

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 23, 2023**  
**12:00 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
Phil Kelley	<i>Flood districts</i>	x
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
Brian McDougal	<i>Small business</i>	( )
VACANT	<i>Water districts</i>	
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	( )
Natalie Johnson/Tonya Clarke	Texas Division of Emergency Management	x
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	( )
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	( )
Colleen Jones	General Land Office	( )
Richard Bagans	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	x
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	x

**Quorum:**

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 8

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

**Other Meeting Attendees: \*\***

Risa King, LNVA	Ryan Ard, LNVA
Lincoln Abbott, FNI	Lisa McCracken Mairs, USACE
Rolando Ayala, FNI	Stephen Costello
Dr. Matthew Berg	Doug Manning, Sabine RFPG
Chad Ballard	Corinne Rampaul

\*\*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**

Scott Hall called the meeting to order at 12:07 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: Update from Texas Water Development Board**

The Group was congratulated on finishing the Regional Flood Plan and submitting by the deadline. All flood plans are still currently under review. TWDB will be sending out responses to flood plan submissions in the coming weeks. Additionally, a newsletter with updates and details concerning the next planning cycle should be sent out in early March.

**4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items (limit three minutes per speaker)**

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

**5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion and possible action on nomination for Water Utilities interest category voting member**

Scott Hall presented the nomination and application of Doug Canant for the vacant Water Utilities representative to the Group. Liv Haselbach moved to accept the nomination with a second from Ellen Buchanan. With the unanimous consent of the Group Doug Canant was approved as the Water Utilities category representative.

**6. Agenda Item No. 6: Approve minutes of the December 15, 2022 RFPG meeting**

This item was inadvertently skipped and brought forth for consideration later in the meeting. The meeting minutes were presented for comments. There being none a motion was made by Robb Starr and seconded by Liv Haselbach to accept the minutes as set forth. The item passed with unanimous approval.

**7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Nomination and selection of Officers**

The Group considered nominations for executive officers. Scott Hall nominated Steve Moon as Chair/President and Robb Starr as Vice Chair/Vice President. Liv Haselbach nominated Scott Hall as Secretary. Allen Sims motioned to approve the slate of officer nominations as presented and was seconded by Live Haselbach. The slate was approved unanimously.

**8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Nomination and selection of two (2) Executive Committee at-large members**

Consideration was given for two Executive Committee at-large members. Ellen Buchanan nominated Liv Haselbach and Kyle Kingma to serve as Executive Committee at-large members. The motion was seconded by Robb Starr. The motion passed unanimously.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Committee Assignments**

After a brief discussion this item was postponed until the next scheduled Group meeting.

**10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Approval and certification of administrative expenses incurred by the project sponsor**

The administrative expenses were submitted for consideration by Scott Hall for the Regional Flood Planning Group Sponsor, LNVA. A motion was made by Liv Haselbach to approve and certify the administrative expenses as put forth in the Group packet. The motion was seconded by Brent Heironymous. With the unanimous approval of the Group the expenses were certified and approved.

**11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Update from Technical Consultant**

**a. Task 10 – Submission of adopted Final 2023 Neches Regional Flood Plan**

**b. Task 12 – Progress Update**

**c. Budget update and approval for the Technical Consultant to submit written request to TWDB to use Task 1-11 remaining funds for Task 12 and 13 efforts**

The Technical Consultant informed the Group the Final 2023 Regional Flood Plan was submitted on January 10, 2023 and acknowledged as received by TWDB. The Technical Consultant gave a progress report on Task 12, including identifying additional FMPs for inclusion in the amended Regional Flood Plan due July 14, 2023. Several projects throughout the region were discussed by the Group. The Technical consultant requested approval from the Group to submit a written request to TWDB to reallocate unused funding from completed Tasks 1-11 to Tasks 12 and 13. A motion was made by Liv Haselbach to authorize requesting reallocation of funding as outlined in the Group presentation materials. The motion was seconded by Robb Starr. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

**12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Reports from other Flood Planning Region liaisons**

**a. Region 3 Trinity**

**b. Region 4 Sabine**

**c. Region 6 San Jacinto**

Ellen Buchanan listened in on the last Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group meeting and informed the Group they are continuing to follow the same path as Region 5.

Liv Haselbach gave an update for San Jacinto RFPG. San Jacinto met last week to consider appointment of officers and presented a highlight of the Group's accomplishments.

There was no update given for the Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group.

**13. AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Consider meeting date for next meeting**

The Group suggested a Group meeting for March 28, 2023 at 2 PM.

**14. AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Consider possible agenda items for next meeting**

Items to be considered for the March meeting include nominations for the Technical Committee, additional committee creation and assignments, as well as additional FMPs for consideration by the Group.

**15. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 PM by Scott Hall.

*Approved by the Region 5 Neches RFPG at a meeting held March 28, 2023 at 2 PM.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Hall, SECRETARY



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Steve Moon, CHAIR