning and education.

NCTCOG reviewed changes to the 2026 Water Resources Questionnaire, which highlighted the addition of a section on data centers and digital infrastructure. Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, asked questions about ERCOT sharing data on water and energy use for this kind of infrastructure. Savana Nance, NCTCOG, shared that the Public Utilities Commission of Texas just closed the public comment period for [Rulemaking to Implement Large Load Interconnection. Standards Under PURA §37.0561](#), but the document may answer questions regarding proposed data center regulations. Stephanie Griffin, Halff, suggested combining questions 9 and 10 on the questionnaire and adding “website” and “newsletter” as selection options for question 6. NCTCOG confirmed they will make those edits before distributing the questionnaire in summer 2026.

7. FY27 Call for Nominations, Reappointments, and Nominations Subcommittee Process. NCTCOG will discuss the process and details regarding the FY27 WRC roster, including term reappointments and filling vacant seats. The council will vote to approve the proposed new roster at its July meeting.

NCTCOG staff discussed the process for FY27 reappointment and nominations. Members up for reappointment will receive an email from NCTCOG asking them to reaffirm their desire to serve a two-year term on the WRC. Members not up for reappointment this year will be asked to serve on a one-time Ad Hoc Nominations Subcommittee to help fill any open seats on the WRC roster. The WRC will vote to approve the FY27 roster at its July meeting. Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, asked how council members should nominate someone for the council, and was encouraged to put

any potential members in touch with NCTCOG staff to assist in the application process. Rachel Ickert, Tarrant Regional Water District, shared that she will be stepping off the council to focus on other activities and that WRC Chair Stacy Walters, City of Fort Worth, will be retiring at the end of the fiscal year, leaving both officer positions open. NCTCOG staff encouraged council members interested in an officer position to contact staff ahead of the July WRC meeting to promote a smooth appointment process.

OTHER BUSINESS AND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

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

a. New NCTCOG Environment and Development Webpages

- [Water Resources Newsletter Subscription](#)
- [Outreach Requests](#)
- [Urban Forestry](#)

NCTCOG staff shared newly available online resources. NCTCOG invited members to subscribe to the Water Resources Newsletter, a quarterly resource launched April 1, 2026, to streamline NCTCOG communication with stakeholders in its water-related programs. NCTCOG also announced the launch of the Outreach Request webpage, developed by the Environment and Development department's Community Engagement Committee, to streamline requests for NCTCOG staff at events, and the Urban Forestry webpage, designed to provide resources to support forestry and greenspace planning and implementation.

b. Integrating Transportation and Stormwater Infrastructure (TSI) Subarea Project Meetings. May 4th, 5th, 7th, and 12th; 10:00 a.m. Various Locations. Visit NCTCOG's [TSI Subarea Project Meetings page](#) to register.

c. Public Works Roundup. Call for Presenters and Registration Coming Soon. Thursday, August 20, 2026, at The Hurst Conference Center (1601 Campus Dr, Hurst, TX 76054). [Add to Calendar](#).

d. NCTCOG Webinar: Financing Water and Wastewater Projects in Small Communities. Tuesday, May 5, 2026, 1:00 p.m.; Virtual, via Microsoft Teams. [Register and Add to Calendar](#).

9. Future Agenda Items. The committee will have an opportunity to request future agenda items.

Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, requested further information on PFAS to find out more about what other entities are doing to address concerns. Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, discussed a PFAS-related article from the Dallas Morning News. NCTCOG staff asked if there was still interest in Lead and Copper Line Inventory (LCRI) topics. Katelyn Hearon, City of Lewisville, stated that connectors must also be a part of the inventory due in 2027, and perhaps discussion could include those activities. Taylor Alvarez, City of Watauga, stated that there are extra testing efforts taking place for childcare centers. Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, expressed interest in water-related legislation and stated the Texas Water Association could provide information. Larry also discussed interest in hearing about grant funding from TWDB. James Smith, Xylem, mentioned the \$550 million in EPA Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) funds.

