WATER CONSERVATION

AND -

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

FOR THE

CITY OF MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS

Original Adoption Date and Amendments

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Amendments

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The adoption of a water conservation plan is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the requirements set forth in Senate Bill (1) One, 75th Texas Legislature and for any project to be funded by the Texas Water Development Board pursuant to the statutes adopted by the 69th Legislature during the 1985 regular special called sessions. Sections 15.001 8 (A) and (B) VTCA state that "Conservation means:

- A. The development of water resources; and
- B. those practices, techniques, and technologies that will reduce the consumption of water, improve the efficiency in the use of water, or increase the recycling and reuse of water so that a water supply is made available for future or alternative uses."

The purpose of the Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan is to establish short-term and long-term goals for conserving water and to determine the procedures and steps necessary to achieve these goals.

To achieve the goals of the City of Mineral Wells Water Conservation Plan, the City proposes to:

- 1. Perform an official utility evaluation of factors, which affect water use;
 - a. Release only water needed for treatment.
 - b. Find ways to conserve treated water in the treatment process.
 - c. Backwash water sent back to pre-sedimentation reservoir.
 - d. Decant lagoon water back to pre-sedimentation reservoir.
- 2. Determine attainable goals for a water conservation program and ways in which to measure those goals;
 - a. The City's daily average per capita water use for calendar year 2023 was 85.65 gallons.
 - b. The City's goal will be to reduce this usage by 0.25% over the next five years.
 - c. To achieve this goal the City has increased its accuracy when conducting water audits and has adopted ordinances to assist in the decrease of leaks caused by contractors/construction.
- 3. Outline implementation guidelines for additional water conservation programs;
 - a. Inform the customer about conservation through pamphlets and brochures.
 - b. Monitor irrigation at businesses and ask for adjustments when needed.
 - c. Water main projects to eliminate old leaking mains; and
- 4. Ultimately, to conserve water.

To achieve goals of the Drought Contingency Plan, the City will:

- 1. Establish procedures to be implemented at certain stages of a drought; and
- 2. Identify voluntary and mandatory actions to reduce the demand placed on the water supply system during a water shortage emergency.

2.0 SYSTEM EVALUATION

2.1 EXISTING WATER SUPPLIES

The City of Mineral Wells, located in the north-central section of the State, is approximately 50 miles west of Fort Worth and has a service area of roughly 15 square miles. According to the TCEQ Annual Inspection Report, the City's population is 15,612.

The City obtains its water from Lake Palo Pinto which is owned by the Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District No.1 (PPCMWD). The reservoir has a permitted capacity of 44,100 acre-feet; however, a 2007 volumetric survey indicates its capacity as of that date to be approximately 27,200 acre feet. The City of Mineral Wells owns Lake Mineral Wells, which has a permitted capacity of 7,065 acre-feet, but is not used as a raw water source. In October 2015, TWDB conducted a volumetric survey which indicated Lake Mineral Wells has a total reservoir capacity of 5,461 acre-feet and encompasses 477 acres at conservation pool elevation (863.4 feet above mean sea level, NGVD29). In addition, PPCMWD, has leased 2,000 acre-feet from the City of Manvel and 3,000 acre-feet from the City of Abilene for five years, for the implementation of blending river water for conservation and drought usage.

The City operates one water treatment plant: Hilltop Water Treatment Plant. The water purchased from PPCMWD is pumped to the Hilltop WTP.

The City's water distribution system consists of approximately 527.24 miles of mains, ranging in size from 4 to 36inches in diameter. The system has a total storage capacity of 6.55 million gallons in both ground and elevated storage facilities. There are currently (2024) 6,467 connections to the system: 5,503 residential, 661 commercial, 68 irrigation meters, 26 residential multi-family, 199 institutional, and 10 wholesale. All connections to the system are metered.

2.2 HISTORICAL AND PROJECTED WATER USE

The City's average annual water production for the past five years has been 1,160,688,200 gallons per year (96,724,016 gallons per month). The historical peak daily use is 5,945,000 gallons.

In addition to supplying treated water to residents and businesses within the City of Mineral Wells, the City sells treated water to six water supply corporations (WSCs), and one municipality. These include Parker County Special Utility District, Palo Pinto WSC, Sturdivant-Progress WSC, North Rural WSC, Millsap WSC, Santo Special Utility District, and the City of Graford. The six WSCs and the City of Graford have approximately 6,783 connections and serve approximately 19,588 persons.

The 2023 monthly water use, by category, is given in Table 2.2. Table 2.3 gives Mineral Wells' projected population, average daily use and peak daily use, based on TWDB projections.

2.3 FIVE-YEAR AND TEN-YEAR TARGETS FOR WATER SAVINGS

Quantified Five-Year and Ten-Year Targets for Water Savings for the City of Mineral Wells

- A. 0.25% per capita reduction per year for the first five-year target.
- B. Additional 0.25% per capita reduction per year for the ten-year target.

