

Meeting Minutes
Region 13 Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting
November 4, 2020
9:00am CST
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Debra Barrett	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Shanna K. Owens	<i>Counties</i>	X
Vacant	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	N/A
Lauren Hutch Williams	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
Vacant	<i>Flood districts</i>	N/A
Jeffrey Pollack	<i>Industries</i>	X
Lj Francis	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Adnan Rajib	<i>Public</i>	X (arrived during agenda item 3)
Sky Lewey	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Andrew M. Rooke	<i>Small business</i>	X
J. R. Ramirez	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Larry Dovalina	<i>Water utilities</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Jim Tolan	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Tim Frere	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Nelda Barrera	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Kendria Ray	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Simone Sanders	General Land Office	X
Hayley Gillespie, Ph.D.	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Joel Anderson	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **10**

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

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Reem Zoun, TWDB

Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member

Matt Nelson, TWDB

Annette Mass, TBWD

James Bronikowski, TBWD

Morgan White, TWDB

Megan Ingram, TWDB

Ron Ellis, TWDB

Jennifer White, TWDB
Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
Stacy Barna
Chad Ballard
Ty Berry
John Byrum
Jim Carrillo
Lily Cartwright
Stephanie Castillo
Keren Costanzo
Troy Dorman
Alem Gebriel
Stephanie Griffin
Tina Hendon

Gabriel Hinojosa
Amin Kiaghadi
Justin Lennon
Daniel McGinn
Tami Norton
Travis Pruski
Paul Robinson
Zachary Stein
Jay Scanlon
Kristi Shaw
Mel Vargas
Daniel Zell
Lauren Gonzalez
Spandana Tummuri

**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. 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 13 Nueces 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.

Members discussed the maximum number of voting members, terms of office, term limits, what constitutes a conflict of interest, and electing officers.

After discussion, Article VIII Section (b) was edited to re-select officers beginning in 2022. Article XV was edited to include adopting "and/or amending" bylaws. The term "Model" was replaced with "Region 13 Nueces" throughout.

A motion was made by Sky Lewey to adopt the bylaws as amended.

The motion was seconded by Debra Barrett

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 10 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 LJ Francis as the Chair was made by Sky Lewey.

A nomination of Andrew Rooke as the Chair was made by Shanna Owens.

Lj Francis thanked the group for the nomination, spoke to his experience and would be honored to serve as Chair.

Andrew Rooke declined the nomination and respectfully deferred to Mr. Francis as Chair.

The nomination of Lj Francis as the Chair was approved by unanimous consent. The group then took a brief recess. Chair Francis assumed the role of meeting facilitator after the 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 Region 13 Nueces RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:

Nueces River Authority

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments.

Travis Pruski of Nueces River Authority stated the river authority's willingness to serve as the planning group sponsor.

John Byrum of Nueces River Authority stated the qualifications of the river authority to serve as planning group sponsor.

Jim Tolan endorsed the Nueces River Authority and suggested the central meeting location of Three Rivers.

Chair Francis asked if any there was anyone in the audience that represented a political subdivision that was interested in acting as the planning group sponsor. No additional interested entities came forward to express interest.

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

Discussion included members positive experiences with the Nueces River Authority and expressions of support.

A motion was made by Larry Dovalina to select Nueces River Authority as the designated planning group sponsor for Region 13 Nueces RFPG.

J.R. Ramirez and Andrew Rooke seconded the motion.

The vote to select Nueces River Authority as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 10 Ayes and 0 Nays.

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).

Reem Zoun described existing notice requirements and Chair Francis opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Larry Dovalina made a motion to initiate the solicitation process for individuals to fill the vacant required voting member position.

The motion was seconded by Lauren Williams.

The vote to initiate the RFPG solicitation process passed by roll call vote with 10 Ayes and 0 Nays.

12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Chair Francis opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Chair Francis opened the floor for general comments from RFPG members and TWDB staff.

Reem Zoun offered congratulations to the group. Matt Nelson offered the support of TWDB. Members thanked the TWDB staff for their preparation in advance of this meeting.

Director Kathleen Jackson gave closing remarks.

13. AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Chair Francis opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

After discussion, Chair Francis announced that the Nueces River Authority will send an email poll to members to schedule the meeting during the week of November 30-December 4, 2020. Potential agenda items include electing officers and executive committee members.

14. Adjourn

After a motion by Shanna Owens to adjourn, seconded by Andrew Rooke. The meeting was adjourned at 11:41AM CST by Chair Francis.

*Approved by the Region 13 Nueces RFPG at a meeting held on **DATE**.*

FIRST AND LAST NAME, SECRETARY

FIRST AND LAST NAME, CHAIR