

Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group

Meeting July 18th, 2022

11:30 A.M. to 1:30PM

McMullen County EOC | 306 Live Oak Street | Tilden, Texas

LISTEN ONLY OPTION VIA ZOOM:

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Meeting ID: 826 6226 8207

Agenda:

1. Call to Order at 11:30 a.m.
 - a) Roll Call

Voting Members:

David Baker	Electric Generating Utilities	Absent
Debra Barrett	Agricultural	Present (after roll call)
Larry Dovalina – Vice Chairman	Water Utilities	Proxy (David Wright)
LJ Francis – Chairman	Municipalities	Present (after roll call)
Sky Lewey	River Authorities	Proxy (Julie Lewey)
Shanna Owens -Secretary	Counties	Absent
JR Ramirez	Water Utilities	Present
Andrew Rooke	Small Business	Present
Larry Thomas	Flood Districts	Present
Lauren Hutch Williams	Environmental	Present

Guest:

Robert Williams	Mayor of Jourdanton	
David Wright	City of Cotulla	Water & Wastewater
Julie Lewey	Nueces River Authority	
Sarah West	Freese & Nichols	
Tressa Olsen	TWDB	Stormwater Engineering
Bryan Martin	HDR	
Luke Whitmire	BCRAGD	

Online:

Kristi Shaw	Jayni Saenz	John Benson
Anna Aldridge	Jo Ehmann	Kendria Ray
Lee Muniz	Lisa McCracken Mairs	Randy Wright
Stacy Barna		
Travis Pruski	Nueces River Authority	Director of Planning
Lorie Flores	Nueces River Authority	

2. Prayer
David Wright Led the Prayer
3. Public Comment
No Comments
4. Approval of minutes from the June 27th, 2022, Full RFPG Meeting
Motion to approve minutes as presented made by Andrew Rooke seconded by Larry Thomas. Motion passed

unanimously.

5. TWDB updates/Presentation-Tressa Olsen with TWDB

No question after presentation

6. Discussion and possible action: Status update on flood infrastructure financing analysis (Task 9)-Bryan Martin with HDR:

- **Goal -**
To indicate how sponsors propose to finance recommended FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs in the Plan.
- **Approach taken:**
 - a. Gathered information during interviews and surveys to identify how local governments finance flood projects
 - b. Estimated the ability of small utilities to finance projects on their own.

Received input from 32 agencies in the Nueces on funding source for flood projects. (67 contracted 50% response rate)

- **Estimated the ability of local investment vs state or federal need**
 - a. High percentage of outside funding support needed, discussions with stakeholders confirmed that many communities, particularly smaller and more rural communities, do not have any local funding available for flood management activities and larger communities that did report having local funding indicated relatively little local funding available in relation to overall need.
- **Approach described in Chapter 9:**
 - a. For basin-wide programs sponsored by the Nueces River Authority, 100 percent of the total project costs were estimate as being needed from state or federal sources.
 - b. For municipalities with a population less than 2,000 and counties with a population of less than 2,500, 100 percent of the total project costs were estimated as being needed from state or federal sources.
 - c. For municipalities with a population more than 2,000 and counties with a population more than 2,500, it was estimated that 90 percent of total project costs are required from state and federal sources and 10 percent projected local investment.

Overall, there is a total of \$140,587,650 needed to implement recommended FMEs and FMSs in the NRFP. From the total cost, it is projected that \$126,553,885 in the state and federal funding is needed.

7. Discuss comments from RFPG chapter review-Bryan Martin HDR

HDR has sent out an executive summary of the 2023 Region 13- Nueces Regional Flood Plan over the last couple of weeks. Currently there are not any comments:

→ Does today start the 60 days for the draft open for comments? Everything will be published in the next week and August 1, 2022 will be the start of the 60 days. All information will be published online and at all locations.

→ Is the 2023 Region 13-Nueces Regional Flood Plan going to be compiled into a single document to make easy for the public to look at? That is the intent.

→ Will there be access to the story map with all the data?

The intent is to update the story map to mirror what is being submitted in draft plan. We are still working on the story map.

→ When will the story map be up? Everything will be turned in to the Water Development Board August 1, 2022. The story map will be on the website shortly after for the public to review. You will have more than 30 days before the public hearing to review the story map.

→ Some concerns are about the visualization of the maps. A lot of the maps are hard to understand with everything going on in the map. Since it is a large region, you cannot really see a lot of detail that would make folks interested in the maps. People really need to understand what is happening in their area. Travis Pruski stated that the maps will be updated once approved by the board. The maps will have the option to view by story map, or by county to get a brief synopsis of everything.

→ When is the last day to submit comments? We hope to have all comments by Friday July 22,2022 but no later than Monday July 25,2022.

After a brief review of the Executive summary Is there any more question or comments?

