

Meeting Minutes
Region 5 Neches Draft Regional Flood Plan Public
Comment Meeting
Friday, September 9, 2022
2:00 PM
5091 Rolfe Christopher Dr.
Beaumont, Texas 77710

Meeting Attendees:

RFPG Voting Member	Interest Category
Allen Sims*	Flood Districts
Brian McDougal	Small Business
Liv Haselbach	Electric Generating Utilities
Jeff Branick	Counties
Scott Hall	River Authorities
Ellen Buchanan	Environmental Interests

**alternate for Phil Kelley*

Technical Consultants	Organization
Jason Afinowicz	Freese and Nichols, Inc.
Lincoln Abbott	Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Flood Planner	Agency
James Bronikowski	Texas Water Development Board

1. Welcome

Judge Jeff Branick started the draft plan public comment meeting at 2:00 PM and introduced representatives from FNI, Technical Consultant to the Neches Flood Planning Group.

A total of 28 people were in attendance of the public meeting, which included 6 planning group members.

2. First Presentation on the Region 5 Neches Draft Regional Flood Plan

Jason Afinowicz, technical consultant from FNI, gave a brief overview of the effort behind the Neches Draft Regional Flood Plan. He emphasized how important public participation and input are for ensuring the success of the regional flood plan. Public insight is critical for identifying additional information, projects, and strategies necessary for addressing flood risks and concerns within the region to be included in the Amended Regional Flood Plan.

The public was encouraged to visit with the technical consultants at the conclusion of the presentation to provide comments on the plan but was also informed of alternative methods to provide comments via e-mail and postage.

3. First Public Comment Period

Members of the public met with the technical consultants to view the plan online on the Neches RFPG website and provide comments.

An oral public comment was given by Ms. Sandra Ramos of the National Parks Conservation Association to encourage coordination with local entities to include more historically protective and nature-based projects in the Neches Regional Flood Plan to protect the Big Thicket National Preserve.

4. Second Presentation on the Region 5 Neches Draft Regional Flood Plan

At 3:08 PM, Jason Afinowicz, technical consultant from FNI, repeated the presentation on the Draft Regional Flood Plan. An overview of the effort behind the plan was given and public participation and input were emphasized for ensuring the success of the regional flood plan.

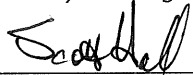
The public was once again encouraged to visit with the technical consultants at the conclusion of the presentation to provide comments on the plan but was also informed of alternative methods to provide comments via e-mail and postage.

5. Second Public Comment Period

Members of the public who arrived at the meeting venue for the 3:00 PM presentation met with the technical consultants to view the plan online on the Neches RFGP website and provide comments.

No additional oral public comments were received during this time.

Approved by the Region 5 Neches RFGP at a meeting held November 17, 2022 at 2 PM.



Scott Hall, SECRETARY



Jeff Branick, CHAIR