

**Region 13. Nueces Flood Planning Group Meeting**  
**March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**11:30 A.M. to 1:30PM**  
**McMullen County EOC**  
**306 Live Oak Street**  
**Tilden, Texas**

1. Vice- Chairman Larry Dovalina called meeting to order at 11:31a.m.

Roll conducted by Travis Pruski:

<u>Voting Members</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
David Baker	Electric Generating Utilities	Absent
Debra Barrett	Agricultural	Online
Larry Dovalina – Vice Chairman	Water Utilities	Present
LJ Francis – Chairman	Municipalities	Absent
Julie Lewey	River Authorities	Proxy (Javier Ramirez)
Shanna Owens -Secretary	Counties	Present (after roll call)
JR Ramirez	Water Utilities	Present
Andrew Rooke	Small Business	Present
Larry Thomas	Flood Districts	Present
Lauren Hutch Williams	Environmental	Present
Robert Williams	Public	Present
Barbara Canales	Industries	Present

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

Guest:

Sarah West	Freese and Nichols	
David Wright	City of Cotulla	
Britni Van Curan	Atascosa County	
Jim Teal	County of McMullen	
Luke Whitmire	Bandera County River Authority & Groundwater District	
Javier Ramirez	Nueces River Authority	
Fred Reyes	City of Pearsall	
Jim Tolan	TPWD	
Tressa Olsen	TWDB	
Bryan Martin	HDR	
Kristi Shaw	HDR	
Ludivine Varga	HDR	
Travis Pruski	Nueces River Authority	Director of Planning
Lorie Flores	Nueces River Authority	

2. Travis Pruski led in Prayer.
3. No Public Comments were made or received prior to the meeting.
4. Approval of minutes from the December 12th, 2022, Full RFPG Meeting  
 Motion to approve the minutes of December 12, 2022, minutes as submitted was made by Robert Williams and seconded by Andrew Rooke. Passed unanimously.
5. TWDB updates/presentation by Tressa Olsen  
 Just a reminder about elections, which Region 13 is having today.  
 Vice-Chairmen Larry Dovalina had a question about a comment sent back on the final plans from the TWDB.

Bryan Martin discussed how HDR has been working to get all the comments answered. There were two types of comments Level 1 which had to be answered by March 27, 2023, and Level 2 which must be answered with the revised plan in July 2023. Level 1 comments were GIS related. So, they're very technical in nature. Essentially the TWDB comment was to confirm the geodatabase matches the tables in the report. HDR was able to work through and revise the discrepancy and upload the new tables today.

6. Discussion and possible action – Election of 2023 Officers

Region 13 has 3 officer positions that need to be filled at this time: Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, and Secretary. LJ Francis gave his resignation last week on Wednesday, March 22, 2023.

Javier Ramirez nominated Barbara Canales for Chairman. There were no other nominations for Chairman. Robert Williams made an acclamation for Barbara Canales to be Chairman of the Nueces Flood Planning Group and seconded by Larry Thomas. Passed Unanimously.

Larry Dovalina nominated Andrew Rooke for Vice-Chairmen. There were no other nominations for Vice-Chairman. Robert Williams made an acclamation for Andrew Rooke for Vice-Chairman of the Nueces Flood Planning Group and seconded by Lauren Williams. Passed unanimously.

Robert Williams nominated himself for Secretary. There were no other nominations for Secretary. Lauren Williams made an acclamation for Robert Williams for Secretary for the Nueces Flood Planning Group and seconded by Larry Dovalina. Passed unanimously.

There was no other discussion about the nominations. Larry Dovalina made a motion to move forward with the nominations and seconded by Javier Ramirez. Passed unanimously.

The Executive Committee needs two more members. They must be voting members of the Nueces Flood Planning Group.

Larry Dovalina nominated Lauren Williams. Robert Williams made an acclamation that Lauren Williams would serve on the Executive Committee and seconded by Larry Dovalina. Passed unanimously.

Robert Williams nominated Shanna Owens. Robert Williams made an acclamation that Shanna Owens serves on the Executive Committee and seconded by Larry Dovalina. Passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and possible action – Drawing for term of Regional Voting Members

This is the original cycle for the Nueces Flood Planning group and all voting members terms are up July 2023. They're supposed to be 6 years terms and it is proposed that half the board will have 2-year terms and the other half will have a 6-year term. Lorie Flores walked to each voting member with a deck of cards. Those with a red card, get a 2-year term. A black card is a 6-year term.

Nueces Regional Flood Planning Group Membership terms are as follows.

Municipalities, Counties, Small Business, River Authorities, and Water Districts will have 2 years terms which will expire in July 2025. Water Utilities, Agricultural, Environmental, Public, Electric Generating, and Flood Districts will be 6-year terms which will expire July 2029.

