

## **Item 10 – Discussion of Possible GMA 12 Groundwater Summit**

The idea of GMA 12 sponsoring a region-wide Groundwater Summit has been suggested and briefly discussed over the past two years. With the numerous production projects scattered across three districts and one located adjacent to GMA 12, there is heightened interest in this program.

At the last GMA 12 planning meeting held in late August 2023, representatives to GMA 12 were asked to visit with their board about the possibility of co-sponsoring such an event.

The program is being envisioned to:

- Be a one-day event
- Focus on topics occurring in the GMA in real time
- Be held in location that would garner the highest attendance
- Structured similarly to the Post Oak Savannah groundwater summit
- Generally funded by three districts

The first step is to see if there is enough interest for the program to warrant moving forward. There are many relevant topics that speak directly to managing the groundwater resources as production projects continue and new projects come on line.

Since we are at such an infancy level, there is not enough information to determine a cost. The summit cost would be shared by the three districts substantially affected and having approved export permits (Post Oak Savannah, Lost Pines, Brazos Valley). As General Manager, I believe this idea should be further developed and affords the District a grand opportunity to educate the public and provide stakeholders the chance to engage in the management of regional groundwater resources.

**It is the recommendation by the General Manager that the District research and engage in the development of a co-sponsored GMA 12 Groundwater Summit with fellow GMA 12 members to be held during FY 2024. Results will be presented to the Board for review, feedback, and approval prior to final GMA 12 approval being initiated.**