

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Region 10. Lower Colorado-Lavaca Flood Planning Group Meeting**  
**November 2, 2020**  
**9:00am**  
**GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting**

**Roll Call:**

<b><u>Voting Member</u></b>	<b><u>Interest Category</u></b>	<b><u>Present (x) /Absent ( )</u></b>
Terry Been	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	
Phillip Spenrath	<i>Counties</i>	x
Jason Ludwig	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	x
Kirby Brown	<i>Environmental interests</i>	x
G. Nicholas Textor	<i>Flood districts</i>	x
Brandon Klenzendorf	<i>Industries</i>	x
Matt Hollon	<i>Municipalities</i>	x
Frances Acuna	<i>Public</i>	x
Patrick Brzozowski	<i>River authorities</i>	x
Ann Yakimovicz	<i>Small business</i>	x
Kacey Cubine Paul	<i>Water districts</i>	x
Hank Smith	<i>Water utilities</i>	x

<b><u>Non-voting Member</u></b>	<b><u>Agency</u></b>	<b><u>Present(x)/Absent ( )/ Alternate Present (*)</u></b>
Shonda Mace	General Land Office	X
David Galindo	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
Hayley Gillespie	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X

**Quorum:**

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **11**

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

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

Director Kathleen Jackson, TWDB  
 Reem Zoun, TWDB  
 Matt Nelson, TWDB  
 James Bronikowski, TWDB  
 Annette Mass, TWDB  
 Anna Gonzalez, TWDB

Jennifer White, TWDB  
 Katie Dahlberg, TWDB  
 Patrick Lopez, TWDB  
 Caimee Schoenbaechler, TWDB  
 Francisco Arce  
 Barney Austin

Wes Birdwell  
Susan Butler  
Jim Carrillo  
Hallie Casey  
Stephanie Castillo  
C. Rich Cramer  
Cindy Engelhardt  
Helen Gerlach  
Lauren Gonzalez  
Danielle Goshen  
Lauren Graber  
Stephanie Griffin  
Tina Hendon  
Bret Higginbotham  
John Hofmann  
Matthew Lepinski  
Mieko Mahi  
Valerie Miller  
Helena Mosser  
Thomas Mountz  
Michael Moya  
Erika Nordstrom  
Tami Norton

Dan Opdyke  
Kelly Payne  
Jenna Rao  
Michael Reedy  
Stephen Rockwood  
Cynthia Roush, TWDB  
Jay Scanlon  
Shawn Snyder  
Eric Stewart  
Philip Taucer  
Stephen Van Kampen-Lewis  
David Villarreal  
David Wheelock  
Daniel Zell  
Matt Bucchin  
Michelle Ellis  
Kevin Glaub  
Amin Kiaghadi  
Shaun Miller  
Justin Murray  
Carol Olewin  
Jennifer Walker

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

*All meeting materials are available for the public at:*  
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

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

Reem Zoun called the meeting to order at 9:09am CST. 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. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions**

Reem Zoun and Director Kathleen Jackson welcomed members to the meeting. Reem Zoun provided meeting facilitation information and instructions.

**3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions**

Each present voting and non-voting member of the Region 10 Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG introduced themselves.

**4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation**

Reem Zoun presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

**5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion of group bylaws and consider adopting group bylaws**

Reem Zoun presented the model bylaws provided by the TWDB for the RFPG to consider adopting and opened discussion on adopting group bylaws.

The group discussed membership composition, liaison members with neighboring RFPGs, a limit on the number of voting members, the time period in which to select officers, and the process for designating alternates.

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace “Model RFPG” throughout with “Region 10 Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG”.

Article VII was edited to remove “at least 48 hours” from the requirement to notify the chair of the use of designated alternates.

Article VIII Section 2(a) was edited to replace selecting initial officers “Withing 30 days” to “No later than the next meeting”.

Article VII Section 2(b) was edited to add “Starting in 2022,” regular officers shall be selected.

Article XV was edited to include language regarding amending the bylaws.

A motion was made by Phillip Spenrath to adopt the bylaws as discussed and amended.

The motion was seconded by Patrick Brzozowski.

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 11 Ayes and 0 Nays.

**6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Consider nominating and electing regional flood planning group Chair or Interim Chair**

Reem Zoun described the Chair/Interim Chair election process and opened the floor to nominations for the Chair or Interim Chair position.

A nomination of Phillip Spenrath as the Chair was made by Kirby Brown.

A nomination of Matt Hollon as the Chair was made by Frances Acuna.

Matt Hollon expressed his thanks but declined the nomination.

Phillip Spenrath spoke on his experience for the position and willingness to serve as Chair.

The nomination of Phillip Spenrath as the Chair was approved by Unanimous consent.

The group then took a brief recess.

Chair Phillip Spenrath assumed the meeting facilitator role after recess.

**7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Consider selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the regional flood planning group**

Reem Zoun listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:

Lower Colorado River Authority.

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened the floor to public comments.

Lauren Graber stated the Lower Colorado River Authority's (LCRA) support to serve as the Region 10 planning group sponsor.

No additional interested entities came forward to express interest.

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG.

The group discussed LCRA's qualifications.

A motion was made by Patrick Brzozowski to select the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) as the designated planning group sponsor for the Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG.

Kacey Paul and Kirby Brown seconded the motion.

The vote to select the Lower Colorado River Authority as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by unanimous consent.

**8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3).**

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

The members discussed the potential for translation to be provided to the Spanish-speaking members of the community for RFPG meetings.

No actions were taken. Chair Phillip Spenrath closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.

**9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG**

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

The group discussed the contract structure.

A motion was made by Hank Smith to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Kacey Paul.

The vote to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG passed by unanimous consent.

**10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region**

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened discussion on additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region.

The group discussed adding voting positions for developers and river authorities (specifically for representation from the Lower Colorado River Authority).

No action was taken. Chair Phillip Spenrath closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 10.

**11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened the floor to public comments.

Mieko Mahi of Hallettsville, Texas stated that she represents Friends of the Lavaca River. She requested that future press releases be worded in more plain language. She stated that she did not want

Hallettsville and Lavaca County, as rural and low-population areas, to be overlooked. She stated that her community has issues with the protection of the environment and flooding. She stated that she believes there are too many loopholes in government and that a voice from the community needs to be heard.

Hallie Casey stated that she works for the Sustainable Food Center in Austin, Texas with a background in agriculture and extension service. She stated she appreciates the opportunity to sit in on the meeting and looks forward to learning more about how agriculture plays into this process. Ms. Casey expressed her thanks to the group.

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

Chair Phillip Spenrath opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting. After general discussion, Hank Smith made a motion to host the next meeting on Monday December 7, 2020 at 9:00am CST, with meetings regularly held the third Monday of the month at 9:00am CST beginning in January 2021. Patrick Brzozowski seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous consent. Potential agenda items will include the consideration of adding two new voting positions for developers and river authorities, electing remaining officers and executive committee, and a TWDB informational presentation.

**13. Adjourn**

Hank Smith made a motion to adjourn, Kirby Brown seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM CST by Chair Phillip Spenrath.

*Approved by the Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG at a meeting held on December 7, 2020.*

  
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Matt Hollon, SECRETARY

  
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Phillip Spenrath, CHAIR