

Meeting Minutes
Region 10 Lower Colorado-Lavaca Flood Planning Group Meeting
August 16, 2021
9:00 AM
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) /Absent () Alternate Present (*)
Terry Been	Agricultural interests	
Phillip Spenrath	Counties	
Jason Ludwig	Electric generating utilities	
Kirby Brown	Environmental interests	X
G. Nicholas "Nick" Textor	Flood districts	X
Brandon Klenzendorf	Industries	X
Matt Hollon	Municipalities	X
Frances Acuña	Public	X (joined after Item 3)
Patrick Brzozowski	River authorities	
Ann Yakimovicz	Small business	X
Kacey Cubine Paul	Water districts	X
Hank Smith	Water utilities	X
Kelly Payne	River authorities	X

Non-voting Member	Agency	Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)
Shonda Mace	General Land Office	* Sarah Douglass
Charles "CW" Schneider	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Lauren Mayes	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Natalie Johnson	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Beth Bendik	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Allen Nash	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Morgan White	Texas Water Development Board	X
Ronald G. Fieseler	Region 11 – Guadalupe Liaison	X
Mark Vogler	Region 8 – Lower Brazos Liaison	* Brian Fambrough
Cara Tackett	Region 12 – San Antonio Liaison	X
Chuck Brown	Region 9 – Upper Colorado Liaison	

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

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

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 13: 7

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Morgan White, TWDB
Michael Moya, Halff Associates, Inc.
Michael Personett, Halff Associates, Inc.
Matt Bucchin, Halff Associates, Inc.
Cindy Engelhardt, Halff Associates, Inc.
Jay Scanlon, Freese
Augusto Villalon, Freese
Cris Parker, HDR, Inc.

Karen Ford, WaterPR
Lauren Graber, LCRA
Annette Keaveny, LCRA
Marcin Tyszka, LCRA
Jennifer Walker, National Wildlife Federation
Arsum Pathak, National Wildlife Federation
Danielle Goshen, Galveston Bay Foundation
Evan Adrian

Fabiola de Carvalho
A Hielscher
Kathryn Johansen
Stephen Johnson
Nick Kincaid
Allison Land

Shannon Longoria
Jorge Losoya
Mieko Mahi
John P. Nett
S Rockwood
Jacob M. Torres

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Zoom meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:
www.lowercoloradolavacaflood.org/meetings

Agenda:

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Kacey Paul called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM CDT. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established prior to calling the meeting to order.

2. Welcome

Vice Chair Kacey Paul welcomed members and other attendees to the meeting.

3. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

The draft meeting minutes were reviewed, and no corrections or additions were made. Kirby Brown moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Kelly Payne. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

4. Public comments– limit 3 minutes per person

Vice Chair Kacey Paul called for public comments.

An online comment from Mieko Mahi was received and will be addressed.

5. TWDB Update

Morgan White from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) reported that additional funding will likely be available and that she would report more in the next meeting.

Morgan White also noted that a conference call with the RFPG sponsors would be held Wednesday, August 18. RFPG Chairs would also be invited to share their experiences and learn what other regions are doing. Attendance is optional.

Morgan White also said that TWDB was working to determine the mechanics of compliance with the Open Meetings Act during Covid conditions.

6. Update from RFPG liaisons

Ron Fieseler reported that Region 11 Flood Planning Group (Guadalupe Region) hosted a public input meeting in Wimberley on August 4, with 35-40 people in attendance and receiving 12-15 comments. The meeting was well-attended, and Region 11 is on the same approximate timeline as is Region 10.

7. Update from the Planning Group Sponsor

Lauren Graber reported that meetings will be transitioning from 100% virtual to in-person or hybrid formats, with the intent to have hybrid meetings. The Chairman must be present; a Zoom link will be provided to other members. All details will be finalized between now and the next meeting.

Lauren Graber also announced that the regular September RFPG meeting will be cancelled and thus the next meeting will be held in October. (See Item 11 below.)

8. Technical Consultant presentations and discussions related to regional flood planning

Mike Personett, Cindy Englehardt, and Matt Bucchin (all Halff Associates, Inc.), Karen Ford (WaterPR), and Cris Parker (HDR) provided updates, briefings, and discussion on the following: project status, including the status of Task 8 – Policy Recommendations; public outreach and stakeholder engagement strategies; Task 1 – Planning Area Description: Present preliminary draft Chapter 1; Task 3A – Floodplain Management Practices: Preliminary results; Task 3B – Floodplain Management Goals: Review draft goal statements; Task 4B – Present and discuss proposed process to identify and select Studies, Strategies, and Projects; and Look-ahead to September to December 2021.

9. Presentation: Nature-based Solutions for Flood Mitigation: Overview for Region 10 RFPG

Jennifer Walker and Arsum Pathak (both National Wildlife Federation) and Danielle Goshen (Galveston Bay Foundation) presented on Nature-based Solutions for Flood Mitigation.

Frances Acuña reiterated the importance of positive effects that nature-based solutions have on mental and physical health. Matt Hollon commended the use of nature-based solutions, especially as a component of other structural and non-structural solutions; he noted that they may have difficulty meeting cost-benefit thresholds as stand-alone projects.

10. Public comments— limit 3 minutes per person

Vice Chair Kacey Paul called for public comments.

Mieko Mahi recommended that plan goals acknowledge the complexity of the subject matter and that all information be presented.

11. Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Vice Chair Kacey Paul opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting. After general discussion, Vice Chair Kacey Paul concluded that the next meeting will be held on Monday, October 18, 2021.

12. Adjourn

Kirby Brown made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Nick Textor. The motion passed 9-0 and the meeting adjourned at 11:34 AM CDT by Vice Chair Kacey Paul.

Approved by the Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG at a meeting held on October 18, 2021.



Matt Hollon, SECRETARY



Phillip Spenfath, CHAIR