

Meeting Minutes
Region 6 San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group
October 13, 2022 at 9:00 AM
Hybrid Meeting | Virtual Registration: <https://bit.ly/3QXSZx1>
Houston Advanced Research Center: 8801 Gosling Rd., The Woodlands, TX 77381

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u> <u>(Executive Committee role)</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () /</u> <u>Alternate Present (*)</u>
Timothy E. Buscha	Industries (Chair)	X (In-Person)
Alia Vinson	Water Districts (Vice Chair)	X (In-Person)
Erwin Burden	Counties (Secretary)	X (In-Person)
Gene Fisseler	Public (At-Large member)	X
Matthew Barrett	River Authorities (At-Large member)	*Briana Gallagher
Elisa Macia Donovan	Agricultural Interests	*Mary Anne Piacentini
Connie Pothier	Small Business	X
Paul E. Lock	Electric Generating Utilities	X
Rachel Powers	Environmental Interests	X
Stephen Costello	Municipalities	X
Vacant	Flood Districts	*Dr. Tina Petersen (In-Person)
Todd Burrer	Water Utilities	
Brian Maxwell	Coastal Communities	X *Bob Kosar
Christina Quintero	Public	X
Neil Gaynor	Upper Watershed	X (In-Person)

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent () /</u> <u>Alternate Present (*)</u>
Hope Zubek	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	
Michelle Ellis	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
Kristin Lambrecht	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Joel Clark	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	*Brian Koch (In-Person)
Karla Freyre Stripling	Texas General Land Office	X
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board	X (In-Person)
Melinda Johnston	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Justin Bower	Houston-Galveston Area Council	
Ellie Alkhoury	Texas Department of Transportation	*Alfred Garcia
Tom Heidt	Port Houston	
Michael Turco	Harris-Galveston Subsidence District	
Brandon Wade	Region H Regional Water Planning Group	
Sally Bakko	Gulf Coast Protection District	X
Eric Stevens	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	*Lisa Mairs

<u>Liaisons from RFPG</u>	<u>Regional Flood Planning Group</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent () /</u> <u>Alternate Present (*)</u>
Todd Burrer	Trinity Region RFPG	
Stephen Costello	Neches Region RFPG	X
Michael Turco	Lower Brazos RFPG	

<u>Liaisons from Other Entities</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Mark Vogler	Lower Brazos RFPG	X
Scott Harris	Trinity Region RFPG	
Liv Haselbach	Neches Region RFPG	
Brandon Wade	Region H Regional Water Planning Group	

<u>Technical Consultant Team Members</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Cory Stull	Freese and Nichols Inc.	X (In-Person)
Maggie Puckett	Freese and Nichols Inc.	X (In-Person)
Hayes McKibben	Freese and Nichols Inc.	
Andrew Moore	Halff, Associates	
Jacob Torres	Torres & Associates	X
Evan Adrian	Torres & Associates	X
Rachel Herr	Halff, Associates	X (In-Person)
Mariah Najmuddin	Hollaway Environmental + Communications	X

<u>Project Sponsor</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Fatima Berrios	Harris County Engineering Department	X (In-person)
Claudia Garcia	Harris County Engineering Department	X (In-person)

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates that were present: 14

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 15: 8

Attendees:**

In Person: Brian Edmondson (FNI), Auggie Campbell

Remote:

Ataul Hannan

Caitlin Heller

Dena Green

John Graziano

Marcus Stuckett

Peggy Zahler

Susan Chadwick

Wendy Gordon

***Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information on the WebEx meeting registration.*

All meeting materials were available for the public at: [Meetings - San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning \(sanjacintofloodplanning.org\)](http://sanjacintofloodplanning.org)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Mr. Buscha called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Garcia took attendance. A quorum was determined to be present.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items (Limit of 3 Minutes Per Person)

Mr. Buscha opened the floor for registered public comments. None were heard.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Texas Water Development Board Update

Mr. Buscha yielded the floor to Ms. Ingram for TWDB updates. Ms. Ingram stated that technical comments on the draft plan were close to being distributed. Ms. Ingram also requested feedback on the stakeholder survey and asked the stakeholders to distribute as necessary.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Approval of Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2022

Mr. Buscha opened the floor for comments on the September 8, 2022 meeting minutes. Ms. Gallagher noted minor comments on the minutes. Discussion ensued. Ms. Vinson moved to approve the minutes, as revised. Mr. Burden seconded. Mr. Buscha called for a vote and Mr. Costello and Dr. Gaynor abstained. Mr. Buscha stated the motion to approve the September 8th meeting minutes passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Announcement of New Alternate Members and New Non-Voting Members

Ms. Berrios stated there were no new announcements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Liaison Reports Pertaining to Other Region(s) Progress and Status:

- a. **Trinity Region** – Mr. Burrer was unavailable to give an update.
- b. **Neches Region** – Mr. Costello updated the Neches Region was aligned with the Region 6 timeline working on Task 12.
- c. **Lower Brazos Region** – Mr. Vogler was unavailable to give an update.
- d. **Region H Water** – Mr. Wade was unavailable to give an update.
- e. **Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD)** – Ms. Bakko provided an update about the authorization of the Coastal Texas Study project. Ms. Bakko gave an update regarding the GCPD's trip to Washington DC highlighting the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 that will be presented to the Texas Legislature.