8. Discussion and possible action – Update on FMX evaluation (Task 12) from Bryan Martin HDR.

TWDB roughly gave HDR \$450,000 to further advance the FMX's. The goal in this task is for the Technical Team to take projects and advance them as far as possible hoping to get more FMPs and FMEs. HDR has met with the Nueces Flood Planning Group twice, once in September 2022 and then again in November 2022 to show a plan for task 12 and potential of 32 FMP projects and 2 studies totaling 34 FMXs in the plan. Today will be a progress update. Also, in the future at some point the members will have to vote to add FMXs to the revised plan which has to be completed before July 2023. There was a list that was sent out to all members ahead of time to show the different sponsors and projects that are currently advancing. By the end of April, HDR estimates to have a total of 27 FMPs and 38 FMEs that are being advanced. All information will be presented at the May 15, 2023, meeting. Ludivine Varga with HDR will speak on an example of the deliverables, the City of Poteet Drainage improvements. We collected data by meeting with the city, stakeholders, and used available information online to determine the solutions of the project. All other projects were done similarly. Then there was drainage analysis done which was completed with ISM which is a 2d model software. You must follow technical guidelines which BCA (Benefit Cost Analysis),

impact analysis, and cost. The board will be provided with a detailed project description and an engineering report when HDR has prepared an evaluation as part of the Regional Flood Plan. The Deliverables will be one-page summaries for all FMEs and FMPs which would include pertinent information in line with TWDB requirements. What this accomplishes is a deeper evaluation into some of the strategies that were identified in the final plan and allows the planning group to provide added service and support to the sponsors to be able to get these projects moving along. The Final Plan that was delivered back in January will need to be revised to reflect this information. At the May meeting, we will have an update of all the process HDR has made and then approve changes. Following the approval of the changes Region 13 will then adopt the revised plan in June.

9. Discussion and possible action – Review and provide input on TWDB proposed ranking criteria FMXs presented by Bryan Martin HDR.  
State statute requires all FMXs to be ranked in the state flood plan. The TWDB sent out information on their ranking criteria and are currently soliciting public feedback and comments on proposed methods for ranking projects by April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. General feedback should be considered for ranking recommended flood projects (FMEs), (FMPs), and (FMSs) in the state flood plan. The intent of the ranking is to identify areas with the worst existing risk of flooding, identify solutions that may result in greater overall reduction in the flood risk, and focus on projects with the greater potential to mitigate the risk to life and property. Ranking may be a consideration in future funding. The only data used was from the Regional Flood Plans. The focus was on flood risk related to people, structures, critical facilities, low water crossings, farms, and ranch land. Other factors would be water supply benefits, nature-based solutions, mobility, and environmental benefits. What does this mean for the Nueces Basin? FMEs in the Region 13 Plan- 163 recommended for a total amount of \$282.3 million. There were 2,336 projects across the state on the prioritization list. 6 Region 13 FMEs made top 10 ranking totaling \$55 million or 70% of \$77.7 million cost of top 10 projects across the state. FMSs in the Region 13 plan- 40 recommended for total amount of \$20.3 million. 375 projects across the state on the prioritization list. No Region 13 FMSs made the list. Regions that didn't have FMSs shown on the ranking list were regions 1, 7, 9, 10,12, 13, and 14.
10. Discussion and possible action – Present results of Future Coastal Conditions (task 2B) By Sarah West with Freese and Nichols  
The Coast area is divided into 4 coastal zones. The intent is to determine the future inundation levels based on a sea-level rise of 1.1-ft. which Region 13 approved in 2022. Determine average slope for each zone which has been completed. This is determined by typical horizontal offset for each zone based on 1.1-ft vertical SLR and slope. Also, a buffer was applied to existing 1% (100 year) and 0.2% (500 year) annual chance coastal flood inundation boundaries. Maps were shown to Region 13.
11. Discussion and possible action – Future Meetings Dates May 15<sup>th</sup>, June 26<sup>th</sup>
12. Discussion of the requirements for All members of the RFPG-13 under Texas Water Code §16.062(l) (Texas Government Code § 551 and 552) (Open Meetings Act and Public Information) by Travis Pruski (NRA)  
All members of the RFPG 13 are required to complete the Open Meeting Act and Public Information Act every two years.
13. Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Nueces River Authority regarding administrative matters of the Regional Flood Planning Group. No Updates.
14. Discussion and possible action – Finding Liaison to Region 12 San Antonio RFPG and Region 15 Lower Rio Grande RFPG. Patrick will no longer be able to attend the meetings. Chairmen Barbara Canales will do the research for the next 30-60 days until the board finds a liaison replacement for region 12.
15. No comments from RFPG members.

Barbara Canales adjourned the meeting at 12:58 p.m.