

**Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting Regular Meeting**  
**September 26th, 2022, 11:30 am**  
**McMullen County EOC 306 Live Oak Street Tilden, Texas**

**LISTEN ONLY OPTION VIA ZOOM:**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82662268207>  
Dial by phone: 877 853 5257 US Toll-free  
Meeting ID: 826 6226 8207

**Agenda:**

1. Chairman LJ Francis called meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

A) Roll Call

Voting Members:

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

*Note: A quorum of board members was confirmed.*

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
Kristi Shaw	HDR	
Laura Raun	Public Relations	
Stacy Barna	CCD Smith	
Jenny Bywater	CDM Smith	
Jessica Watts	CDM Smith	
Patrick Morgan	SPC	
Reem Zoun	TWDB	
Travis Pruski	Nueces River Authority	Director of Planning
Lorie Flores	Nueces River Authority	

Online:

Shannan Smith	Mayor Lake City
Kim Chanslor	CDM Smith
Judy Lucio	TDEM
Rene Saenz	City of Hondo
Manuel Razo	TWDB
Lisa McCracken Mairs	USACE
Kendria Ray	TSSWCB
Jim Tolan	TPWD

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2. Chairmen LJ Francis led in prayer.
3. Public Comment  
No Public Comments  
Just a reminder: The public still has 30 days for comments. Here are all the areas you can submit your comments. In person would be at McMullen County District Clerk, 501 River Street, Tilden Texas, or San Patricio Drainage District, 701 S. San Patricio St., Sinton Texas. Online would be on the website Nueces-RFPG.org or email comments to [tpruski@nueces-ra.org](mailto:tpruski@nueces-ra.org) . Also, any written comments can be mailed to Nueces River Authority at 539 S. Highway 83, Uvalde Texas 78801. There will be a zoom meeting today at 6:30 if you want to address any comments then.
4. Approval of minutes from the July 18th, 2022, Full RFPG Meeting  
A motion to approve the minutes as submitted was made by Larry Dovalina with a second by Andy Rooke. Motion carries.
5. TWDB updates/presentation and Discussion – 2D BLE Viewer / Mapping – Manny Razo  
Base Level Engineering (BLE) are working on developing not just in our Nueces Basin but the whole state updating flood maps. The maps that currently exists for the most part of the interior portion of the basin are paper maps or have no maps at all. Some of the other current maps are lacking information. Base Level Engineering is taking a high-definition terrain data which is the lidar + hydrology + hydraulic= Base Level Engineering. You can view the updated maps on the website [www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/science/ble-status-viewer.html](http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/science/ble-status-viewer.html) . When viewing the maps, the area in brown is the existing watershed that have BLE “HUC-8.” This map should be updated with in the month with watersheds along the bays close to Corpus Christi. If you have any issues viewing the BLE, the internet service provider, the USGS is using is having some issues due to some new hardware. The tannish yellowish color on the map is in production right now. These should be completed by the end of the year. The contractors working on this area is Stantec. The upper part of the basin is being done internally by The Water Development Board. This one is in the QAQC stage right now with one of our other consultants and should be wrapped up in the next few weeks. Once completed everything will be sent over to FEMA, to get the data updated on the viewer. We should have full coverage for the basin by the end of the year. If you have any questions about the BLE you can contact Saul Nuccitelli, PE Director, Flood Science and Community Assistance at [Saul.Nuccitelli@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:Saul.Nuccitelli@twdb.texas.gov), Srikanth Koka, PE Manger, Flood Modeling at [Srikanth.Koka@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:Srikanth.Koka@twdb.texas.gov), or Manuel Razo, GISP,CFM Manager, Flood mapping at [Manuel.Razo@twdb.texas.gov](mailto:Manuel.Razo@twdb.texas.gov).  
Updates from Tressa Olsen (TWDB)- A newsletter from Flood Planning was sent out earlier this month which included TWDD review timeline for the draft region flood plan. It’s still TWDB goal to have comment letter from TWDD out to all the regions by late October. There is a tentative plan amendment process that will be sent out to all the regions soon. Also, there is a future stakeholder survey that will be sent out to everyone. We encourage you to respond to it thoughtfully on how we can make the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of flood planning better.
6. Presentation: San Patricio and Duval County Master Plans – Stacy Barna, Jenny Bywater, Jessica Watts – (CDM Smith)  
Duval County Master Plan Purpose: is to improve water, wastewater, utility services, roads, drainage to prevent flooding and develop accurate mapping of systems. Work Elements: assess current condition and pin current and future capacities and constraints. Plan Outcome: Prioritized list of recommended updates,