Mr. Buscha visited with the technical consultant for Region 15 (San Antonio River Region) and stated they were aligned with Region 6 timeline of the public comment window of the draft plan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Update from the Project Sponsor and/or Executive Committee on the solicitation process for the Flood Districts Voting Member vacancy

Mr. Buscha updated the group on the solicitation process of the Flood Districts voting member vacancy. Mr. Buscha stated that the Executive Committee deliberated the nominees and made a unanimous recommendation for Dr. Tina Petersen to serve as the voting member representing Flood Districts. Discussion ensued. Ms. Vinson moved to fill the Flood Districts voting member position with Dr. Petersen and Mr. Fisseler seconded. Mr. Buscha asked for comments and additional minor comments were made. Mr. Buscha called for a vote for approval of Dr. Petersen to represent Flood Districts and Mr. Buscha stated the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Presentation and Update from the Technical Consultant on the development of the Regional Flood Plan; discussion, and possible action from the RFPG as it pertains to the prioritization framework for FMEs under Task 12

Mr. Stull provided a brief overview of the status of the draft Regional Flood Plan (RFP). Ms. Puckett gave an overview regarding recent efforts of the draft RFP comment period and ongoing efforts to gather public comments. In addition, she mentioned ongoing efforts for updating the SJRFPG website.

Ms. Puckett went over comments received to the draft RFP and the Technical Consultant's response to the comments. Discussion ensued. Mr. Stull stated that the Technical Consultants would be drafting responses to the comments made during the public comment period. Ms. Puckett gave an overview of the amended plan status and the outreach to sponsors.

Ms. Puckett gave an overview of the draft Prioritization Ranking of FMEs list and process. Ms. Puckett stated that the RFPG was to formally refine the list of draft prioritization framework to select the FMEs that could be elevated to FMPs. Ms. Puckett reviewed the criteria and the explained the scoring of each category. Mr. Stull reminded the group that the Technical Committee had an opportunity to refine the draft prioritization list. Ms. Puckett mentioned that an update to the meeting presentation regarding the *Level of Effort* category was made, since the materials were posted. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Puckett reviewed comments received for consideration on the draft prioritization ranking. Discussion ensued. A public comment was allowed under Agenda Item No. 9 but recorded under Agenda Item No. 16 – Public Comments.

Mr. Buscha tabled this item for the next RFPG meeting in November so the Technical Consultant can compile final feedback. No action will be taken on this item.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Update from the Technical Consultant and Public Engagement Committee on the outcome of the September Public Open House style meetings

Ms. Najmuddin offered a formal recap of the public engagement meeting formats and an overview of comments received. Ms. Najmuddin reviewed considerations for future public engagement activities for the RFP.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Approval and Certification of Administrative Expenses Incurred by the Project Sponsor for the Development of Regional Flood Plan

Mr. Buscha confirmed the Project Sponsor expenses. Mr. Costello moved to approve the Project Sponsor expenses and Dr. Gaynor seconded. A vote was taken to approve the Project Sponsor Administrative Expenses and Mr. Buscha stated the motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Presentation of 2022 Planning Group Key Dates and Deadlines:

- a. Upcoming Planning Schedule Milestones
- b. Next SJRFPG Planning Meeting to be held on November 10, 2022

Mr. Buscha stated that the RFPG would be making a decision on the tabled Agenda Item No. 9 at the November 10 meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Update and Discussion Pertaining to In-Person RFPG Meeting Location(s)

Mr. Buscha stated that the meeting would continue to be at HARC through the end of the year. The Project Sponsor will continue to search for a venue closer to central Harris County with public transportation access.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Reminder Regarding Planning Group Member Training on Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act

Mr. Buscha reminded the group that anyone who hasn't completed the training needs to do so and submit records to the Project Sponsor.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Buscha identified the following items for the next agenda:

- Agenda Item No. 9 under Task 12 will be an action item on the November 10 meeting agenda

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Public Comments – Limit 3 Minutes Per Person

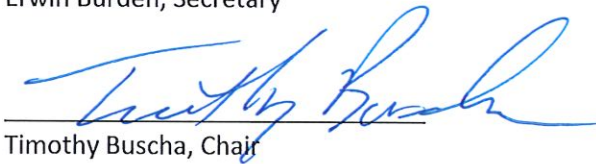
Mr. Buscha opened the floor to public comments and no additional public comments were made at this time. The record shall reflect that Mr. Graziano, a member of the public, made a comment regarding eminent domain under Agenda Item No. 9.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: Adjourn

Mr. Buscha announced the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.



Erwin Burden, Secretary



Timothy Buscha, Chair