

**Minutes of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group
May 6, 2021**

Chair Andruss called the virtual meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., held through the GoToMeeting online platform.

24 of the 31 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

Voting Members Present:

Tim Andruss	Dianne Savage
John Byrum	Steve Graham
Curt Campbell	Greg Sengelmann
Rey Chavez	Mitchell Sowards
Charlie Flatten	Heather Sumpter
Tom Jungman	Ian Taylor
Russel Labus	Dianne Wassenich
Glenn Lord	Adam Yablonski
Gary Middleton	
Dan Meyer	
Darren Thompson for Robert Puente	
Jonathan Stinson for Kevin Patteson	
Humberto Ramos	
Weldon Riggs	
Roland Ruiz	

Voting Members Absent:

Pat Calhoun
Will Conley
Vic Hilderbran
Steve Ramsey
Thomas Taggart

Non-Voting Members Present:

Elizabeth McCoy, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Iliana Delgado, TCEQ
Ronald Fieseler, Region K Liaison
Marty Kelly, TX Department of Parks and Wildlife
Jami McCool, TX Dept. of Agriculture
Don McGhee, Region M Liaison
Joseph McDaniel, Region J Liaison
Carl Crull, Region N Liaison
Rusty Ray, Texas Soil & Water Cons. Board

Beginning with the February 11, 2016, meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group, all recordings are available for the public at www.regionltexas.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: (9:30 AM) ROLL CALL

Kendall Hayes, San Antonio River Authority, called the role, and confirmed a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 5, 2020 MEETING OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (SCTRWPG)

Mr. Lord motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Graham seconded, and the motion was passed

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: STATUS OF EDWARDS AQUIFER HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (EAHCP), SCOTT STORMENT

Mr. Storment gave a brief update on the San Marcos River. The River went into Condition M, the flow has dropped below 120 CFS, which impacts downstream flow. They notified US Fish and Wildlife that the river has reached Condition M. Anticipate that the numbers will return to normal soon, but for now the condition is active. Condition M will not be lifted until CFS returns to 120.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: STATUS OF GUADALUPE, SAN ANTONIO, MISSION, AND ARANSAS RIVERS AND MISSION, COPANO, ARANSAS, AND SAN ANTONIO BAYS BASIN AND BAY STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE (BBASC) AND EXPERT SCIENCE TEAM (BBEST)

Mr. Mast, San Antonio River Authority, provided an update on BBASC. On April 1st, TWDB distributed a draft statewide synthesis available for public comment. SARA distributed to BBASC to request public comments. Comments were accumulated and submitted on May 3rd for TWDB review. TWDB will distribute a final report in the summer.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) COMMUNICATIONS.

Ms. McCoy, TWDB, provided an update. Amendments were made to TAC Chapters and will be considered for adoption on May 6th. TWDB is in the process of drafting the 2022 State Water Plan. TWDB's Surface Water Division is conducting a study on the reservoir firm yield. Results will be submitted to the Planning Group for consideration. TWDB's website has been updated to include Sixth Cycle documents and resources as well as previous cycles' information.

Chair Andruss requested an update on TWDB's pending requirements for Regional Liaisons. Ms. McCoy will research further and provide an update.

Mr. Daniel Collazo, TWDB, presented on Statewide Survey of Aquifer Suitability for Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Aquifer Recharge (AR). Texas Legislature directed TWDB to

survey ASR and AR potential statewide. TWDB used these surveys to create a Public Data Display and interactive map.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Andruss informed the group that Alan Cockerell has resigned from the Planning Group.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING POTENTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE REGION L BYLAWS ARTICLE V, SECTION 4

Ms. Heller, San Antonio River Authority, proposed an amendment to Article V, Section 4. This bylaw currently states that when replacing a voting member, public notice must be posted in a newspaper. Ms. Heller recommended an amendment to instead require public notice on websites and through county clerk's offices.