TABLE 2.2

City of Mineral Wells 2023 Water use (Gallons) By Category

			a a constativity of the					
			WATER		YARD	RESIDENTIAL	BULK	
MONTH	RESIDENTIAL	COMMERCIAL	DISTRICTS	INSTITUTIONAL	METERS	MULTI-FAMILY	METERS	TOTAL
Jan-23	24,368,300	8,796,100	31,417,500	2,446,100	414,000	2,671,800	167,400	70,281,200
Feb-23	18,737,100	5,917,900	23,780,500	2,333,000	269,900	2,399,900	140,900	53,579,200
Mar-23	17,811,900	6,550,200	22,509,900	2,638,000	333,800	2,120,200	182,700	52,146,700
Apr-23	18,479,200	6,500,500	32,604,700	1,882,000	440,500	2,061,600	174,600	62,143,100
May-23	22,277,700	7,695,700	28,681,100	1,965,100	239,100	2,474,800	73,800	63,407,300
Jun-23	17,869,900	6,241,100	33,268,000	2,023,800	203,300	2,419,300	38,800	62,064,200
Jul-23	21,126,300	6,428,200	43,861,800	1,723,500	402,300	2,063,000	174,000	75,779,100
Aug-23	28,528,600	9,732,900	42,924,300	2,292,900	358,300	3,012,400	9,400	86,858,800
Sep-23	22,519,300	7,315,300	29,931,400	2,222,400	129,400	2,623,000	8,800	64,749,600
Oct-23	22,325,000	7,369,000	31,476,000	2,803,000	135,100	2,940,700	7,100	67,055,900
Nov-23	17,878,300	6,267,700	24,178,000	1,741,000	71,900	2,923,000	1,400	53,061,300
Dec-23	16,953,900	6,203,700	25,565,000	1,743,900	30,000	2,608,100	1,800	53,106,400
TOTAL	248,875,500	85,018,300	370,198,200	25,814,700	3,027,600	30,317,800	980,700	764,232,800

TABLE 2.3

City of Mineral Wells Projected Population and Water Use

(Based on TWDB Projections)

Year	Population Potential	Daily Average (mgd)
2030	18,727	3.279
2040	19,763	3.450
2050	20,794	3.629
2060	21,836	3.812
2070	21,836	3.812
2080	21,836	3.812

Wholesaler Customers Projected Population and Water Use

(Based on TWDB Projections)

Year	Population Potential	Daily Average (mgd)
2030	17,361	1.691
2040	20,988	2.017
2050	25,684	2.447
2060	31,823	3.013
2070	40,512	3.807
2080	51,833	4.847

2.4 WASTEWATER INFORMATION

The City of Mineral Wells owns and operates two wastewater treatment facilities, which have a combined permitted daily capacity of 3.61 mgd: Willow Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant and Pollard Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. The average volume of wastewater treated at the plants is 1.250 mgd. The peak daily wastewater volume is 7.3 mgd.

Approximately 94% of the City's water customers are on the City's wastewater treatment system. The remaining 6% are served by private on-site sewage facilities. Sales to customers with on-site sewage facilities comprise approximately 5% of the City's total water sales.

The estimated percent of wastewater flow from various sources are as follows:

Residential	88 %
Commercial	12 %

2.5 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The City of Mineral Wells has a conservation-oriented rate structure for water and wastewater services. The rates are given in Appendix C.

Operating revenues derived from rates for the year ending September 30, 2022 amounted to \$14,787,770. Non-rate sources provide an additional \$200,315 for an annual revenue total of \$14,988,085.

Operating expenses for the year ending September 30, 2022 were \$14,988,085.

3.0 TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

The TCEQ requires a municipal water provider to file a Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan pursuant to 30 TAC 288.2 and 30 TAC 288.20, respectively.

3.1 WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Pursuant to TCEQ rules, a Water Conservation Plan is defined as "a strategy or combination of strategies for reducing the volume of water withdrawn from a water supply source, for reducing the loss or waste of water, for maintaining or improving the efficiency in the use of water, for increasing and recycling and reuse of water, and for preventing the pollution of water." The topics addressed in the City of Mineral Wells Water Conservation Plan are in accordance with TCEQ guidelines, as provided below.

- 30 TAC 288.2 (1A) A utility profile This plan includes population and customer data, water use data, and water supply data. An updated profile is being provided.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1C) Specific, quantified five-year and ten-year water saving targets This plan includes per capita
 target goals for municipal use and maximum acceptable unaccounted for water and goal, and basis for
 development of goals.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1D) Metering device(s), within 5%, plus or minus, accuracy This plan includes calibration and accuracy of metering devices.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1E) This plan has a program for universal metering, meter testing, and meter replacement.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1F) Unaccounted for water use This plan includes leak detection, water audits, and system evaluation.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1G) Continuing public education and information This plan includes a program such as information on water bill and hand out brochures.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1H) Non-promotional water rate structure This plan includes a non-declining block rate, which
 encourages water conservation.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (11) Reservoir systems operations plan The City of Mineral Wells obtains its water from Lake
 Palo Pinto, which is owned by the Palo Pinto County Municipal Water District No. 1, which both evaluates and
 monitor levels and pumpage and coordinates with each other on the operation of the reservoir.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1J) Means of implementation and enforcement of the plan This plan has been adopted by ordinance.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (1K) Coordination with regional water planning groups for consistency with approved regional water plans.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (2A) This plan includes a program for leak detection, repair and water losses accounting.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (2B) This plan includes record management on water pumped, delivered, sales, and losses, which
 allows for the desegregation of water sales and uses into the following user classes: residential; commercial; public
 and institutional; and industrial.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (2C) This plan requires wholesale water supply customers to have an approved conservation and drought plan and must officially adopt applicable provisions of the City of Mineral Wells Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (3) Additional water conservation strategies This plan documents additional water conservation strategies pursued by the City of Mineral Wells, including reuse and recycling programs. Adoption of plumbing codes. A program for the replacement or retrofit of water conserving plumbing fixtures. A program for landscape water management on approved subdivision plan and building permits.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (3B.) A water conservation plan prepared in accordance with 31 TAC 363.15 This plan substantially meets the requirement.
- 30 TAC 288.2 (3C) Review and update of water conservation plan (on at least a five-year basis).

