



Newsletter of the South Plains Association of Governments

SPAG Holds Presentation for Disaster Relief Awards

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SPAG was honored to hold a check presentation ceremony in March to award grants from the Texas Department of Agriculture to the communities of Crosbyton, Ralls, Spur, and Dickens as well as Garza County, Dickens County, and Crosby County.

The checks were in the amount of \$350,000 each, bringing the total amount of money provided by TDA's Disaster Relief fund to combat drought in the South Plains region to nearly \$2.5M.

The grant money is for the purpose of rehabilitating existing wa-

ter wells and drilling new water wells to support the existing water system that is part of the White River Municipal Water District.

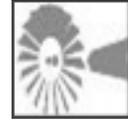
The projects were submitted for funding in August 2012 and officially began November in 2012. Currently, construction has begun on several water wells, and public officials are hopeful that the new wells will provide a viable source of water for communities in the South Plains region into the foreseeable future.

Should individuals or local governments have any questions about Disaster Relief funding, please contact SPAG's Regional Services department for more information.



*Pictured with Clinton Sawyer, SPAG President; Top: Left- Joe Har-grove, City of Crosbyton; Middle- Judge David Wigley, Crosby County; Right- Mayor Jim McDuff, City of Ralls
Bottom: left, Nancy Hale, City Manager, City of Spur; middle, Judge Lesa Arnold, Dickens County, right, Judge Lee Norman, Dickens County*





2-1-1 South Plains Recognizes Departing Committee Members



2-1-1 Texas South Plains recently said farewell to two members of its Regional Advisory Committee.

Tavita Dorow and Josie Sulaica joined the 2-1-1 Texas South Plains Advisory Committee in 2009, and their terms expired in May of 2013. They graciously served 2 consecutive terms voluntarily, and continue to

serve as long-time community advocates and volunteers.

Both have been a great asset to the Committee by bringing their expertise to the group



Right: Josie Sulaica; Left: Tavita Dorow

about issues in the Lubbock community. As 2-1-1 Texas South Plains Committee members, they receive statistical, financial and program information on a quarterly basis and evaluate seasonal programs. They also, in return, provide awareness about 2-1-1 Texas, local, state, and federal programs, to the community.

TDA Releases CDBG Scores for SPAG Region



The Texas Department of Agriculture has finalized scores for the Community Development Block Grant Applications that were submitted last fall.

These applications are for \$275,000 in funds to improve infrastructure such as water, sewer and streets. The

applications are regionally competitive and the scoring is based on need and distress,

project type and matching community funds. Once TDA finalizes the funding recommendations, awards will take place in 2013 and 2014.

7 out of the top 10 applications were written and submit-

ted by SPAG Regional Services on behalf of cities

and counties in need of these funds. The applications are submitted on a 2-year cycle so

the next round will be in 2014 for awards taking place in 2015/2016.

For any questions, please contact the grants team in the Regional Services Department.

Regional Services Grants Team:

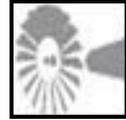
- Elena Quintanilla, Director
- Kelly Davila, Criminal Justice, Community Development
- Christian Shotts, Solid Waste, Community Development
- Reilly Webb, Community Development, HOME Program

806-762-8721

1323 58th Street

Lubbock, TX 79412





South Plains Association of Governments
Is currently accepting applications for the Day and Night Basic Peace Officer
Academies beginning November 4, 2013
After graduation, students will meet the requirements
To work as a Peace Officer in Texas

For more information, call (806) 762-8721 or 800 858-1809

Safety Tips for Tornado Season

North Texas and Oklahoma have experienced various tornados in the past few weeks.

Knowing what to do when you see a tornado, or when you hear a tornado warning, can help protect you and your family. During a tornado, people face hazards from extremely high winds and risk being struck by flying and falling objects. After a tornado, the wreckage left behind poses additional injury risks. Although nothing can be done to prevent tornadoes, there are actions you can take for your health and safety.

When there are thunderstorms in your area, turn on your radio or TV to get the latest emergency information from local authorities. Listen for announcements of a tornado watch or tornado warning.

