

Meeting Minutes
Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Flood Planning Group Meeting
May 5, 2022
2:00 p.m.

**Small Business Development Center, The Community Room – (2nd Floor), 105 N. Riddle Avenue,
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455 and Via Zoom Webinar/Teleconference**

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) /Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Preston Ingram (William)	Agricultural interests	
Andy Endsley	Counties	X
W. Greg Carter	Electric generating utilities	X
Laura-Ashley Overdyke	Environmental interests	X
Casey Johnson	Industries	
Dustin Henslee	Municipalities	X
Kirby Hollingsworth	Public	
R. Reeves Hayter	River authorities	X
Kelly Mitchell	Small business	X
Joseph W. Weir III	Water districts	X
Susan Whitfield	Water utilities	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
James (Clay) Shipes	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	
Andrea Sanders	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Darrell Dean	Texas Department of Agriculture	
Tony Resendez	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Trey Bahm	General Land Office	
Anita Machiavello	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Michelle Havelka	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Darlene Prochaska	USACE, Fort Worth District	
Travis Wilsey	USACE, Tulsa District	
Randy Whiteman	RFPG 1 Liaison	X
Richard Brontoli	Red River Valley Association	X
Jason Dupree	TxDOT – Atlanta District	X
Dan Perry	TxDOT – Paris District	

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **8**

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of **11: 6**

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Chris Brown - ATCOG

Kathy McCollum - ATCOG

Paul Prange – ATCOG

Joshua McClure – Halff Associates Team

David Rivera – Halff Associates Team

Parker Moore – Halff Associates Team

Laura Haverlah – Halff Associates Team

David Jones – Hunt County

James Bronikowski – TWDB

**Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Zoom meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Reeves Hayter called the meeting to order at 2:00p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome

Reeves Hayter welcomed members and attendees to the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Flood Planning Group meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Confirmation of attendees / determination of a quorum

Reeves Hayter asked ATCOG staff member, Paul Prange, to conduct a roll call of attendees. Each present voting and non-voting member of the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG introduced themselves, establishing that a quorum had been met. Eight voting members were present and seven non-voting members were absent.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Reeves Hayter opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: *Consider approval of minutes for the meeting held Thursday, March 3, 2022.

Reeves Hayter opened the floor for discussion and approval of the minutes from the previous meeting. A motion was made by Joseph Weir and was seconded by Laura-Ashley Overdyke to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Texas Water Development Board Update:

Reeves Hayter turned the floor over to Anita Machiavello who announced that the technical memorandum submitted to TWDB in March is undergoing review by TWDB staff and informal comments will be provided to the Region 2 Flood Planning Group in May of 2022. Also, the next Technical Consultants' Conference call has been scheduled for May 24, 2022 and the next Chairs' conference call has been scheduled for May 25, 2022. Ms. Machiavello encouraged the members of the flood planning group to visit the TWDB website and review the latest newsletter which contains guidance relating to voting on FMXs.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Region 1 Canadian-Upper Red Regional Flood Planning Group Updates:

Reeves Hayter asked for any updates relating to Region 1 flood planning activities. Randy Whiteman announced that Freese & Nichols staff presented an update of Region 2's activities at the last Region 1 meeting, so he expected that they would also provide an update for Region 1 activities to Region 2, as well. Mr. Whiteman did announce that Region 1 has submitted their recommendations for Chapter 8 to the TWDB for review.

TECHNICAL CONSULTANT UPDATE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Technical Presentation by Halff Associates, Inc.

- 1. Tech Memo and Addendum Status Update**
- 2. Chapter 1-Planning Description**

- a. Discuss comments
- 3. **Chapter 4-Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis & Identification and Evaluation of Potential FMEs, FMSs and FMPs**
 - a. Discuss Comments
- 4. **Chapter 5-Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs and FMPs**
 - a. Present Sub-Committee Recommendations
- 5. **Chapter 7-Flood Response Information and Activities**
 - a. Discuss Comments
- 6. **Schedule**

Reeves Hayter turned the floor over to Joshua McClure who presented information regarding the Tech Memo Addendum, Chapter 4, Chapter 5 and Chapter 7. Mr. McClure stated that Chapter 1 will be discussed next month at the June meeting. Mr. McClure then announced that the initial Tech Memo was submitted to TWDB on January 7, 2022 and the final Tech Memo was submitted to TWDB on March 7, 2022 where it was administratively approved on March 22, 2022. Mr. McClure stated that he received informal comments for the January Tech Memo submittal from TWDB on April 18, 2022 and he will provide them to be included in the minutes of this meeting.

