

Meeting Minutes
Region 6 San Jacinto Flood Planning Group Meeting
October 28, 2020
9:00AM
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) /Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Elisa Macia Donovan	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Alisa Max	<i>Counties</i>	X
Paul E. Lock	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	X
Sarah P. Bernhardt	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
Russ A. Poppe	<i>Flood districts</i>	—
Timothy E. Buscha	<i>Industries</i>	X
Stephen Costello	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Gene Fisseler	<i>Public</i>	X
Matthew Barrett	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Jenna Armstrong	<i>Small business</i>	X
Alia Vinson	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Todd Burrer	<i>Water utilities</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Adam Terry	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Natalie Johnson	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Kristin Lambrecht	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Joel Clark	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Ellen Kinsey	General Land Office	X
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Kelly Mills	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **11**

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 12: **7**

Other Meeting Attendees: **

James Bronikowski, TWDB (Meeting Facilitator)

Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member

Matt Nelson, TWDB

Reem Zoun, TWDB

Morgan White, TWDB

Megan Ingram, TWDB

Richard Bagans TWDB

Annette Mass, TWDB

Anna Gonzalez, TWDB

Hayley Gillespie, TWDB

Temple McKinnon, TWDB
Sephra Thomas, TWDB
Lann Bookout, TWDB
Ryke Moore, TWDB
Robert (Bill) Adams
Rebecca Andrews
Sally Bakko
Chad Ballard
Terry Barr
Amber Batson
Alan Black
Michael Bloom
Jill Boullion
Justin Bower
David Brown
Tiffany Cartwright
Stephanie Castillo
Susan Chadwick
Matt Chastain
Diane Cooper
Camille Cotsakis
Jennifer Eckhart
Michelle Ellis
Mark Evans
Alem Gebriel
Charles Gilman
Danielle Goshen
Stephanie Griffin
Tina Hendon
Rachel Herr
Olive Hershey
Jace Houston

Emily Johnson
Amin Kiaghadi
Lisa Lattu
Leigh Lauderdale
Alan Leonard
Jean Mann
Caroline McCabe
Claudia Morales
John Mudd
Bruce Nichols
William Perego
Clarissa Perez
Mike Personett
Michael Reedy
Paul Robinson
Ryan Robol
Andres Salazar
Jean Schlitzkus
Todd Stephens
Carson Stokes
Cory Stull
Jeff Taebel
Andrew Vree
Brandon Wade
T. Foster Webb
Jennifer White
Hector Olmos
Mary Jane Phillips
Natalie Johnson
Shaun Miller
Aaron Tuley
Deborah Detering

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the GoToWebinar meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

James Bronikowski called the meeting to order at 9:06AM. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established prior to calling the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions

James Bronikowski and Director Kathleen Jackson welcomed members to the meeting. James Bronikowski provided meeting facilitation information and instructions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions

Each present voting and non-voting member of the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation

James Bronikowski and Reem Zoun presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion of group bylaws and consider adopting group bylaws

James Bronikowski presented the model bylaws provided by the TWDB for the RFPG to consider adopting and opened discussion on adopting group bylaws.

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace "Model RFPG" with "Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG" and non-substantive formatting changes were approved.

Additionally, the members discussed and made edits to the model bylaws regarding the following topics: attendance requirements, designating alternates, and officer selection.

The members discussed conflict of interest, designating non-voting member liaisons to coordinate with neighboring RFPGs, and the requirement that written notice of the meeting to select officers be sent to all members of the RFPG thirty calendar days prior to the meeting. No changes were made regarding these topics.

A motion was made by Alia Vinson to adopt the bylaws, with changes as noted in discussion.

The motion was seconded by Gene Fisseler.

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 11 Ayes and 0 Nays.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Consider nominating and electing regional flood planning group Chair or Interim Chair

James Bronikowski described the Chair/Interim Chair election process and opened the floor to nominations for the Chair or Interim Chair position.

A nomination of Russ Poppe as the Chair was made by Steve Costello. The nomination was seconded by Jenna Armstrong.