3.2 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

The TCEQ has developed rules for development of Drought Contingency Plans for municipal uses by public water suppliers in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code 288.20. A Drought Contingency Plan is defined by TCEQ as "a strategy or combination of strategies for temporary supply and demand management responses to temporary and potentially recurring water supply shortage and other water supply emergencies." The topics addressed in the City of Mineral Wells Drought Contingency Plan are in accordance with the TCEQ guidelines, as provided below.

- 30 TAC 288.20 (1A) Provisions to inform the public and wholesale customers regarding preparation of the plan.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1B) Program of continuing public education and information regarding the Drought Contingency Plan.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1C) Coordination with regional water planning groups.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1D) Monitoring for initiation and termination of drought response stages.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1Ei) Reduction in available water This plan has set triggering criteria on amount of water that
 is available.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1Eii) Water production or distribution system limitations This plan includes demand operating capacities.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1Eiii & IV) Supply source contamination or system outage due to the failure or damage of major water system components – This plan includes failure due to pumping, demand limitations, and contamination.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1F) Specific, quantified targets for water use reductions during periods of water shortage and drought.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1Gi & ii) Specific water supply or demand management measures to be implemented during each stage of the plan including curtailment and the use of a secondary water supply.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1H) Procedures for the initiation and termination of each drought response stage, including
 procedures for notification of the public.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (11) Procedures for granting variances to the plan.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (1J) Procedures for enforcement of mandatory water use restrictions including specification of penalties.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (3b) Notification of Executive Director of implementation of mandatory provisions of the Drought Contingency Plan.
- 30 TAC 288.20 (3C) Review and update of the Drought Contingency Plan.

4.0 WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

The applicable methods of water conservation for the City of Mineral Wells as listed in Section 363.85 (b) of the Texas Water Development Board Rules relating to "Financial Programs" are as follows:

- A. Education and information programs;
- B. Conservation-oriented water rate structure;
- C. Universal metering and meter repair and replacement;
- D. Leak detection and repair;
- E. Plumbing codes or ordinances for water-conserving devices in new construction;
- F. Retrofit programs to improve water-use efficiency in existing buildings;
- G. Water recycling and reuse;
- H. Water conserving landscaping;
- I. Enforcement; and
- J. Annual field trips from schools, Chamber of Commerce, etc.

4.1 EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

The City of Mineral Wells will inform City users of various recommended methods for implementing a reduction in water consumption. Generally, a majority of water consumption in a city is consumed by residential customers. Therefore, the target area for educational information is to be the majority user; however, attempts will be made to target contract customers as well.

A. A fact sheet explaining the Conservation Plan will be developed and distributed.

B. Each new customer will be provided with water conservation brochures.

The long-term program will consist of five activities:

- A. New brochures emphasizing new or innovative means for conserving water will be made available at City Hall.
- B. A statement will be printed on the water bill advising water customers that the brochures are available at City Hall.
- C. A newspaper article targeting one particular household water using utility or item (dishwasher, shower, toilet, and laundry) will be published with methods for conserving water.
- D. A brochure will be mailed which correlates weather predictions to outside household use, car washing, lawn watering, and time of day.

New customers will be advised of the City of Mineral Wells' Conservation Program.

The City will make resource materials available from the Texas Water Development Board and other agencies or organizations, which develop desirable pertinent information or data.

4.2 PLUMBING CODES

The City of Mineral Wells has adopted the 2012 Edition of the International Plumbing Code in its entirety and the International Residential Code of 2012.

4.3 WATER CONSERVATION RETROFIT PROGRAM

Title V of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Subsection E, Chapter 421 requires businesses to stock and sell only plumbing fixtures, which conform to water saving performance standards. This will ensure plumbing fixtures installed during new construction and remodeling will be of the conservation-oriented type.

4.4 CONSERVATION ORIENTED WATER RATE STRUCTURE

The City has a non-declining block rate, which encourages water conservation. See Appendix A for the current fiscal year's water rate structure.

4.5 UNIVERSAL METERING AND METER REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT

The water treatment plant's Raw and Finished water master meters are calibrated once a year by an outside source to be within (plus or minus) 5% accuracy. Universal metering will be continued after adoption of this plan. Production (master) meters larger than one inch (1") will be tested, and subsequently retested each year. A testing program will be initiated for all meters 1" and smaller. Replacement will begin in areas with poor classification rated by meter readers. All meters 1" and smaller will be tested or replaced every ten years.

4.6 WATER CONSERVATION LANDSCAPING

Educational material will include information relating to low water use landscaping. The City reviews and approves subdivision plans. Sub-dividers and builders are provided with literature pertaining to low water demand landscaping items at the time building permits are acquired. Area nurseries will also be provided with mentioned literature.

4.7 WATER AUDITS AND LEAK DETECTION

Unaccounted water losses over the last five years amount to 7.88% of annual water production. Losses of this size are not uncommon in municipal water systems. The City's unaccounted for water losses are primarily due to distribution main breaks, small leaks that go unnoticed, inaccurate meters, and connections which bypass the City's meters. The City recently repaired the finished meter at the Hilltop Water Treatment Plant. The City has requested that all WSCs test their meters and repair or replace any that are found to be inaccurate. In addition to water audits, the City will continue to do the following:

- A. Evaluate the City's distribution system.
- B. Target replacement of water mains that are known to rupture.

