

**Region 5. Neches Regional
Flood Planning Group Meeting**

June 17, 2021
1:00 PM

Region 5. Neches Flood Planning Group Meeting
via Publicly Accessible Videoconference
(details below)

June 17, 2021 @ 1:00 PM

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Region 5. Neches Flood Planning Group will be held Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 1 p.m.; at the Lower Neches Valley Authority's administrative office located at 7850 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Texas 77708. The meeting will also be conducted via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81556684881?pwd=TDhlSTRZdkVDUWtsWmdib21DVWlmdz09>

Audio ONLY may be heard at:

Telephone Conference Phone Number: +1 346 248 7799

Meeting ID: 815 5668 4881

Passcode: 637563

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Update from Texas Water Development Board
4. Approve minutes of the May 13, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meetings
5. Update from consultant team
6. Consider establishing committees recommended by the consultant and nominating members thereto
7. Update on status on non-voting member solicitations (NPL representation)
8. Report from Region 3. Trinity, Region 4. Sabine, and Region 6. San Jacinto liaisons
9. Confirmation of next scheduled meeting(s)
 - a. August 12, 2021
10. Consider possible agenda items for next meeting
11. Adjourn

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, please email Risa Barber, Information Specialist, at risa.barber@lnva.dst.tx.us no later than one (1) hour prior to the posted meeting time on the date of the meeting.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to risa.barber@lnva.dst.tx.us and include "Region 5 Neches Flood Planning Group Meeting" in the subject line of the email.

If you choose to participate via the live webinar, you WILL have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting. Please use the webinar link posted at the top of the agenda to access the meeting.

If you choose to participate via the conference call number provided, you WILL NOT have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting. The conference call phone number is provided for LISTENING PURPOSES ONLY.

The Region 5 Neches Flood Planning Group will hold a public meeting via webinar pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.127, as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions in accordance with the Governor's March 13, 2020 proclamation related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Risa Barber at: (409) 892-4011 or by email at: risa.barber@lnva.dst.tx.us

Physical location: 7850 Eastex Freeway, Beaumont, Tx 77708

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 1.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Call to Order

Background:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Brent Heironimus	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	
Jeff Branick	<i>Counties</i>	
Liv Haselbach	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	
Ellen Buchanan	<i>Environmental interests</i>	
Phil Kelley	<i>Flood districts</i>	
Steve Moon	<i>Industries</i>	
Kyle Kingma	<i>Municipalities</i>	
John Beard, Jr.	<i>Public</i>	
Scott Hall	<i>River authorities</i>	
Stan Mathews	<i>Small business</i>	
Joseph G. Majdalani	<i>Water districts</i>	
Robb Starr	<i>Water utilities</i>	

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Bregan Brown	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	
Natalie Johnson	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Colleen Jones (Shonda Mace)	General Land Office	
Richard Bagans	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	
Jonathan Walling	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Randy Reece	Sabine Neches Navigation District	
Martin Gonzales	Texas Department of Transportation	

Recommendation:

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 2.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Public Comment

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 3.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Update from Texas Water Development Board

Background:

Recommendation:

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 4.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Approve minutes of the May 13, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meeting

Meeting Minutes
Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Thursday, May 13, 2021
1:00 PM
Hybrid (in person/virtual) Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Brent Heironimus	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	x
Jeff Branick	<i>Counties</i>	x
Liv Haselbach	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	x
Ellen Buchanan	<i>Environmental interests</i>	x
Phil Kelley	<i>Flood districts</i>	(*) Allen Sims
Steve Moon	<i>Industries</i>	x
Kyle Kingma	<i>Municipalities</i>	x
John Beard, Jr.	<i>Public</i>	x
Scott Hall	<i>River authorities</i>	x
Stan Mathews	<i>Small business</i>	()
Joseph G. Majdalani	<i>Water districts</i>	x
Robb Starr	<i>Water utilities</i>	()

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Bregan Brown	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	()
Natalie Johnson	Texas Division of Emergency Management	()
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	()
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	()
Colleen Jones (Shonda Mace)	General Land Office	x
Richard Bagans	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	x
Jonathan Walling	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	x

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **10**

Number required for quorum per current voting positions of 12: 7

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Ryan Ard, LNVA

Risa Barber, LNVA

Kate Osborn, LNVA

Dawn Pilcher, LJA Engineering, Inc.

Jason Afinowicz, Freese & Nichols, Inc.

Lisa Mairs, USACE

Max Strickler, USACE

Vance Liles, MTG Engineers, Inc.

Don Carona, liaison Region 4 (Sabine) RFPG

Kayla Wood, MTG Engineers, Inc.