The members discussed the possibility of selecting an Interim Chair.

A nomination of Alia Vinson as the Chair was made by Elisa Donovan.

Alia Vinson declined the nomination of Chair and expressed her willingness to serve as Interim Chair.

Alia Vinson expressed support for Russ Poppe as Chair.

A nomination of Gene Fisseler as the Interim Chair was made by Sarah Bernhardt. Gene Fisseler expressed his willingness to serve as Interim Chair.

The nominations were voted on in the order received.

The vote to select Russ Poppe as the Chair of Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG passed by a vote of 10 Ayes and 0 Nays. Sarah Bernhardt abstained from the vote.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Consider selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the regional flood planning group

James Bronikowski listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:

Houston-Galveston Area Council
San Jacinto River Authority

Alisa Max introduced the interest of Harris County in serving as planning group sponsor.

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments.

Jeff Taebel (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council's interest in serving as planning group sponsor.

James Bronikowski opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG.

The members discussed selecting an entity to be the planning group sponsor and the potential for additional entities to participate in other ways besides serving as planning group sponsor. No action was taken.

The members decided to include discussion of ways that additional entities can participate as an agenda item for the next RFPG meeting.

Matthew Barrett expressed willingness on behalf of the San Jacinto River Authority to serve as planning group sponsor.

A motion was made by Alia Vinson to select Harris County as the designated planning group sponsor for the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG.

Timothy Buscha seconded the motion.

The vote to select Harris County as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 10 Ayes and 0 Nays. Alisa Max abstained from the vote.

After noting the time, the members decided to move to Agenda Item No. 11 to receive general public comments. The members noted that they would return to Agenda Items No. 8, No. 9, and No. 10 as time allowed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments.

TWDB staff shared written comment submitted by Michael Bloom congratulating the RFPG members.

TWDB staff shared written comment submitted by Jill Boullion regarding counties wholly located within the Region 6 San Jacinto flood planning region. Jill Boullion gave public comment regarding counties wholly located within the Region 6 San Jacinto flood planning region.

Brandon Wade gave public comment regarding his interest in being considered as an additional voting member.

With the end of public comment, the members returned to Agenda Items No. 8, No. 9, and No. 10.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3)

Matt Nelson described existing notice requirements and opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

James Bronikowski opened discussion on consideration of additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3).

The members discussed current notice requirements. No action was taken.

James Bronikowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG

James Bronikowski opened discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

No points nor comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

A motion was made by Timothy Buscha to authorize the RFPG sponsor, Harris County, to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Stephen Costello.

The vote to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 11 Ayes and 0 Nays.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region

James Bronikowski opened the floor to public comments.

Jeff Taebel (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council's interest in serving as either an additional voting member or additional non-voting member.

Michael Bloom (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council's interest in participating.

James Bronikowski opened discussion regarding additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region.

The members noted that due to public notice requirements, action could not be taken on this item during this first meeting.

The members discussed the importance of adding membership and encouraged proactive and purposeful consideration of this topic at future meetings. No action was taken.

The members requested that TWDB assist in organizing information regarding other individuals and entities interested in participating.

The members discussed the RFPG's ability to create working groups, committees, and subcommittees during the regional flood planning process.

No action was taken. James Bronikowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 10.

The members moved to Agenda No. 12 since they had already completed Agenda Item No. 11.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

James Bronikowski opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

After discussion, Alisa Max stated that the next meeting will be on December 10, 2020 at 9:00AM. Potential agenda items include additional membership, designation of liaisons with neighboring RFPGs, logistics of planning meeting spaces, status of contracts with TWDB, the RFQ/RFP process, selection of officers and executive committee members, discussion of regular meeting times, and how to accept written public comment, information requests, and data contributions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Adjourn

Jenna Armstrong made a motion to adjourn.

The motion was seconded by Alisa Max.

The motion to adjourn was passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 12:16PM by James Bronikowski.

Approved by the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG at a meeting held on December 10, 2020.

Alisa Max

Alisa Max, SECRETARY

Russ Poppe

Russ Poppe, CHAIR