The City of Mineral Wells will continue to monitor monthly consumption. Classification of meter condition as proposed in this plan will provide a reliable and effective leak detection program. The City is aware that assistance in leak detection surveys can be obtained from the Texas Water Development Board staff. The agency has portable leak detection equipment available for loan to cities and can provide personnel for demonstration of equipment and assist in planning survey programs.

Meter classification and aggressive enactment of a current detection program will enable the City staff to determine the need for seeking further assistance from use of electronic equipment. The current leak detection program consists of the following observations and activities:

- A. Beginning with fiscal year 2020, the City had a major overhaul of the meter reading department. During this period many standards were changed. Updates are as follows:
 - 1. Installation of 1,306 new meters.
 - 2. 99% of meters that were not located and had been averaged have been located.
 - 3. New meters are smart meters with Leak Detection Capabilities.
- B. New isolation valves have been installed to help isolate leaks faster.
- C. New SCADA has been installed, to help with monitoring storage tank levels and catch major leaks fast.

- D. All city employees are aware of the value of water, and anything suspicious is reported immediately.
- E. Continual checking and servicing of production, pumping, and storage facilities.
- F. Quick response by the City's Facility Maintenance Department and staff to reported problems.

In order to be within the allowable limits, the City's goal is to reduce the annual water loss by 0.25% per year for the next five (5) years.

4.8 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The City Manager, through his staff, will implement this plan in accordance with City Council adoption of the plan, adoption of Plumbing Codes and revisions thereof as set out in this plan. Enforcement will be provided by:

- A. No person shall knowingly or intentionally allow the use of water from the City of Mineral Wells for residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, governmental, or any other purpose in a matter contrary to any provision of this plan, or in an amount in excess of that permitted by the drought response stage in effect at the time pursuant to action taken by the City Manager or his/her designee, in accordance with provisions of this plan.
- B. Any person who violates this plan is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$0.00 and not more than \$500.00. Each day that one or more of the provisions in this plan is violated shall constitute a separate offense. If a person is convicted of three or more distinct violations of this plan, the City Manager shall, upon due notice to the customer, be authorized to discontinue water service to the premises where such violations occur. Services discontinued under such circumstances shall be restored only upon payment of a re-connection charge, hereby established at \$25.00 and any other costs incurred by the City of Mineral Wells in discontinuing service. In addition, not be repeated while the plan is in effect. Compliance with this plan may also be sought through injunctive relief in the district court.
- C. Any person, including a person classified as a water customer of the City of Mineral Wells, in apparent control of the property where a violation occurs or originates shall be presumed to be the violator, and proof that the violation occurred on the person's property shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the person in apparent control of the property committed the violation, but any such person shall have the right to show that he/she did not commit the violation. Parents shall be presumed to be responsible for violations of their minor children and proof that a violation, committed by a child, occurred on the property within the parents' control shall constitute a rebuttable presumption that the parent committed the violation, and such parent may be excused if he/she proves that he/she had previously directed the child not to use water as it was used in violation of this plan and that the parent could not have reasonably known of the violation.
- D. Any employee of the City of Mineral Wells, police officer, or other City of Mineral Wells employee designated by the City Manager may issue a citation to a person he/she reasonably believes to be in violation of this Ordinance. The citation shall be prepared in duplicate and shall contain the name and address of the alleged violator, if known, the offense charges, and shall direct him/her to appear in the City of Mineral Wells Municipal Court on the date shown on the citation for which the date shall not be less than three days nor more than five days from the date the citation was issued. The alleged violator shall be served a copy of the citation. Service of the citation shall be completed upon delivery of the citation to the alleged violator, to an agent or employee of the violator, or to a person over fourteen years of age who is a member of the violator's immediate family or is a resident of the violator's residence. The alleged violator shall appear in the City of Mineral Wells Municipal Court to enter a plea of guilty or not guilty for the violation of this plan. If the alleged violator fails to appear in the City of Mineral Wells Municipal Court, a warrant for his/her arrest may be issued. A summons to appear may be issued in lieu of an arrest warrant. These cases shall be expedited and given preferential setting in the City of Mineral Wells Municipal Court before all other cases.

4.9 RECYCLING AND REUSE

The City uses effluent at both wastewater plants for in-plant use, for example, chemical injections and wash down of clarifiers. The City will investigate other reuse and recycling programs where legally possible and economically feasible. The City has a TAC 210 Reuse Permit. The City has expanded its reuse program to provide water to contracted users. Currently the City is averaging 3,000,000 gallons per month in plant reuse and 215,000 gallons to contracted users.

4.10 CONTRACTS WITH OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

Any political subdivision and/or wholesale customer contracting for water from the City of Mineral Wells must have (1) an approved Texas Water Development Board Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan in effect or (2) must officially adopt applicable provisions of the City of Mineral Wells Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. Upon each threshold condition, the wholesale customer will be notified to implement its plan.

4.11 COORDINATE WITH REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUPS

The water service area of the City of Mineral Wells is located within the Brazos (G) and Region (C) Regional Water Planning areas, and the City of Mineral Wells has provided a copy of this Water Conservation Plan to the Brazos (G) and Region (C) Planning Groups.

4.12 ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

The City of Mineral Wells encourages its customers to conserve water and implement additional conservation strategies to meet targets and goals identified in the Water Conservation Plan. The City of Mineral Wells supports the implementation of water conservation strategies, including:

- a. Education and information programs.
- Promoting retrofit programs to improve water use efficiency in existing buildings.
- c. Promoting water recycling and reuse.
- d. Promoting water conserving landscaping; and
- e. Other water conservation practices identified by the customer.