Rolando Ayala, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Zach Stein, HDR

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the ZOOM meeting and those physically present.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

DRAFT

1. AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Jeff Branick called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance, and a quorum was established.

2. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Update from Texas Water Development Board

Richard Bagans, Texas Water Development Board, gave an update on the newly published technical guidelines, located on the TPWD flood planning website. The Neches RFPG technical contract is under review currently by the Texas Water Development Board.

3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Public Comment/Pre-planning Public Comment – Public input regarding suggestions and recommendations as to issues, provisions, projects, and strategies to consider during the flood planning cycle/development if the regional flood plan (as required per Texas Water Code §361.12(a)(4)).

The Chair opened the floor for public comment. There was none, and the item was closed.

4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Approve minutes of the January 27, 2021 and February 09, 2021 Consultant Selection Review Committee meetings and the February 11 and March 11, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meetings

The Chair brought the minutes of the January 27, 2021 and February 09, 2021 Consultant Selection Review Committee meetings and the February 11 and March 11, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meetings for review and approval.

Upon a motion by Ellen Buchanan and seconded by Steve Moon the minutes were accepted with unanimous board approval.

5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Update on the TWDB contract

LNVA has executed the contract with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and separately a contract with Freese and Nichols, Inc. for technical consulting services on behalf of the RFPG. Additionally, the 20% advance funding has been received by LNVA from TWDB.

6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Presentation from US Army Corps of Engineers – Dam Operations

US Army Corps of Engineers representative Max Strickler gave a presentation on Dam Operations (USACE Neches River Water Management Briefing). **Exhibit A**

7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Presentation from consultant team regarding Flood Plan Schedule, status and preliminary activities

Technical consultant, Freese and Nichols, Inc., presented an update on where we are in the process and outlined a suggested path forward. **Exhibit B**

8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Update on status on non-voting member solicitations (TxDOT, NPL, Sabine Neches Navigation District

The Chair called for an update on non-voting member solicitations. Scott Hall, RFPG Secretary, confirmed Randy Reece, Sabine-Neches Navigation District, and Martin Gonzales, Texas Department of

Transportation, have agreed to become non-voting members to represent their prospective entities. Mr. Hall confirmed the RFPG is still actively searching for a representative for Public Lands.

9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Report from Region 3. Trinity and Region 4. Sabine liaisons

Dr. Liv Haselbach offered an update on the Region 6 (San Jacinto) RFPG meeting she attended virtually earlier in the day.

Ellen Buchanan reported that Region 3 had not had a meeting since the last RFPG 5 meeting.

John Beard, Jr. deferred his update to the Sabine RFPG representative on the call, Don Carona.

10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion on possible site visits/field trips

Dr. Liv Haselbach spoke on her recent participation in a boat tour of the Neches River on the *Ivory Bill*, and recommended the informative trip to the other members of the RFPG.

The Chair recommended emailing the group members directly to identify individuals interested in site visits and pull together possible locations and dates.

11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Confirmation of next scheduled meeting(s)

The next meeting originally scheduled for June 10, 2021, conflicts with the Texas Water Conservation Association conference that the technical consultant and LNVA representative will both be attending.

Alternate dates were discussed and the next meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2021 at 1pm.

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

The Chair opened discussion for future Group meeting agenda items.

Dr. Liv Haselbach reiterated the Ivory Bill tour, Sam Rayburn Dam tour and Big Thicket tour as possibilities.

Steve Moon suggested discussing the addition of auxiliary committees as suggested by the technical consultant.

Scott Hall stated a consultant update would be advised along with the standing update from TWDB.

13. AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:39 PM by Jeff Branick.

Approved by the Region 5 Neches RFPG at a meeting held on June 17, 2021 at 1:00 PM at a location to be determined.

Scott Hall, SECRETARY

Jeff Branick, CHAIR

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 5.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Update from consultant team including:

- Introduction and overview of Chapter 1
- Introduction and overview of Chapter 2
 - Data Collection Survey Tools
 - Interactive Flood Risk web map demonstration
- Discuss strategies for community engagements and coordination

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 6.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Consider establishing committees recommended by the consultant and nominating members thereto

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 7.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Update on status on non-voting member solicitations (NPL)

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 8.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Report from Region 3. Trinity, Region 4. Sabine and Region 6. San Jacinto liaisons

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 9.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Confirmation of next scheduled meeting(s)
August 12, 2021

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 10.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Consider possible agenda items for next meeting

**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Agenda Item 11.0**

Meeting Date: June 17, 2021

Agenda Preface:

Adjourn