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outline of potential funding sources and update mapping. Estimated drainage project cost: Freer \$0.1 million, San Diego \$22 million, and Benavides \$15.4 million which will be a total of 37.5 million. San Patricio Plan Purpose: is to improve drainage and prevent flooding. Work Elements- assess current conditions and develop potential projects. Plan Outcome: Prioritized list of recommended updates, outline of potential funding sources, suggested updates to regulations and ordinances and updated mapping. Capital Cost Estimated drainage project cost: Odem \$8.3 million, San Patricio \$0.5 million, Sinton \$27.2 million, Taft \$10.3 million, and Lake City \$0.4 million with a Sub total of \$46.7 million. Cities still in progress is Gregory, Lakeside, and Mathis. Counties and Cities combined is a total of \$75.6 million. City and Utility representatives were a critical part of the planning process for both Duval County and San Patricio County through field work, site assessments, progress updates, project prioritization and document review. Potential funding opportunities are Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF), Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA), or Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC).

7. Discussion and possible action – Consider Approach for Task 12- Perform Identified FMX Evaluations and Identify/Evaluate/Recommend Additional FMPs- (Bryan Martin HDR)

The objective for Task-12 is to perform with the RFPG's resources and the time available, a portion of the currently recommended FMEs to identify additional FMPs for inclusion in the amended regional flood plan due July 14, 2023. We need to evaluate flood risks in areas with currently limited flood risk, evaluate flood risk reduction solutions, including feasibility studies, and perform preliminary engineering needed to identify, evaluate, and recommend additional potential feasible FMPs. The total cost for these projects is \$444,000.

Any Questions:

Chairman LJ Francis-How was the funds allocated in Task 12?

Kristi Shaw (HDR)- Funds were allocated by The Texas Water Development Board. But it was part of the amendment process that happen about eight or nine months ago and additional outreach on task 11. Task 12 worked on advancing some of these strategies.

Chairman LJ Francis- In chapter 2 existing flood risk and future risk, why was there no allocation to Crystal City in Zavala County, if they are showing the worst flood risk?

Bryan Martin (HDR)- Crystal City need a \$250,000 full drainage study which was too expensive for task 12.

Chairman LJ Francis- We need to investigate some other option to help Crystal City with different funding streams.

Motion to approve the list of FMEs to be performed using task 12 funds, evaluate and recommend additional FMPs in the amended regional flood plan by Mayor Robert Williams and seconded by Andy Rooke. Motion carries.

8. Discussion and possible action –3 Open Membership Positions

Region 13 Nueces Flood Planning Group advised for 3 different interest categories Public, River Authorities, and Industries. There was one applicant for Industries and River Authorities. Then, we had 3 applicants for Public. The executive committee met last week on September 16, 2022, to discuss and review applicants. We have recommendation for a public member. Before we announce the recommendation there is a change in the interest category for Industry, Sub-Section 36.1.1.1 industry the person from an industry such as a corporation partnership of apprenticeship or other legal entities that are formed for the purpose of making profit, that are not small business. Because of this Judge Barbara Canales does not qualify in an industry category. LJ Francis would like to make a motion to keep the interest category of Industry open to get more clarification on the judge or till we get some more applicants seconded by Shanna Owens. Motion carries. For the River Authorities category one applicant and the proxy for Sky Lewey we have Julie Lewey.

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Motion to approve for the one applicant Julie Lewey by JR Ramirez and Seconded by Larry Dovalina. Motion Carries. The last category is for the Public which has 3 applicants, Mayor Robert Williams, Katya Wowk, and Lora Robbins. When the executive committee met, we looked at all the applicants and they were all qualified. We are recommending Mayor Robert Williams for the Public interest category. Motion to approve Mayor Robert William for the Public Interest category by Larry Dovalina and seconded by Julie Lewey. Motion Carries.

9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Nueces River Authority regarding administrative matters of the Regional Flood Planning Group. – Next Meeting – December 12<sup>th</sup>  
Nueces River Authority has hired a Flood Plain Administrator his name is Javier Ramirez. Financial updates: everyone received a packet and if you notice the total amount of funds requested is \$1,098,0481.02 which is under the total amount of funds of \$1,871,800.00. On the SB8 Regional Flood Planning most counties participated, but we did have some that didn't want any part in this.
10. Update from Patrick McGinn Liaison to Region 12 San Antonio RFPG and Region 15 Lower Rio Grande RFPG  
Region 12 finished task 10 and is working on task 11, 12 and 13. They took appropriate action with different issues within their region.  
Region 15 finished their draft plan and will present it October 13, 2022, in the upper basin and October 19,2022 in the mid and lower basin.
11. RFPG members' comment  
No Comments
12. FJ Francis adjourned the meeting at 1:52 P.M.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to [tpruski@nueces-ra.org](mailto: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](mailto:tpruski@nueces-ra.org).

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