4.13 REVIEW AND UPDATE OF WATER CONVERSATION PLAN

The City of Mineral Wells will review and update its Water Conservation Plan, as appropriate, at least every five years from April 1, 2024. The update will include an assessment of previous five-year and ten-year targets and any other new or updated information.



5.0 DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN/MEASURES

5.1 DECLARATION OF POLICY, PURPOSE, AND INTENT

The TCEQ requires that municipal public water suppliers file a Drought Contingency Plan pursuant to 30 TAC 288.20. In order to conserve the available water supply and/or to protect the integrity of water supply facilities, with particular regard for domestic water use, sanitation, and fire protection, and to protect and preserve public health, welfare, and safety and minimize the adverse impacts of water supply storage or other water supply emergency conditions, the City of Mineral Wells adopts the following Drought Contingency Plan in accordance with the TCEQ guidelines (the Plan).

5.2 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Continuing public education regarding the Drought Contingency Plan by means of media and water bills. The City of Mineral Wells, by means of the news media, provided an opportunity on November 28, 2000, for the public and wholesale water customers to offer input into the preparation of this Plan. This Plan was adopted at the December 5, 2000 City Council meeting, which was advertised accordingly, 72 hours prior to the meeting. The provisions of this Drought Contingency Plan shall apply to all customers utilizing water provided by the City of Mineral Wells.

5.3 WHOLESALE WATER CUSTOMER EDUCATION

The City of Mineral Wells will provide wholesale water customers with information about this Plan, including information about the conditions under which each stage of this Plan is to be initiated or terminated and the drought response measures to be implemented for each stage. This information will be provided by means of providing a copy of this Plan.

5.4 COORDINATION WITH REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUPS

The water service area of the City of Mineral Wells is located within the Brazos (G) and Region (C) Regional Water Planning areas, and the City of Mineral Wells has provided a copy of the Drought Contingency Plan to the Brazos (G) and Region (C) Planning Groups.

5.5 AUTHORIZATION

The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), is hereby authorized and directed to implement the applicable provisions of this Plan upon determination that such implementation is necessary to protect public health, safety, and welfare. The City Manager, or his/her designee, shall have the authority to initiate or terminate drought or other water supply emergency response measures as described in this Plan.

5.6 APPLICATION

The provisions of this Plan shall apply to all customers utilizing water provided by the City of Mineral Wells. The terms "person" and "customer" as used in this Plan include individuals, corporations, partnerships, associations, and all other legal entities. This plan will not be applicable to customers that have private water wells for irrigation.

5.7 TRIGGERING CRITERIA FOR INITIATION AND TERMINATION OF DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES

The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), shall monitor water supply and/or demand conditions on a weekly basis and shall determine when conditions warrant initiation or termination of each stage of this Plan. Customer notification of the initiation or termination of drought response stages will be made public to the City's website. The news media will also be informed. The triggering criteria described below are based on a statistical analysis of the vulnerability of the water source under drought conditions. Weather conditions are to be considered in drought classification determination. Predicted long, cold or dry periods are to be considered in impact analysis.

5.7 A. Full Pool

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that no water shortage condition exists when:

1. Water stored in Lake Palo Pinto is more than 20,270 acre-feet or 864 ft. MSL (74.5% of storage capacity).

5.7 B. Stage I - Mild Water Shortage

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that a mild water shortage condition exists when:

- 1. Water stored in Lake Palo Pinto is equal to or less than 20,270 acre-feet or 864 ft. MSL (74.5% of storage capacity) and more than 14,759 acre feet or 861 ft. MSL (54% of storage capacity).
- 2. When total daily water demand equals or exceeds 85% of the safe operating capacity of the system for three consecutive days or 90% of system capacity on a single day.
- 3. Any mechanical failure of pumping equipment which will require more than 24 hours to repair when no water shortage conditions exist.
- 4. Water availability is adequate but lake levels and/or reservoir capacities are low enough that some concern exist for future water supplies if the drought or emergency condition continues.

<u>Requirements for Termination</u> – Stage I of this Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of ten (10) consecutive days. The City of Mineral Wells will notify its customers via website and the news media of the termination of Stage I.

5.7 C. Stage II - Moderate Water Shortage

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that a moderate water shortage condition exists when:

- 1. Water stored in Lake Palo Pinto is equal to or less than 14,759 acre-feet or 861 ft. MSL (54% of storage capacity) and more than 10,317 acre feet or 858 ft. MSL (38% of storage capacity).
- 2. Average daily water consumption reaches 95% of the safe operating capacity of the system for three consecutive days.
- 3. Average daily water consumption will not enable storage levels to be maintained.
- 4. System demand exceeds available high service pump capacity.
- 5. Any mechanical failure of pumping equipment, which will require more than twelve (12) hours to repair if a mild drought is in progress.
- 6. Water availability from the lake is below normal and may continue to decline and cause moderate concern for both current and future supplies or water supplies have been reduced due to failure of a portion of the water supply system.

<u>Requirements for Termination</u> – Stage II of this Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of ten (10) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage II, Stage I becomes operative. The City of Mineral Wells will notify its customers and the news media of the termination of Stage II in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage I of this Plan.

5.7 D. Stage III - Severe Water Shortage

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that a severe water shortage condition exists when:

- 1. Water stored in Lake Palo Pinto is equal to or less than 10,317 acre-feet or 858 ft. MSL (38% of storage capacity) and more than 6,279 acre-feet or 854 MSL (23% of storage capacity).
- 2. Average daily water consumption reaches 100% of production capacity for a 24-hour period.
- 3. Any mechanical failure of pumping equipment, which will require more than twelve (12) hours to repair if a moderate drought is in progress.
- 4. Water availability from the lake is well below normal, may continue to decline, and additional reductions in current of future water supplies are evident or water supplies have been reduced due to failure of a portion of the water supply system.

