

Meeting Minutes
 Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
 Thursday, October 14, 2021
 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>	x
Liv Haselbach	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	x
Ellen Buchanan	<i>Environmental interests</i>	x
Phil Kelley	<i>Flood districts</i>	* Alan Sims
Steve Moon	<i>Industries</i>	x
Kyle Kingma	<i>Municipalities</i>	x
John Beard, Jr.	<i>Public</i>	()
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>	x

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

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

Rolando Ayala, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Jason Afinowicz, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Douglas Manning

Richard Bagans, TWDB

Dawn Pilcher

Lincoln Abbot, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

Joshua Brogdon, TDEM

Helena Mosser, USACE

Matthew Berg

Stephen Costello, RFPG Liaison Region 6

Don Carona

**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

Jeff Branick called the meeting to order at 2:08 PM. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance, and a quorum was established.

2. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Public Comment

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

3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Update from Texas Water Development Board

Richard Bagans gave the update. Additional funding draft amendments have not been released as of this meeting. Hopefully they will be approved and released within the next couple of weeks.

4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Discussion and potential action to authorize the Planning Group Sponsor (Lower Neches Valley Authority) to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB, to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget.

This item was tabled until the next group meeting.

5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion and potential action to authorize the Planning Group Sponsor to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant subcontract with the technical consultant, Freese and Nichols, Inc., to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget.

This item was tabled until the next group meeting.

6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Approve minutes of the September 22, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meeting

The Chair brought the minutes of the September 22, 2021 Region 5 Neches RFPG Meeting for review and approval.

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

7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Update from Technical Consultant

a. Consider approval of floodplain management goals for inclusion in the regional flood plan.

Rolando Ayala of Freese and Nichols, Inc. guided the Group through refining the goal categories and developing specific and achievable flood mitigation and floodplain management goals along with target years by which to meet the goals. **Exhibit A**

b. Consider approval of process to identify potential FMEs and potentially feasibly FMSs, and FMPs.

The Group addressed the process for identifying Tasks 4A and 4B; identifying areas of the greatest known flood risk and evaluating potential: FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs.

8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Review and act upon administrative costs requiring certification

There were none.

9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Reports from Region 3. Trinity. Region 4. Sabine, and Region 6. San Jacinto liaisons

Region 3 update from Ellen Buchanan: The Trinity region is scheduled to meet October 28, 2021 and will be voting on their goals at that time. Region 4 update: No updates. Region 6 update from Dr. Liv Haselbach: Region 6 met earlier today. Based off of San Jacinto's meeting Dr. Haselbach reiterated the need to have well defined metrics for each goal that is set for the Group.

At 4:00 PM Chairman Jeff Branick and Secretary Scott Hall left the meeting. Chairman's duties were conveyed to Vice Chair Joe Majdalani for the remainder of the meeting. Eight voting members remained and a quorum was retained for the entirety of the meeting.

10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Consider meeting date for next meeting

The next Group meeting will be December 09, 2021, 2 PM.

11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Consider possible agenda items for next meeting

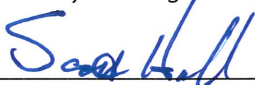
The Chair opened discussion for future Group meeting agenda items. The following topics were recommended:

1. Reviewing the Tech Memo prior to submission to TWDB
2. Revisit Agenda Items 4 & 5 from today's meeting
3. Formal approval of goals by the Group

12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 PM by Joe Majdalani.

Approved by the Region 5 Neches RFPG at a meeting held on December 09, 2021 at 2:00 PM.



Scott Hall, SECRETARY



Jeff Branick, CHAIR