Kristi Shaw stated the Draft Plan was upload to the OneDrive for everyone to review. It has reflected the decisions and actions taken by the group for the last couple of years, the word version was published to make it easier to provided comments. Please use track changes for any addition comments by July 22,2022. We could not have done this without your input for the last couple of years. Thank you and many thanks.

→ Has Atascosa County been updated significantly from what we had before? Base level engineering flood mapping work has been done for Atascosa County. Base level engineering flood mapping is considered approximate flood modeling and mapping. It is not detailed, in fact only very limited areas in basin have detail models, less than 5% in the whole area. Everything is approximate, many areas before the flood planning came along had no mapping. BLE is better than what was previously available but still is considered approximate. That is what is available for Atascosa County.

→ Would you say that the information available for Atascosa County specifically and other counties is better than a FEMA map? FEMA maps are old and not accurate and BLE are based on the latest LiDar Topography. Bryan Martin with HDR stated that he thinks they are potentially better than the FEMA maps due to the use of the latest topography and rainfall data.

→ Question on the Executive Summary page 16 1st paragraph 3rd sentenced is confusing (Although not recommended as FMPs, three of the FMPs identified have potential to be beneficial projects with additional development) so we have FMP that are not FMP but we are calling FMP. Can we make it more confusing? It's probably because the Executive Summary was shortened. Yes, they were projects but once went thru the scanning process they ended up not being recommended as projects. They did not meet the TWDB criteria. So took these potential FMPs and made new FMEs, revised the phasing on that project so it could move forward during the process and become an FMP later.

8. Consider adoption of the draft Nueces- Region 13 Regional Flood Plan with minor updates required to address RFPG comment and approve submittal of plan by HDR and/or Nueces River Authority to the TWDB Motion to approve the draft Regional Flood Plan at this time by David Wright seconded by Larry Thomas. Can you Clarify again the process in editing and provision between this approval process and the publication of the draft? We have about a week. So, recommendation and comments need to be in by Friday August 22,2022 no later than Monday August 25,2022. Public comments process will start August 26,2022 could be sooner. Public hearing is set for September 26,2022. So, what we are approving right now is the document as is, that is upload on the one drive. Including revisions to be made to address minor comments. Everything is a draft, just approving a draft document right now with the notion there is going to have a series of comment periods by the public, Water Development Board, and us. Final document will be approved on December 12, 2022. There should be no major changes in content, updates should focus on addressing public comments. If you have major questions, comments, or direction that would change the plan the way plan reads right now I would suggest you make it at this time. If not and everyone is ready to vote I think we should. I'll give a few moments to make any comments if you feel that comment needs to be made that would change the document dramatically. After hearing none let us start roll call for this please. Travis Pruski. This is for the adoption of the draft plan as is with updates. LJ Francis Yes, David Wright Yes, Julie Lewey Yes, Lauren Williams Yes, Andrew Rooke Yes, Jr Ramirez Yes, Larry Thomas Yes, and Debra Barrett Yes. All right the draft Regional Flood Plan document for region 13 has been authorized.
9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Nueces River Authority regarding administrative matters of the Regional Flood Planning Group- Travis Pruski
 - Financial Update
No updates: no money was asked for since the last time we spoke
 - Update Schedule of 2022: Public Hearing and RPPG on September 26th, Regular RFPG December 12th.
 - Update on the public hearing we will have two meeting on September 26,2022. One will be at 11:00 a.m. in person in Tilden, Texas before our 11:30 meeting and the second one will be a zoom option meeting at

6:30 p.m. Travis Pruski will have a zoom link set up for anyone that would like to participate in that public hearing.

Reminder our deadline for application for 3 open positions is August 1, 2022. If you know any that is interested. We have 1 application for Public and River Authority. We did not have anyone for industries.

10. Update from Patrick McGinn Liaison to Region 12 San Antonio RFPG and Region 15 Lower Rio Grande RFPG

Tabled Agenda item 10.

11. RFPG members' comment

Members, please reach out to your interest groups. LJ Francis with team up with Lauren Williams again and go to different communities in the South Texas area. If anyone would like to go with LJ Francis in another portions of district to let persons know that the plan is available. Probably have some help from HDR and a short presentation just in case we can speak at city council meetings, town hall and whatever is available if would help to have a short presentation prepared. We want to make sure we have feedback and information, the feedback we get back cannot be add to the plan. But we will still collect the information for our future plans updates.

12. Motion to adjourn and seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 1:21 p.m.

The Region 13 - Nueces Regional Flood Planning Group may announce that it will go into executive session on any item listed on this agenda if the subject matter is permitted by law for a closed session. The open portions of this meeting will be recorded and made available to the public upon request.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to tpruski@nueces-ra.org and include "**Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting Public Comment**" in the subject line of the email. Additional information may be obtained from: Travis Pruski, Nueces River Authority, 539 HWY 83 South, 830-278-6810, tpruski@nueces-ra.org.