<u>Requirements for Termination</u> – Stage III of this Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of ten (10) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage III, Stage II becomes operative. The City of Mineral Wells will notify its customers and the news media of the termination of Stage III in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage II of this Plan.

5.7 E. Stage IV - Critical Water Shortage/Conditions

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that a critical water shortage condition exists when:

- 1. Water stored in Lake Palo Pinto is equal to or less than 6,279 acre feet or 854 MSL (23% of storage capacity)
- 2. Average daily water consumption reaches 110% of production capacity for a 24-hour period.
- 3. Any mechanical failure of pumping equipment, which will require more than twelve (12) hours to repair if a severe drought is in progress.
- 4. Water availability from the lake is well below normal, may continue to decline, and additional reductions in current of future water supplies are evident or water supplies have been reduced due to failure of a portion of the water supply system.

<u>Requirements for Termination</u> – Stage IV of this Plan may be rescinded when all of the conditions listed as triggering events have ceased to exist for a period of ten (10) consecutive days. Upon termination of Stage IV, Stage III becomes operative. The City of Mineral Wells will notify its customers and the news media of the termination of Stage IV in the same manner as the notification of initiation of Stage III of this Plan.

5.7 F. <u>Emergency</u> Water Shortage/Conditions

The City of Mineral Wells will recognize that an emergency water shortage condition exists when:

- 1. Water system is contaminated either accidentally or intentionally. Emergency condition is reached immediately upon detection.
- 2. Water system failure from acts of God (tornadoes, hurricanes) or man. Emergency condition is reached immediately upon detection.
- 3. Any interruption of water service through main water supply lines for more than twelve (12) hours. Emergency condition is reached immediately upon detection.

- 4. There has been a failure in a major water supply source or system, such as the failure of a dam, storage reservoir, pump system, transmission pipelines, water treatment facility, major power failure, or natural disaster that causes a severe and prolonged limit on the ability of the water supply system to meet the water supply demands.
- 5. The source water supply has been contaminated.

Notification to the customers will be enacted at once to the City's website and periodic updates will be conveyed through the news media on progress of emergency water conditions.

<u>Requirements for Termination</u> – After the emergency situation has been resolved, the City of Mineral Wells will notify its customers and the news media of the termination of Stage IV.

5.8 <u>SPECIFIED, QUANTIFIED TARGETS FOR WATER USE REDUCTION DURING PERIODS OF WATER</u> <u>SHORTAGE AND DROUGHT</u>

- 5.8 A. Stage I Mild Water Shortage Goal: Achieve a 10% reduction in total use.
- 5.8 B. Stage II Moderate Water Shortage Goal: Achieve a 20% reduction in total use.
- 5.8 C. Stage III Severe Water Shortage Goal: Achieve a 25% reduction in total use.
- 5.8 D. Stage IV Critical Water Shortage/Conditions Goal: Achieve a 30% reduction in total use.

5.9 DROUGHT RESPONSE STAGES

5.9 A. Full Pool

- Goal:
 a. Educate public on efficient ways to conserve water.
- 2. Supply Management Measures:
 - a. Monitor Lake Palo Pinto Levels.
 - b. Option to blend Brazos River water.

5.9 B. Stage I - Mild Water Shortage

- 1. Goal:
 - a. Achieve a 10% reduction in total water use.
- 2. Supply Management Measures:
 - a. Monitor Lake Palo Pinto levels.
 - b. Release water only needed for treatment and TCEQ permit compliance.
 - c. Implement blending Brazos River water.
- 3. Demand Management Measures:

The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), on identifying mild water shortage conditions, shall initiate Stage I curtailment. Listed action is compulsory on users and is intended to restrict water use.

- a. Unattended landscape watering will be permitted two days per week:
 - o Addresses West of Highway 281 will be Monday and Friday.
 - o Addresses East of Highway 281 will be Tuesday and Saturday.
- b. No unattended landscape watering on any day between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- c. Hand watering of landscape, shrubs, gardens, and grass is permitted at any time.
- d. Soaker hoses and drip irrigation systems are permitted at any time.
- e. Draining, refilling and, maintaining swimming pool levels are permitted.
- f. Construction projects shall use reuse water.
- g. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will monitor system function and if necessary adjust hours for outside water use, depending upon system performance.
- h. Develop information center and designate an information person.
- i. The information center and publicity elements shall keep the public advised of curtailment status.
- j. Commercial users will be visited to ensure conservation has been initiated.
- k. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will initiate weekly contact with wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and the possibility of pro rata curtailment of water diversions and/or deliveries.
- 1. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will instruct wholesale water customers to initiate mandatory measures to reduce water use and implement Stage I of the customer's drought contingency plan.
- m. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will provide an update to the City's website for customers and to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and customer information on water conservation measures and practices.

5.9 C. Stage II - Moderate Water Shortage

- 1. Goal:
 - a. Achieve a 20% reduction in total water use.
- 2. Supply Management Measures:
 - a. Monitor Lake Palo Pinto levels.
 - b. Release water only needed for treatment and TCEQ permit compliance.
- 3. Demand Management Measures:

The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), shall initiate stage II curtailment upon existence of moderate conditions as determined.

