

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 14, 2023**  
**2:00 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>                      | ()   |
| Liv Haselbach        | <i>Electric generating utilities</i> | X  |
| Ellen Buchanan       | <i>Environmental interests</i>       | X  |
| Allen Sims           | <i>Flood districts</i>               | X  |
| Steve Moon           | <i>Industries</i>                    | X  |
| Kyle Kingma          | <i>Municipalities</i>                | X  |
| Amanda Young         | <i>Public</i>                        | X  |
| Scott Hall           | <i>River authorities</i>             | X  |
| Brian McDougal       | <i>Small business</i>                | X  |
| Doug Canant          | <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           | ()   |
| Michelle Ellis             | Texas Division of Emergency Management        | ()   |
| Manuel Martinez            | Texas Department of Agriculture               | ()   |
| Trey Watson                | Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board | ()   |
| Rhonda Masters/Jet Hays    | Texas General Land Office                     | X  |
|                            | Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)          |  |
| Kathy Saucedo              | Texas Commission on Environmental Quality     | ()   |
| Lisa Mairs/Helena Mosser   | US Army Corps of Engineers                    | ()   |
| Lisa Collins/Keith Horn    | Texas Department of Transportation            | X  |
| Jacob Donellan             | Federal Public Lands                          | ()   |
| Randy Reece                | Sabine Neches Navigation District             | ()   |
| Chad Ballard               | Region 3. Trinity RFPG Liaison                | ()   |
| Don Carona/Douglas Manning | Region 4. Sabine RFPG Liaison                 | ()   |
| Stephen Costello           | Region 6. San Jacinto RFPG Liaison            | 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: \*\***

Risa King, LNVA  
Lincoln Abbott, FNI  
Rolando Ayala, FNI  
Tressa Olson  
Stephen Costello

Doug Manning  
Dr. Matthew Berg  
Ryan Ard, LNVA  
Katie Koslan Pietsch

\*\*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: <https://nechesfloodplanning.org/>*

**1. AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order**

Steve Moon called the meeting to order at 2:04 PM.

**2. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Public Comment**

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

**3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Status updates and discussions from RFPG members.**

- a. Consideration of additional, region specific, public notice requirements necessary to ensure adequate public notice within the region.

The Group requested the item be addressed at a future meeting.

**4. Agenda Item NO. 4: Consider and act upon authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the Texas Water Development Board on behalf of the RFPG for Cycle 2 regional flood planning.**

Mr. Moon opened the discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant fund and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG for the second planning cycle.

A motion was made by Ellen Buchanan and seconded by Brent Heironymous to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with TWDB on behalf of the RFPG for the second planning cycle. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Update from the Texas Water Development Board.**

Katie Pietsch Koslan was present for TWDB and had no notable updates to share, but stated the second planning cycle may be pushed back by a month or so.

**6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Approve minutes of the June 22, 2023 RFPG meeting.**

The meeting minutes were presented for comments. A motion was made by Doug Canant and seconded by Alan Sims to accept the minutes as presented. The item passed with unanimous approval.

**7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items (limit three minutes per speaker).**

There were no registered public comments and the item was closed.

**8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Approval and certification of administrative expenses incurred by the project sponsor.**

Administrative expenses were submitted for consideration by Steve Moon for the Regional Flood Planning Group Sponsor, LNVA. A motion was made by Brent Heironymous to approve the administrative expenses as put forth in the meeting materials. The motion was seconded by Allen Sims. With the unanimous approval of the Group the expenses were approved for submission to TWDB for reimbursement.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Update from Technical Consultant.**

The Technical Consultant informed the Group they had presented to a group at Lamar University recently about the Regional Flood Plan. It was also noted that a story map was developed to accompany the Amended Flood Plan on the website.

**10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Reports from other Flood Planning Region liaisons.**

- a. Region 3 Trinity**
- b. Region 4 Sabine**
- c. Region 6 San Jacinto**

Trinity RFPG had no update.

Stephen Costello gave an update for San Jacinto RFPG and informed the Group they would not meet again until October 12, 2023.

Doug Manning informed the Group that the next meeting for Sabine RFPG was slated for September 24, 2023.

**11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Consider meeting date for next meeting.**

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for October 26, 2023 at 2 pm. The necessity to meet will be dependent upon the receipt of comments from TWDB for the Amended Regional Flood Plan.

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

Potential agenda items for the next meeting include revisiting public posting requirements and potentially responding to TWDB's Request for Information regarding the Amended Regional Flood Plan.

**13. AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 PM by Steve Moon.

*Approved by the Region 5 Neches RFPG at a meeting held November 16, 2023 at 2 PM.*

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Scott Hall, SECRETARY

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Steve Moon, CHAIR