Joshua McClure conducted a presentation focusing on Chapters 4 and 5 – FMEs, FMPs and FMSs. Mr. McClure announced that he received comments from Reeves Hayter, Laura-Ashley Overdyke and Tony Resendez. Discussion took place among the group relating to comments and Reeves Hayter asked Mr. McClure about the TWDB requirement that projects could not allow/cause an increase in downstream flow of over .5 percent. Mr. McClure then explained that the TWDB does not want to fund a project that may create a flooding issue downstream. A channelization project would require flow mitigation practices to be implemented, such as detention facilities. Mr. Hayter stated for the record, that he opposes this TWDB requirement of a blanket approach to limit the increase in flows and this defeats the whole purpose of the program. Mr. McClure stated that there is an exception for allowing increases in flows if residents downstream of a project sign off on it and provide their approval, however most conveyance improvement projects would not likely meet the criteria. Anita Machiavello did not have any comment on this requirement by TWDB, when asked by Mr. McClure. More discussion took place among the group relating to this requirement. David Rivera stated that there are some allowances for increasing flow, if no negative impact can be established, and he provided an example of a similar project in the Trinity region. Mr. McClure stated that this is one of the items that will be addressed in Chapter 8. Additional discussion took place among the group relating to comments from Laura-Ashley Overdyke regarding the Cypress Valley Navigation District and FMEs versus FMSs. Discussion took place among the group relating to dam ratings in Region 2 and Tony Resendez commented on this topic, focusing on structural integrity studies, repair projects and matching fund requirements.

Joshua McClure then introduced Laura Haverlah, with H2O Partners, to conduct a presentation of Chapter 7 – Flood Response Information and Activities, focusing on the nature and types of flood response preparations and the recovery capabilities within the Flood Planning Region. Ms. Haverlah stated that there are four phases of emergency management which include; Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation and provided a list of entities involved. Reeves Hayter asked about Flood Control Districts and Local Levee Owner/Operators being included in the list of entities, since there are no active Flood Control Districts located within Region 2. Mr. McClure and Ms. Haverlah stated that

these entities appear to exist on paper, but in reality no one is performing this function within Region 2 and suggested that we note this in the Regional Flood Plan. Mr. Hayter stated that there is a Levee District located along the Red River within Region 2 and Mr. McClure concurred. Ms. Haverlah then discussed the various types of Plans to consider such as; Hazard Mitigation Action Plans, Emergency Management Plans, Zoning and Ordinances, and Land Use Regulations. Floodplain Management Practices within Region 2 are not particularly strong and adoption of higher standards is recommended. Mr. Hayter commented on Red River County being listed as having strong floodplain management practices, despite having no FEMA maps and requested that the technical consultants review all of the data for Region 2 pertaining to floodplain management practices and the ranking system. Discussion took place among the group. Ms. Haverlah then presented information relating to regulations and development codes that exist within Region 2 for the purpose of managing flood risk for developments. A map depicting Floodplain Management Regulations indicated that 18 of the 20 counties within Region 2 have some type of regulations and Mr. Hayter stated that it is misleading. David Rivera stated that he agreed with Mr. Hayter's assessment and Discussion took Place among the group, with Andy Endsley commenting on the regulations existing within Hopkins County. Ms. Haverlay then presented information on Types of Mitigation Actions from Hazard Mitigation Action Plans. Discussion took place among the group. Mr. McClure asked Mr. Endsley about the Reverse 9-1-1 System in Hopkins County and Greg Carter mentioned Code Red capabilities in the City of Mount Pleasant, TX. Additional discussion took place and Mr. McClure stated that he would revisit the early warning systems within our region and provide updated information to be included with the Regional Flood Plan. Ms. Haverlay concluded her presentation of Chapter 7 and stated that Region 2 and one other region in Texas are lacking data collection due to the rural nature of the regions. Chris Brown and Andrea Sanders discussed data included within Hazard Mitigation Plans which may be useful to include within the Region 2 Flood Plan.

Joshua McClure then presented the schedule of upcoming activities including Task1-4A, Task4B, Task 5, Tasks 6A and 6B, Task 7, Task 8, Task 9, and Task 10. In June, discussion of comments on Chapters 1, 6, 8, and 9 will occur and the Draft Regional Flood Plan will be submitted for review. In July, discussion of comments and voting on Draft Regional Flood Plan will occur and submission of the revised Draft Regional Flood Plan to TWDB is anticipated.

OTHER BUSINESS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Update from Planning Group Sponsor

Reeves Hayter turned the floor over to Chris Brown who announced that the next meeting of the Region 2 Flood Planning Group will be held at the Ark-Tex Council of Governments building in Texarkana. Mr. Brown also stated that ATCOG has posted the notice that we will be accepting applications to fill the vacant "Public" voting member position on the Region 2 Board of Directors. Mr. Brown announced that ATCOG has received a reimbursement payment from the TWDB and he mentioned that Kathy McCollum conducted a flood planning presentation to increase public outreach at the last ATCOG Board of Directors meeting on April 28, 2022. Mr. Brown also mentioned that the RFPG2 will need to conduct an Executive Committee meeting in June to nominate a person to fill the vacant "Public" voting member position. Discussion took place and the flood planning group selected Wednesday, June 22, 2022 for the Executive Committee to meet.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Reeves Hayter opened the floor for discussion. The Region 2 RFPG board members agreed to conduct the next meeting on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 2:00p.m. in Mount Pleasant, TX and via webinar/teleconference.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Adjourn

Reeves Hayter opened the floor to adjourn the meeting.

A motion was made by Joseph Weir and was seconded by Greg Carter.

The vote to adjourn was passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47p.m. by Reeves Hayter.

Approved by the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG at a meeting held on 06/02/2022.


Reeves Hayter, CHAIR 