- a. Unattended landscape watering will be permitted one day a week
 - o Addresses West of Highway 281 will be Monday.
 - o Addresses East of Highway 281 will be Tuesday.
- b. No unattended landscape watering on any day between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- c. Hand watering of landscape, shrubs, gardens, and grass is permitted before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m.
- d. Soaker hoses and drip irrigation systems are permitted at any time.
- e. Draining and refilling swimming pools will not be allowed.
- f. Maintaining swimming pool levels will be allowed.
- g. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and will instruct that wholesale water customers initiate additional mandatory measures to reduce water use and implement Stage II of customer's drought contingency plan.
- h. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will initiate preparations for implementation of pro rata curtailment of water diversion and/or delivery by preparing a monthly water usage allocation baseline for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section 5.10 of this Plan.

i. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will provide an update to the City's website for customers and to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

5.9 D. Stage III - Severe Water Shortage

1. Goal:

a. Achieve a 25% reduction in total water use.

- 2. Supply Management Measures:
 - a. Monitor Lake Palo Pinto levels.
 - b. Release water only needed for treatment and TCEQ permit compliance.
- 3. Demand Management Measures:
 - a. Only outside water use permitted will be through soaker hoses, drip irrigation, and animal use.
 - b. Commercial uses not listed will be controlled to the extent directed by the City Manager.

Businesses requiring water as a basic function of the business, such as nurseries, commercial car washes, laundromats, high-pressure water cleaning services, etc., will obtain written permission from the City Manager for intended water use.

The System Priority for water service shall be made on the following basis:

1.	Hospitals	3.	Schools	5.	Commercial
2.	Residential	4.	Industrial	6.	Recreational

- c. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will initiate pro rata curtailment of water diversion and/or deliveries for each wholesale customer according to the procedures specified in Section 5.10 of this Plan.
- d. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will contact wholesale water customers to discuss water supply and/or demand conditions and will instruct that wholesale water customers initiate additional mandatory measures to reduce water use and implement Stage III of customer's drought contingency plan.
- e. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), will provide an update to the City's website for customers and to news media with information regarding current water supply and/or demand conditions, projected water supply and demand conditions if drought conditions persist, and consumer information on water conservation measures and practices.

5.9 E. Stage IV - Critical Water Shortage/Conditions

- 1. Goal:
 - a. Achieve a 30% reduction in total water use.
- 2. Supply Management Measures:
 - a. Monitor Lake Palo Pinto levels.
 - b. Release water only needed for treatment and TCEQ permit compliance.
 - c. Implementation of RO Facilities.
- 3. Demand Management Measures
 - a. Soaker hoses or drip irrigation will be permitted on Tuesday and Friday.
 - b. No other outdoor water use; animal use is exempt.
 - c. All conditions of Stage III apply.

5.9 F. Emergency Water Shortage/Conditions

Whenever emergency water shortage conditions exist as defined in Section 5.7 F. of this Plan, the City Manager, or his/her designee(s), shall:

- 1. Assess the severity of the problem and identify the actions needed and time required to solve the problem.
- Inform the utility director or other responsible official of each wholesale water customer by telephone
 or in person and suggest actions, as appropriate, to alleviate problems and notification to the public
 to reduce water use until service is restored.
- 3. If appropriate, notify city, county, and/or state emergency response officials for assistance.
- 4. Undertake necessary actions, including repairs and/or clean up as needed.
- 5. Prepare a post-event assessment report on the incident and critique of emergency response procedures and actions.

5.10 PRO RATA WATER ALLOCATION

In the event that the triggering criteria specified in Section 5.7 of this Plan for Stage III – Severe Water Shortage Conditions have been met, the City Manager, or his/her designee(s), is hereby authorized to initiate allocation of water supplies on a pro rata basis in accordance with Texas Water Code Section 11.039 and according to the following water allocation policies and procedures:

- 1 A wholesale customer's monthly allocation shall be a percentage of the customer's water usage baseline. The percentage will be set by resolution of the City Council based on the City Manager's, or his/her designee(s), assessment of the severity of the water shortage condition and the need to curtail water diversions and/or deliveries and may be adjusted periodically by resolution of the City Council, as conditions warrant. Once pro rata allocation is in effect, water diversions by or deliveries to each wholesale customer shall be limited to the allocation established for each month.
- 2. A monthly water usage allocation shall be established by the City Manager, or his/her designee(s), for each wholesale customer. The wholesale customer's water usage baseline will be computed on the average water usage by month for the five-year period as shown in the example given below. If the wholesale water customer's billing history is less than five years, the monthly average for the period for which there is a record shall be used for any monthly period for which no billing history exist.
- 3. The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), shall provide notice, by certified mail, to each wholesale customer informing them of their monthly water usage allocations and shall notify the news media and the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality upon initiation of pro rata allocation.
- 4. Upon request of the customer or at the initiative of the City Manager, or his/her designee(s), the allocation may be reduced or increased, if, (1) the designated period does not accurately reflect the wholesale customer's normal water usage; (2) the customer agrees to transfer part of its allocation to another wholesale customer; or (3) other objective evidence demonstrates that the designated allocation is inaccurate under present conditions. A customer may appeal an allocation established hereunder to the City Council of the City of Mineral Wells.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	SUM	AVG.	Allocation Percentage	Monthly Allocation
Jan	23,104,600	27,661,800	29,339,500	23,307,500	103,413,400	25,853,350	75%	19,390,013
Feb	20,621,300	21,725,600	24,513,100	25,933,200	92,793,200	23,198,300	75%	17,398,725
Mar	23,415,600	26,322,100	24,869,200	25,585,700	100,192,600	25,048,150	75%	18,786,113
Apr	24,762,900	22,472,200	23,909,700	27,803,500	98,948,300	24,737,075	75%	18,552,806
May	32,132,900	31,658,200	21,094,500	35,797,900	120,683,500	30,170,875	75%	22.628.156
Jun	27,106,000	43,699,000	24,991,000	41,236,600	137,032,600	34.258,150	75%	25,693,613
Jul	33,059,400	46,095,500	36,322,000	43,370,800	158,847,700	39,711,925	75%	29,783,944
Aug	31,260,300	35,804,100	38,544,000	50,466,100	156,074,500	39,018,625	75%	29,263,969
Sep	35,075,800	28,134,600	36,466,400	34,965,100	134,641,900	33,660,475	75%	25,245,356
Oct	36,631,700	26,775,600	33,472,400	37,863,900	134,743,600	33,685,900	75%	25,264,425
Nov	27,235,300	24,703,400	28,051,400	27,560,100	107,550,200	26,887,550	75%	20,165,663
Dec	26,407,800	22,885,800	25,858,400	28,313,300	103,465,300	25,866,325	75%	19,399,744
Total	340,813,600	357,937,900	347,431,600	402,203,700	1,448,386,800	362,096,700		271,572,525

