

Meeting Minutes
Region 10 Lower Colorado-Lavaca Flood Planning Group Meeting
June 21, 2021
9:00 AM
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) /Absent () Alternate Present (*)
Terry Been	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Phillip Spenrath	<i>Counties</i>	X
Jason Ludwig	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	X
Kirby Brown	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
G. Nicholas "Nick" 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
Kelly Payne	<i>River authorities</i>	X

Non-voting Member	Agency	Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)
Shonda Mace	General Land Office	X
Charles "CW" Schneider	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Lauren Mayes	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Natalie Johnson	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
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	
Christy Youker	Region 9 – Upper Colorado Liaison	

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **13**

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

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Reem Zoun, TWDB
Matt Nelson, TWDB
Michael Moya, Halff Associates, Inc.
Mike Personett, Halff Associates, Inc.

Matt Bucchin, Halff Associates, Inc.
Cindy Engelhardt, Halff Associates, Inc.
Cris Parker, HDR
Karen Ford, WaterPR

Lauren Graber, LCRA
Annette Keaveny, LCRA
Marcin Tyszka, LCRA
Wes Birdwell, TFMA
Kathryn Johansen
Nick Kincaid

Milton Koller
Mieko Mahi
Lisa McCracken Mairs
Joanna Morgan
Stephen Rockwood

****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

Chair Phillip Spenrath called the meeting to order at 9:00AM 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

Chair Phillip Spenrath welcomed members and other attendees to the meeting.

It was announced that Morgan White will serve as liaison for the Texas Water Development Board until a replacement for Haley Gillespie is set.

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 Ann Yakimovicz. The motion passed by a vote of 13-0.

4. Public comments– limit 3 minutes per person

Chair Phillip Spenrath called for public comments.

Mieko Mahi expressed thanks and gratitude for the members of the Regional Flood Planning Group and the work that they do.

5. TWDB Update

No formal presentation was prepared.

Morgan White introduced herself as team lead with TWDB for regional flood planning. She clarified that the TWDB's role in Regional Flood Planning was to help interpret what is possible and consistent with State guidelines and the RFPG's role was that of making decisions and shaping the Flood Plan.

6. Update from RFPG liaisons

Ann Yakimovicz said Region 9 was at same part of the process as Region 10. Of the 32 counties in Region 9, 13 are not included in FEMA flood maps and there has been a challenge with increased engagement and planning.

Ron Fieseler, Region 11, mentioned a flood river study presentation by Liz Levitz from AECOM. They are scheduling a second pre-planning public input meeting for August 4 at 4PM at the Wimberley Community Center and invite stakeholders in Austin, Caldwell, Hays, and Travis counties to join.

7. Update from the Planning Group Sponsor

Lauren Graber reported that the sponsor, LCRA, amended the contract with the technical consultant, Halff Associates.

Lauren Graber said that the General Land Office had awarded grant funds for flood mitigation projects. The GLO issued press releases about grant allocations and project awards.

Lauren Graber said she is monitoring the status of State rules governing virtual vs. in-person meetings for RFPG meetings. Future meetings may need to be in-person and, if so, will be held at LCRA in Austin. Start times may need to be adjusted to account for travel. Calling-in via telephone would not be allowed.

8. Presentation and discussion on floodplain management by Wes Birdwell, Executive Director, Texas Floodplain Management Association

Wes Birdwell presented on floodplain management in Texas.

RFPG members discussed and asked questions regarding storm rating, future flooding events and modeling, and community training in disaster response.

9. Technical Consultant presentations and discussions related to regional flood planning Tasks 1, 2, 3, and 10

Mike Personett (Halff Associates, Inc.), Karen Ford (WaterPR), Cindy Englehardt, (Halff Associates, Inc.), and Matt Bucchin (Halff Associates, Inc.) presented their topics entitled: *Status Report; Public and Stakeholder Engagement; Status of Task 1 – Planning Area Description; Demonstration of Online Survey and Web Map; Task 3 – Floodplain Management Practices; and Task 3B – Floodplain Management Goals.*

RFPG members discussed and asked questions regarding community outreach, public engagement strategies, flood data availability and acquisition, and discussed polling questions and responses.

10. Discussion and possible action regarding public and stakeholder engagement strategies, including potential creation of a subcommittee, selection of members, and authorization of the subcommittee's duties

The group discussed whether to form a subcommittee on public and stakeholder engagement strategies. The group declined to establish a committee and asked that the technical consultant instead give monthly reports on engagement activity.

11. Public comments– limit 3 minutes per person

Chair Phillip Spenrath called for public comments.

Mieko Mahi asked that Wes Birdwell's presentation be made public. She spoke to the documentation of GLO grant monies. She recommended any public survey format be brief and that direct mail be used to help reach the public.

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, Chair Phillip Spenrath concluded that the next meeting will be held on Monday, July 19 at 9:00 AM.

Potential items that will be discussed include Tasks 2A and 2B – Existing and Future Conditions Flood Risk Analyses; Task 8 Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations; Task 3B – Flood Mitigation and Floodplain Management Goals; and Task 4B – Identification and Evaluation of Potential Flood Management Evaluations and Potentially Feasible Flood Management Strategies and Flood Mitigation Projects.

13. Adjourn

Patrick Brzozowski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Kacey Paul. The motion passed 13-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM CDT by Philip Spenrath.

Approved by the Lower Colorado-Lavaca RFPG at a meeting held on July 19, 2021.



Matt Hollon, SECRETARY



Phillip Spenrath, CHAIR