Important Measures To Take

- Take a few minutes with your family to develop a tornado emergency plan. Sketch a floor plan of where you live, or walk through each room and discuss where and how to seek shelter.
- Show a second way to exit from

each room or area. If you need special equipment, such as a rope ladder, mark where it is located.

- Make sure everyone understands the siren warning system, if there's such a system in your area.
- Mark where your first-aid kit and fire extinguishers are located.
- Mark where the utility switches or valves are located so they can be turned off--if time permits--in an emergency.
- Teach your family how to administer basic first aid, how to use a fire extinguisher, and how and when to turn off water, gas, and electricity in your home.
- Learn the emergency dismissal policy for your child's school.

Make sure your children know:

- ◇ What a tornado is
- ◇ What tornado watches and warnings are
- ◇ What county or parish they

live in (warnings are issued by county or parish)

- ◇ How to take shelter, whether at home or at school.

Extra Measures for People with Disabilities or those with Access and Functional Needs

- Write down your specific needs, limitations, capabilities, and medications. Keep this list near you always--perhaps in your purse or wallet.
- Find someone nearby (a spouse, roommate, friend, neighbor, relative, or co-worker) who will agree to assist you in case of an emergency. Give him or her a copy of your list. You may also want to provide a spare key to your home, or directions to find a key.

Keep aware of weather conditions through whatever means are accessible to you. Some options are closed captioning or scrolled warnings on TV, radio bulletins, or call-in weather information lines.





Upcoming Region 3 Texas Municipal League

*Region 3 Texas Municipal League Quarterly Meeting
June 27, 2013
Host City: Levelland, Texas*



To: All TML Region 3 Members

You are cordially invited to the next Texas Municipal League Region 3 Quarterly Meeting to be held on Thursday, June 27, 2013 in Lubbock, Texas. Registration will begin at 4:30 p.m. The meeting and dinner will be held at D'Venue located at 6202 Iola Ave., Lubbock, Texas. The City of Levelland and Mayor Waymon Jackson are proud to be the host at this meeting. Make plans to join us as we learn more about our host city.

Come early for a workshop on "Keeping Your Community Safe from Gun Violence" beginning at 4:30 p.m. and lasting until 5:30 p.m. The workshop will be presented by Officer Craig Hancock with the Levelland Police Department. The social hour proudly sponsored by Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, LLC. will begin at 5:30 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and dinner will be a catered meal by Jeana's Feedbag (Pork Chops with green beans, loaded mashed potatoes, salad and cheesecake with cherry or strawberry topping.)

Our guest speaker will be Kurt Kiser. Kurt has been in the broadcast business for 35 years, starting out, as Kurt says, "when my hair was dark". His background in radio has served him well on the TV side and after a 12-year absence from the anchor desk, Kurt has returned to co-anchor the News at Nine with Jeff Klotzman on Fox 34 News in Lubbock. Along with working in front of the camera and microphone, Kurt has also performed on stage at the Cactus Theater in several Productions. Kurt has called Lubbock home for 16 years, and has launched "Kurt Kiser Communications" where he served as a motivational speaker.

Early registration fee for this event will be \$30.00 per attendee (must register by Friday, June 21st; \$35.00 per attendee if registered after Friday, June 21st). Payment is due at time of registration.

We look forward to seeing you on June 27th!

Texas Municipal League

Membership in the League is voluntary and is open to any city in Texas. From the original 14 members, TML's membership has grown to 1,121 cities.

Over 16,000 mayors, council members, city managers, city attorneys, and city department heads are member officials of the League by virtue of their cities participation.





Water Use Groups Engage in Regional Water Planning

In 1997 the Texas Legislature passed into law Senate Bill 1 (SB 1), which mandated comprehensive regional water planning for the entirety of the state.

The “bottom up” approach outlined in SB 1 allowed for the creation of Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPG) comprised of stakeholders. The overarching objective of each RWPG is to prepare a regional water plan every five years for their designated planning area based on drought of record.

The previous Llano Estacado Regional Water Plan was adopted in 2011. Data from that plan and the other 15 Regional Water Plans were compiled into the 2012 State Water Plan.

The Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group (Region O) is responsible for a planning area comprised of twenty-

one counties located in west Texas . These counties include Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Cochran, Crosby, Dawson, Deaf Smith, Floyd, Gaines, Garza, Hale, Hockley, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Parmer, Swisher, Terry, and Yoakum.

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is charged with overseeing and ultimately adopting each regional water plan into a single, comprehensive State Water Plan (SWP). Beyond providing a clear assessment and vision for Texas water resources, SWPs serve as both financial and permitting clearinghouses. Financial assistance from TWDB for water supply projects is only made available if a particular project is identified in the approved SWP. Similarly, a water right permit may only be

issued for municipal purposes if it is consistent with the approved State Water Plan.

Daniel B. Stephens & Associates (DBS&A) is assisting Region O with development of the plan for the 2016 regional planning cycle, to be approved by the RWPG and become a part of the 2017 State Water Plan. DBS&A is working with entities in the region to discuss and refine the draft data from the TWDB which projects future supplies, demands, and drought preparedness. With feedback from regional water suppliers and users we hope to develop a relevant and useful Regional Water Plan to guide development and conservation over the next 50 years.

The Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Group

mission statement
to "develop promote, and implement water conservation, augmentation, and management strategies to provide adequate water supplies for the Llano Estacado Regional Water Planning Area and to stabilize or improve the economic and social viability and longevity of the region through these activities."





Texas Tech MPA Program to Hold Open House

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

OPEN HOUSE



DATE: June 20, 2013
TIME: 5:30 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Holden Hall, Room 107

Plenty of free parking

Refreshments will be served



Any questions, please contact Era Ibarra at 806.742.3125 or era.ibarra@ttu.edu

ADVANCE YOUR CAREER!
ADVANCE YOUR EDUCATION!

Prepare for that future job opening! Acquire new skills and earn credit toward a Master of Public Administration degree (MPA). Attend part-time while you work. Classes are in the evening once a week. The entrance exam into the program may be waived for applicants with administrative work experience. Program areas include:

- health administration
- public management
- nonprofit management
- policy analysis

Come to the open house to hear more about the MPA program. It is not too late to be admitted for fall term.



Driving Directions:

1. From University Ave and Broadway enter TTU campus
2. Take the first right on Akron Ave
3. Holden Hall is on the left
4. Take the first left into Holden Hall Parking Lot

Master of Public Admin @ Texas Tech

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) provides professional knowledge and skills-based competence for working public administrators or students seeking a career as a manager or policy analyst in public or nonprofit agencies.

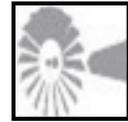
Recipients of the degree enter the job market equipped with general public management skills and a specialization in a particular public sector or policy area such as non-profit management, fiscal administration, health administration, and health policy among others.

The MPA is conferred and administered by the Department of Political Science in conjunction with the Center for Public Service.

For more information, visit

<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/politicalscience/mpa/>





South Plains Association of Governments

Quarterly Calendar

Save The Date!
**SPAG Annual
Meeting: Sept 11,
2013**

What	June	Where
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	6/11/13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom
Community Team Meeting	6/13/13, 1:00 p.m.– 3:30 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom
TML Quarterly Meeting	6/27/13, 4:30 p.m.	D’Venue, Lubbock
July		
Resources United	7/11/13, 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	7/19/13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom
Advisory Council on Aging	7/16/13, 2:00 p.m.– 4:00 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom
August		
SPAG Board of Directors Meeting	8/13/13, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	SPAG Boardroom

SPAG is a voluntary association created by the local governments within State Planning Region 2. It is an independent political subdivision of the state and is one of 24 such organizations in Texas. All local governments in the region are eligible and invited to become a member. Regional Forum is published quarterly by SPAG and is available without cost. Please direct any correspondence or inquiries to SPAG, P.O. Box 3730 Freedom Station, Lubbock, Texas 79452, (806) 762-8721 or toll free 1-800-858-1809 or fax (806) 765-9544 or visit our website at www.spag.org.

Christian Shotts, Editor

Tim Pierce, Executive Director

Clinton Sawyer, President