Example Calculation of Monthly Allocation for a Hypothetical Wholesale Water Customer

* UNITS IN MILLION GALLONS

5.11 PROVISION FOR CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESSIVE CUSTOMER

The City of Mineral Wells will include a provision in every wholesale water contract entered into or renewed after adoption of this plan, including contract extensions, that in case of a shortage of water resulting from drought, the water to be distributed shall be divided in accordance with Texas Water Code Section 11.039.

5.12 ENFORCEMENT

During any period when pro rata allocation of available water supplied is in effect, wholesale customers shall pay the following surcharge on excess water diversions and/or deliveries.

- 1. 1.5 times the normal water charge per thousand gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation up through 5% above the monthly allocation.
- 2. 2.0 times the normal water charge per thousand gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation from 5% through 10% above the monthly allocation.
- 3. 2.5 times the normal water charge per thousand gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries in excess of the monthly allocation from 10% through 15% above the monthly allocation.
- 4. 3.0 times the normal water charge per thousand gallons for water diversions and/or deliveries more than 15% above the monthly allocation.
- 5. The above surcharge shall be cumulative.

5.13 VARIANCES

The City Manager, or his/her designee(s), may, in writing, grant a variance to the pro rata water allocation policies provided by this Plan if it is determined that failure to grant such variance would cause an emergency condition adversely affecting the public health, welfare, or safety and if one or more of the following conditions are met.

- 1. Compliance with this Plan cannot be technically accomplished during the duration of the water supply shortage or other condition for which this Plan is in effect.
- 2. Alternate methods can be implemented which will achieve the same level of reduction in water use.

Customers requesting a variance from the provisions of this Plan shall file a petition for variance with the City Manager within five days after pro rata allocation has been invoked. All petitions for variance shall be reviewed by the City Manager, or his/her designee(s), and shall include the following:

- a. Name and address of the petitioner(s).
- b. Detailed statement with supporting data and information as to how the pro rata allocation of water under the policies and procedures established in the Plan adversely affects the petitioner or what damage or harm will occur to the petitioner or others if petitioner complies with the Ordinance.
- c. Description of the relief requested.
- d. Period of time for which the variance is sought.
- e. Alternative measures the petitioner is taking or purpose to take to meet the intent of this Plan and the compliance date.
- f. Other pertinent information.

A variance granted by the City Manager shall be subject to the following conditions, unless waived or modified by the City Council:

- 1. Variances granted shall include a timetable for compliance.
- 2. Variances granted shall expire when this Plan is no longer in effect, unless the petitioner has failed to meet specified requirements.

No variance shall be retroactive or otherwise justify any violation of this Plan occurring prior to the issuance of the variance.

5.14 SEVERABILITY

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City of Mineral Wells that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Plan are severable and, if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Plan shall be declared unconstitutional by valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Plan, since the same would not have been enacted by the City of Mineral Wells without the incorporation into this Plan of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentences, paragraph, or section.

5.15 INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The public will be made aware of conservation and drought conditions by notifications on the City's website. During periods of drought conditions, Stage I conditions will establish an information center, an information person, and utilize the most effective methods developed for information dissemination daily.

The observation of information distribution will be reviewed when this Plan is updated every five years, to ensure that the City efficiently reaches its customers with the most current status of the conservation and drought conditions.

5.16 INITIATION PROCEDURES

Initiation procedures may be employed at any period as described in this Plan. Each condition will meet with corresponding action by the City Manager and the City Manager will affect curtailment, give notice, publicize, and follow with implementation of curtailment.

5.17 MODIFICATION, DELETION, AND AMENDMENT

The City Manager can add, delete, and amend rules, regulations and implementation as needed/desired, and shall advise the City Council of such amendments at its regular or called meeting.

5.18 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

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Adoption of this Plan, Drought Contingency Ordinance, and Plumbing Code Ordinance will enable the City to implement and carry out enforcement of enacted ordinances to make this Plan effective and workable.

5.19 <u>NOTIFICATION OF TCEQ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF MANDATORY</u> <u>PROVISION OF THE DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN</u>

The City of Mineral Wells shall notify the Executive Director of TCEQ within five business days of the implementation of any mandatory provisions of its Drought Contingency Plan.

5.20 REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

Per TCEQ rules, the City of Mineral Wells will review and update as appropriate, the Drought Contingency Plan, at least every five years, based on new or updated information, such as adoption or revision of the Brazos G and/or Region C Regional Water Plan.

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