

Minutes of the January 16, 2020 Meeting of the  
Coastal Bend Regional Water Planning Group (Region N) for the  
Senate Bill 1 Regional Water Planning Program

The meeting of the Coastal Bend Regional Water Planning Group (RWPG) was held at the Johnny Calderon County Building, 710 E. Main Street, Robstown, Texas 78380.

**Agenda Item I – Call to Order:** Ms. Carola Serrato called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

**Agenda Item II – Roll Call:** Voting members of the Coastal Bend RWPG in attendance included:

Mr. Scotty Bledsoe (Water Districts)	Dr. Pancho Hubert (Small Business)
Mr. John Burriss (Other)	Mr. Robert Kunkel (Industries)
Ms. Teresa Carrillo (Environmental)	Mr. Charles Ring (Agriculture)
Mr. Carl Crull (Other)	Ms. Donna Rosson (Public)
Mr. Lavoyger Durham (Counties)	Mr. Mark Scott (Municipalities)
Mr. Gary Eddins (Electric Utilities)	Ms. Carola Serrato (Water Utilities)
Mr. Andy Garza (Groundwater Management Area (GMA) 16)	Mr. Lonnie Stewart (GMA 13)

Ms. Rosario Martinez (Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP)) was a proxy for Mr. Jace Tunnell (Environmental).

Mr. Joe Almaraz (Industries), Mr. Chuck Burns (Agriculture), Mr. Bill Dove (Small Business), Ms. Barbara Reaves (Municipalities), Mr. Bill Stockton (Counties), and Mr. Mark Sugarek (GMA 15) had excused absences.

Ms. Rocky Freund represented the Nueces River Authority (NRA).

Non-voting members in attendance included:

Ms. Nelda Barrera, Texas Department of Agriculture	Mr. Kevin Smith, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Mr. John Byrum, Region L Liaison	Dr. Jim Tola Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

Guests included:

Mr. Bech Bruun, Port of Corpus Christi Authority (PCCA)	Mr. Louis Peña, Brush Country GCD
Ms. Maria Corona, City of Corpus Christi	Mr. Steve Ramos, City of Corpus Christi
Mr. James Dodson	Ms. Jenna Rao, HDR
Ms. Sarah Garza (PCCA)	Mr. Blas Rizzo, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Mr. George Gonzalez, Duval Groundwater District	Mr. Alec Robbins, Texas General Land Office
Mr. Adrien Hilmy, CBBEP	Ms. Kristi Shaw, HDR
Ms. Leslie Koza, TPWD	Mr. James Skrobarczyk
Mr. Joe McComb, Mayor, City of Corpus Christi	Mr. Greg Smith, City of Corpus Christi
Mr. Bob Paulison, Port Industries	Ms. Diana Villenas, TCEQ
	Mr. Brian Williams, San Patricio Municipal Water District (SPMWD)

**Agenda Item III – Approval of Minutes of the November 14, 2019 RWPG Meeting:** Ms. Serrato asked for approval of the minutes of the November 14, 2019 meeting of the Coastal Bend RWPG for the Senate Bill 1 Regional Water Planning Program. There was a motion by Mr. Crull to approve the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Mr. Kunkel. There was no further discussion, and the minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

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**Agenda Item IV – Elect Officers for Calendar Year 2020:** Mr. Crull made a motion to elect the current slate of officers by acclamation. It was seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Agenda Item V – Consider Drought Preparedness Council (DPC) Recommendations and Adopt any Modifications to Region N-Adopted Drought Response Approach from May 9,2019, as Needed:**

Ms. Shaw reviewed the DPC’s recommendations and the Region N – adopted drought response approach. Mr. Crull made a motion to approved Region N’s drought response adopted at the May 9, 2019 meeting to address the DPC’s recommendations. It was seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Agenda Item VI – Preliminary Results of Selected Water Management Strategies (WMS) to be Included in the 2021 Plan:** Ms. Shaw reviewed the Port of Corpus Christi La Quinta Channel and Harbor Island Desalination projects.

**Agenda Item VII – Consider Approval of a Region N Letter Requested by the Port of Corpus Christi to Address the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s Regulation that a Water Supply Project Addresses a Water Supply Need Consistent with the State Water Plan:** Ms. Serrato explained that this letter is similar to the one requested by the City of Corpus Christi. The main difference is that the two sites are not included in the Region N 2016 Plan. Mr. Crull made a motion to provide a letter to the Port. It was seconded by Mr. Burris. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Agenda Item VIII – Summary of Water Management Strategies for Water User Groups (WUGs) with Needs:** Ms. Shaw review the list of WUGs with needs and the recommended strategies to meet those needs.

**Identification of Recommended and Alternate Water Management Strategies:** Mr. Scott made a motion to approve all of the recommended strategies for all of the WUGs, excluding the City of Alice. It was seconded by Dr. Hubert. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. Mr. Crull made a motion to approve the recommended strategies for the City of Alice. It was seconded by Mr. Garza. The motion passed by a voice vote with Mr. Burris abstaining.

**Agenda Item IX – Region N Implementation Survey Results of the 2017 State Water Plan:** Ms. Shaw reviewed this TWDB requirement for inclusion in the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) and the status of the survey results to date.

**Agenda Item X – Impacts of the Region Water Plan and Consistency with Protection of Resources:** Ms. Rao reviewed the information that will be included on this topic in the IPP.

**Agenda Item XI – RWPG/TWDB Administrative and Other Issues:**

**NRCS Non-voting Member:** Ms. Freund reported that Tomas Dominguez retired from the NRCS and that Sonny Vela is currently taking over his duties.

**Status of Water Management Strategy Evaluations for Additional Strategies:** Mr. Kevin Smith reported that the line item for \$4,200 for additional strategies has not been spent.

He also reported that comment period for the flood rules ends at the end of January; that SWIFT applications are due February 3, 2020 and that agricultural conservation grants are due February 19, 2020.

**Review of IPP and Public Hearing Timelines:** Mr. Kevin Smith reviewed the timeline and comment period for the IPP.

**Agenda Item XII – General Public Comment:** Ms. Serrato asked for public comment. Mr. Peña introduced Mr. George Gonzalez as the new director for Duval County GCD.

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**Agenda Item XIII – Confirm Next Meeting Date:** The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2020.

**Agenda Item XIV – Adjourn:** Ms. Serrato adjourned the meeting at 3:46 pm.

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Minutes prepared by: Ms. Rocky Freund.

Minutes Submitted by: Lonnie Stewart  
Lonnie Stewart  
Secretary, Coastal Bend RWPG

9/26/20  
Date