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

- Steve Petit, City of Irving, shared about the water loss audit requirement for Clean Water State Revolving Funds and encouraged those undergoing the same process to ask a lot of questions to understand all the data in the audit.
- Michael Kivlan, Mustang Special Utility District, reported that the district's direct potable reuse pilot is online. The district plans to do more sampling and will report findings to TCEQ. Michael expressed interest in presenting the project at the October WRC meeting.
- Jerry Pressley, City of Fort Worth, discussed the water conservation enforcement program and managing pushback from irrigation advocates. He discussed how the program also helps the city address water loss reduction goals. Additionally, the city has begun aggressive replacement of cast iron pipes, as 85% of recent breaks have been from pipes made of this material. Finally, the city is grappling with biosolid disposal, as land application has ceased due to PFAS concerns.
- Joseph Fielding (alternate for Glenn Clingenpeel), Trinity River Authority, reported that Glenn has been promoted to Deputy General Manager of the Trinity River Authority.
- Jeff Price, City of Mansfield, announced that he is retiring on April 30, 2026, and introduced his replacement, Adam Stark, to the council.
- Michael Nieswiadomy, University of North Texas, announced he is retiring and expressed his gratitude to the council.
- Adam Stark, City of Mansfield, introduced himself to the WRC and provided a brief overview of his experience. He reported the city is concluding a public education program on water, titled H2Odysey. Participants were able to tour treatment plants, visit a wetland, and see the magnitude of work that goes into providing water. He shared that participants will graduate at the city's Earth Day event on April 25.
- Larry Patterson, Upper Trinity Regional Water District, discussed work to address rapid growth, given that the district had grown by 53,000 people in its service areas, and discussed a treatment plant expanding its capacity from 4 million gallons per day (MGD) to 12 MGD. Regarding the development of Lake Ralph Hall, the dam will close in about a month, and the district is working with the City of Irving to transfer water through their pump station. He states the district's engineering team is fully staffed through interns.
- Grace Darling, Arlington Conservation Council, expressed interest in hearing more about water conservation and reuse projects.
- Katelyn Hearon, City of Lewisville, stated the city is starting the expansion of a wastewater treatment plant on April 23 and building a new lift station. The city also recently kicked off a pilot study at a water treatment plant to assess the addition of ozone gas to the treatment process. She shared that Lewisville is applying for a Water Supply and Infrastructure Grant through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and encouraged others who are interested in the grant to [register for TWDB's webinar on May 13](#).
- Taylor Alvarez, City of Watauga, discussed the city's efforts to get rid of cast iron pipes, as well as work to install AMI meters and further implement conservation programs.
- Jennifer Owens, Tarrant Regional Water District, reports the district is gearing up for summer and finalizing messages for the Water is Awesome campaign. Additionally, the district is attempting to do water quality monitoring on rainscapes to quantify benefits.
- Bill Gase, City of Arlington, discussed work to remodel before the 2026 FIFA World Cup comes to town and expressed having difficulty with the De Nora scrubbing system.
- Alyssa Knox, NCTCOG, reminded voting members that comments on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund application No. 74018 were due at the close of business that day.

11. Next Meeting. The next WRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2026, and will be held virtually, via Microsoft Teams. [Add to Calendar](#)

Meetings for the rest of 2026:

- Wednesday, October 14, 2026, in person at NCTCOG. [Add to Calendar](#)

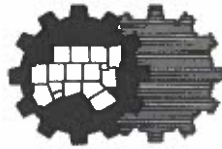
12. Adjournment.

Additional NCTCOG Meetings of Interest

- Public Works Council-** [Add to Calendar](#)
- Total Maximum Daily Load Coordination Committee Meeting-** [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.

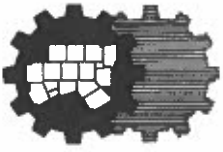
If you plan to attend this public meeting and you have a disability that requires special arrangements at the meeting, please contact Ashley Barnett by phone at (817) 608-2363 or by email at abarnett@nctcog.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made to assist your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



Water Resources Council
 Wednesday, April 22, 2026– 10:30 AM
 In-Person, NCTCOG Campus
SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME		ORGANIZATION
Mike Adams		City of Midlothian
Taylor Alvarez	<i>Saylor Alyx</i>	City of Watauga
Michael Brinkman		Garland Water Utilities
Tiffany Bruce		Town of Flower Mound
Glenn Clingenpeel		Trinity River Authority Arlington Conservation Council
Grace Darling	<i>Grace Darling</i>	
Bill Gase	<i>Bill Gase</i>	City of Arlington Water Utilities
Stephen Gay		City of Denton
Billy George		NTMWD
Stephanie Griffin	<i>SG</i>	Half
Katelyn Hearon	<i>Katelyn</i>	City of Lewisville
Joshua Howard		Johnson County Special Utility District
Rachel Ickert	<i>Rachel A Ickert</i>	TRWD
Nosa Irenumaagho		City of Dallas
Matthew Jalbert, P.E.	<i>Matthew Jalbert for MSJ</i>	Trinity River Authority
Michael Kivlan	<i>Michael Kivlan</i>	Mustang SUD
Kevin Mercer		Denton County FWSD 6 & 7
Michael Nieswiadomy	<i>Michael Nieswiadomy</i>	University of North Texas
Jennifer Owens		TRWD
Larry Patterson	<i>Larry N. Patterson</i>	UTRWD
Steve Pettit	<i>Steve M. Pettit</i>	City of Irving
David Phan		City of Dallas
Jerry Pressley	<i>Jerry Pressley</i>	City of Fort Worth
Jeff Price	<i>Jeff Price</i>	City of Mansfield

NAME		ORGANIZATION
Eric Robison		City of Richardson
Robert Saucedo		City of Hurst
Jason Sutton		Town of Addison
Caroline Waggoner		City of North Richland Hills
Stacy Walters		City of Fort Worth
Sally Wright		City of Dallas



Water Resources Council
Wednesday, April 22, 2026; 10:30 A.M.,
William Pitstick Conference Room

GUEST SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ORGANIZATION
JAMES SMITH	XYLEM, INC.
Joseph Fielding	TRA
Sawana Nance	NCTCOG
Jennifer Owens	TRWD
Christi Upton	NCTCOG
UMAIR KHAN	NCTCOG