

Meeting Minutes
Region 6 San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group
November 10, 2022 at 9:00 AM
Hybrid Meeting | Virtual Registration: <https://bit.ly/3TCCesZ>
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) | |
| 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) | X |
| Elisa Macia Donovan | Agricultural Interests | X |
| Connie Pothier | Small Business | X |
| Paul E. Lock | Electric Generating Utilities | X |
| Rachel Powers | Environmental Interests | X |
| Stephen Costello | Municipalities | X |
| Tina Petersen | Flood Districts | X (In-Person) |
| Todd Burrer | Water Utilities | X |
| 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 | X |
| Michelle Ellis | Texas Division of Emergency Management | *Tonya Clarke |
| Kristin Lambrecht | Texas Department of Agriculture | X |
| Joel Clark | Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board | |
| Karla Freyre Stripling | Texas General Land Office | X |
| Megan Ingram | Texas Water Development Board | X |
| 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 | X |
| Brandon Wade | Region H Regional Water Planning Group | |
| Sally Bakko | Gulf Coast Protection District | |
| Eric Stevens | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | |

| <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 | X |
| Stephen Costello | Neches Region RFPG | X |
| Michael Turco | Lower Brazos RFPG | X |

| <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 |
| Maggie Puckett | Freese and Nichols Inc. | X |
| Hayes McKibben | Freese and Nichols Inc. | |
| Andrew Moore | Halff, Associates | X (In-Person) |
| Jacob Torres | Torres & Associates | |
| Evan Adrian | Torres & Associates | X |
| Rachel Herr | Halff, Associates | |
| Mariah Najmuddin | Hollaway Environmental + Communications | X (In-Person) |

| <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)

Remote:

Caitlin Heller

Christina Lindsay

Cristian Ayala (Torres)

Danielle Goshen

Ericka Reyes (FNI)

Gary Bezemek (HCFCD)

Jake Hollingsworth

James Bronikowski (TWDB)

Peggy Zahlaer

Susan Chadwick

***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 \(sanjacintofloodplanning.org\)](https://sanjacintofloodplanning.org)

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

After a brief technical delay, Ms. Vinson called the meeting to order at 9:28 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Berrios 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)

Ms. Vinson recognized two previously submitted written comments from the Clear Creek Watershed and Dickinson Bayou Watershed Steering Committees requesting the Lower Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou Watershed Study (plus associated projects) to be included in the Regional Flood Plan and opened the floor for additional registered public comments. No further comments were heard.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Texas Water Development Board Update

Ms. Vinson yielded the floor to Ms. Ingram for TWDB updates. Ms. Ingram reminded the group to provide feedback on the stakeholder survey by November 18, previously sent out by the TWDB and stated she would resend it to the RFPG.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2022

Ms. Vinson opened the floor for comments on the October 13, 2022 meeting minutes and none were heard. Mr. Fisseler moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Burden seconded. Ms. Vinson called for a vote and stated the motion passed. Mr. Barrett abstained.

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 and other Related Entities:

- a. **Trinity Region** – Mr. Burrer stated that the Trinity Region will be holding a hybrid public meeting on November 17 at 10:00 a.m. to review its final plan.
- b. **Neches Region** – Mr. Costello updated that the Neches Region was aligned with the Region 6 timeline working on Task 12.
- c. **Lower Brazos Region** – Mr. Vogler stated there was no new update for the Lower Brazos Region.
- d. **Region H Water** – Mr. Wade was unavailable to provide an update.
- e. **Gulf Coast Protection District (GCPD)** – Ms. Bakko was unavailable to provide an update.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: 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 as well as responses to comments received on the draft Regional Flood Plan

Mr. Edmondson provided an overview of the latest draft Prioritization Ranking Framework. He updated the group about changes made since the last planning meeting.

Discussion ensued and a vote was called. Mr. Fisseler moved to approve the framework and authorize the Technical Consultant to proceed with executing FMEs in order of prioritization. Mr. Costello seconded. Further discussion ensued specifically noting that the list was not a static list. Ms. Vinson stated the motion passed.

Ms. Puckett gave an overview of recent ongoing efforts and gave a recap of the public comment period on the draft Regional Flood Plan. She spoke about the amount and types of comments received during the dedicated public comment period. Discussion ensued. Ms. Puckett discussed the spreadsheet containing the record of public comments sent to the RFPG for review and allowed for discussion and questions from the members. Ms. Vinson requested that the feedback request be resent to the RFPG members. Mr. Barrett informed the group for the sake of transparency that comments in the spreadsheet with a source of "SJRA" listed were provided by him.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Presentation and Update from the Technical Consultant on the ongoing outreach activities; discussion and possible action from the RFPG as it pertains to ongoing efforts

Ms. Najmuddin stated that there were no further required public engagement meetings; however, there was limited scope and budget for future public engagement. The Technical Consultants have been working on creating additional resources which are multilingual, such as a story map. Ms. Najmuddin gave an overview of the draft (GIS) story map. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Najmuddin requested additional ideas or tools from the members, the intent being to fill in the gaps of information and create educational materials to better tell the Region 6 Regional Flood Plan story.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Approval and Certification of Administrative Expenses Incurred by The Project Sponsor for The Development of Regional Flood Plan

Ms. Vinson stated that the Chair, Mr. Buscha, reviewed and confirmed the Project Sponsor's administrative expenses. Mr. Costello moved to approve the administrative expenses and Mr. Fisseler seconded. A vote was taken and Ms. Vinson stated the motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Presentation of 2022 Planning Group Key Dates and Deadlines:

- a. Upcoming Planning Schedule Milestones
- b. Next SJRFPG Planning Meeting to be held on December 8, 2022

Ms. Vinson mentioned that during the December 8 meeting, the RFPG would be approving the final Regional Flood Plan for submission to the TWDB. Ms. Vinson also reminded the group about the amendment opportunity in July 2023.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Update and Discussion Pertaining to In-Person RFPG Meeting Location(s)

Ms. Vinson stated that discussions were taking place regarding a new meeting venue location. Ms. Vinson also mentioned that the first meeting of 2023 would be held in February.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Reminder Regarding Planning Group Member Training on Public Information Act and Open Meetings Act

Ms. Vinson held a last call reminder for anyone who had not completed and/or submitted the completion certificates for the PIA/OMA trainings.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Consider Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Ms. Vinson identified the following items for the next agenda:

- To approve the final Regional Flood Plan
- To formally get concurrence on and approve the 2023 meeting schedule

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: Public Comments – Limit 3 Minutes Per Person

Ms. Vinson opened the floor to public comments and no additional public comments were made at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: Adjournment

Ms. Vinson announced the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.



Erwin Burden, Secretary



Alia Vinson, Acting Chair