Mr. Byrum motioned to approve the amendment. Mr. Chavez seconded, and the motion was passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING REPRESENTATIVE VACANCIES OF SCTRWPG

Ms. Heller notified the Planning Group that the list of vacancies includes those under the categories of: Counties, Industries, Environmental, Electric Generation, Water Distribution, Water Utilities, Water Authorities, Municipalities, Agricultural.

Chair Andruss requested that a list be sent to members for their distribution. Mr. Middleton supported this request and requested further information on the number of nominations already received. Ms. Wassenich requested information on which existing positions will not be re-upped.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: SOLICITATION FOR TECHNICAL CONSULTANT UPDATE BY POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY

Ms. Heller provided information on the new procurement process for the Technical Consultant opening. Holding this process in open meetings would be subject to the Open Meetings Act, if a quorum was present, thereby making the process public for contractors' rivals' review. The procurement process will be coordinated by the San Antonio River Authority. A Scoring Committee will be created with 2 members of the San Antonio River Authority and 2-3 members from the Planning Group. Therefore, the process will not be subject to the Open Meetings Act.

Chair Andruss confirmed that the Scoring Committee would only make a recommendation to the Planning Group and not a decision. He also noted that the San Antonio River Authority is comfortable with this process and should therefore be adhered to. Chair Andruss confirmed that the information from the procurement process will be confidential until the recommendation is presented to the Planning Group.

Ms. Heller notified the Group that the Regional Flood Planning Group is under an identical process and has seen success with this process.

Mr. Thompson asked for confirmation that the Scoring Committee will only be scoring the RFQ's and making a final recommendation to the Planning Group and not making a decision itself.

Mr. Byrum shared concerns with the number of representatives in the Scoring Committee not reflecting the size of the Planning Groups. He proposed a Committee of 7 and not 5.

Ms. Wassenich noted that historically there have been a low number of applicants and that the proposed plan would benefit the Planning Group by bringing additional applicants.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT PROCUREMENT

Mr. Ramos nominated himself to serve. Mr. Flatten nominated himself to serve. Mr. Byrum nominated himself to serve.

Mr. Thompson requested that the Committee provide 5 members to the Scoring Committee and not 3.

Ms. Heller reminded the Planning Group that over 3 members would qualify as a quorum and would violate the Open Meetings Act. Chair Andruss requested consensus that the Planning Group move forward with only supplying 3 members to the Scoring Committee. Mr. Lord supported the movement.

Mr. Byrum motioned to approve the nominations. Mr. Lord seconded, and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING PRE-PLANNING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Ms. Heller spoke to TWDB's requirement to hold a pre-planning meeting. It requires a presentation by the TWDB. Ms. Heller proposed that this presentation and pre-planning meeting be held during the regularly scheduled August quarterly Planning Group meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING REGIONAL LIAISON NOMINATIONS FOR REGION N

Ms. Heller explained that the planning group needed to formally nominate Mr. Byrum, who has been informally serving as the Region N liaison.

Mr. Thompson motioned to approve the nominations. Mr. Yablonski seconded, and the motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: REGIONAL LIAISON UPDATES

Chair Andruss, Region P liaison, stated that their next meeting is to be determined.

Ms. Wassenich, Region K liaison, stated that their next meeting is in July. Mr. Flatten also covers Region K.

Mr. Yablonski, Region J liaison, stated that Region J is in a similar process to procure a technical consultant. They will meet next week.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: STATUS OF REGION 12, SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP, AND REGION 11, GUADLUPE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

Ms. Heller provided an update on Region 12. Region 12 using the same process to procure a technical consultant. They are focusing on flood mitigation in the region.

Ms. Willis provided an update on Region 11. Their technical consultant has been chosen. They will return to in-person meetings in July. The website is up and running at guadaluperfpg.org

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: PUBLIC AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Ms. Heller stated that the next meeting will be August 5th at 9:30 AM. Agenda items will include the formal technical consultant recommendation, TWDB's pre-planning meeting, and formal nominations for the vacancies.

Chair Andruss requested that individuals make their preferences clear on in-person versus virtual meetings.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 18: ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.