

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress Flood Planning Group Meeting**  
**April 13, 2023**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**at**

**Northeast Texas Community College, Community Room – (Hum 101), 2886 FM 1735, Chapel Hill Road,  
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
Troy Hudson	Public	
R. Reeves Hayter	River authorities	X
Kelly Mitchell	Small business	
David Weidman	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	
Darrell Dean	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Tony Resendez	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Trey Bahm	General Land Office	
Anita Machiavello	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Michelle Havelka	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Lisa M. Mairs	USACE, Galveston District	
Travis Wilsey	USACE, Tulsa District	
Randy Whiteman	RFPG 1 Liaison	
Richard Brontoli	Red River Valley Association	
Jason Dupree	TxDOT – Atlanta District	
Dan Perry	TxDOT – Paris District	

**Quorum:**

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **7**

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

Parker Moore – Halff Associates Team

David Rivera – Halff Associates Team

\*\*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 2:00 p.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. Seven voting members were present along with three non-voting members.

**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 meetings held Thursday, December 15, 2022**

Reeves Hayter opened the floor for discussion and approval of the minutes from the previous meetings. A motion was made by Laura-Ashley Overdyke and was seconded by Greg Carter 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 the Terms of Office and that the terms of all initial voting members will expire on July 10, 2023. All voting members will need to draw lots for terms of two years or five years. Ms. Machiavello also announced that the TWDB is seeking public feedback on methods for ranking FMEs, FMPs and FMSs in the 2024 State Flood Plan and the comments are due on April 14th. Ms. Machiavello then commented briefly on Task 13. Reeves Hayter thanked Ms. Machiavello and TWDB for conducting the ranking criteria webinar for the regional flood planning groups.

**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. Region 1 liaison, Randy Whiteman, was not present and Joshua McClure did not have any updates available for the flood planning group.

**TECHNICAL CONSULTANT UPDATE**

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

- Update on RFPG Submittal
- Task 12 Update
  1. TWDB Comments

## 2. TWDB Ranking

- **Schedule**

Reeves Hayter turned the floor over to Joshua McClure who began discussion of the Task 12 update (additional funding for conducting FMEs). Mr. McClure announced that further assessment is ongoing for 9 FME candidates which include the following Cities: DeKalb, Hooks, Texarkana, Atlanta, Paris, Bonham, Nash and Hunt County, TX.

David Rivera discussed the Anderson Creek WWTP Flood Study to evaluate the need for a levee to protect the WWTP during the 100-Year flood event. This project would likely meet the "No Negative Impact" requirement and Mr. Rivera recommended to continue the FME analysis.

David Rivera discussed the Cowhorn Creek East FME to develop mitigation alternatives for flooding in the Diamond Circle Subdivision by updating existing conditions models. Screening assessment concluded that this project is unlikely to meet the "No Negative Impact" requirement and no further analysis is recommended for this FME.

David Rivera discussed the City of Atlanta Eleanor St. and Red Bluff St. Projects, as well as the Park View St. and Jefferson St. Projects to replace culvert crossings. Additional information was requested on February 17<sup>th</sup> but no further information has been obtained from the Sponsor. Therefore, no further analysis is recommended for this FME. Brief discussion took place and Andy Endsley provided some additional contact information for the City of Atlanta, TX.

David Rivera discussed the Pig Branch Watershed Culvert Study FME in the City of Bonham to alleviate existing and potential flood damages for various crossings. Existing conditions models are being updated and will focus on culvert upgrades and channel improvements, potential mitigation options are being investigated, and a 100-Year level of service may not be feasible. "No Negative Impact" determination is currently unknown, however Mr. Rivera recommended to continue the FME analysis. Brief discussion took place among the group.

David Rivera discussed the Hunt County, TX Project for County Road 1051 which is being performed utilizing separate funding to conduct a Countywide Drainage Study. The Project proposes to construct two new bridge crossings, raise the road elevation, and perform side channel improvements to reduce flooding. Mr. Rivera stated that the BCA is in progress, "No Negative Impacts" are anticipated, the Level of Service: 10-Year, and all FMP data and other TWDB requirements will be provided to the Region 2 Flood Planning Group. Brief discussion took place among the group.

Joshua McClure discussed the City of Hooks Infrastructure Study to address flooding along several creeks and announced that a field visit had been conducted on February 16<sup>th</sup>, BLE models are being updated to verify flooding issues, and that "No Negative Impact" determination is currently unknown. Mr. McClure announced that he is working closely with the City of Hooks and TexAmerica's Center to develop a strategy to help reduce flooding by potentially utilizing detention ponds. FMP Feasibility is still pending and Mr. McClure recommends to continue FME analysis.

Joshua McClure discussed the City of Paris, Big Sandy Creek Improvements to reduce the risk of flooding along streams. Existing conditions models have been obtained, three alternatives have been incorporated into one project, “No Negative Impact” determination is currently unknown, and FMP Feasibility is still pending. Mr. McClure recommends continuing FME analysis. Brief discussion took place between Reeves Hayter and the Technical Consultants.

Joshua McClure discussed the Pecan to Waggoner Creek Channel Improvements Project in the City of Nash to reduce risk of flooding for structures downstream of N. Pecan St. BLE models are currently being updated with preliminary mitigation options being limited and the FMP is unlikely to meet the “No Negative Impact” requirements. Therefore, no further analysis is being recommended for this FME.

Joshua McClure discussed the City of Texarkana Gauges Project to install rainfall and flow monitoring gauges for flood-prone areas. Preliminary locations have been established and a meeting has been conducted with the City of Texarkana. This FMP would likely meet the “No Negative Impact” requirement. Brief discussion took place among the group.

Joshua McClure stated that about half of the FMEs appear to be viable for inclusion in the Region 2 Flood Plan. Reeves Hayter thanked Mr. McClure and the consulting team for their efforts and the presentation.

Joshua McClure then discussed the TWDB Comments on the Regional Flood Plan that were received approximately two weeks ago. Mr. McClure announced that responses to the comments are due to TWDB on April 14, 2023. Brief discussion took place among the group.

Joshua McClure presented the TWDB Proposed Project Rankings to the Region 2 Flood Planning Group for discussion. Per the TWDB Ranking Criteria, larger studies yield a higher ranking and smaller studies yield a lower ranking. Reeves Hayter thanked Mr. McClure for his presentation and provided comments to the group. Mr. Hayter suggested prioritizing the Region 2 projects upon submittal of the Regional Flood Plan and asked for feedback from the group. Discussion took place among the group with comments from Greg Carter, Chris Brown and Joshua McClure, and a consensus was reached not to prioritize any projects. Mr. Hayter stated that he would like to see some points moved from the “Population” or “Structures” category into the “Agriculture” category. Additional discussion took place and David Rivera agreed that this suggestion should be submitted to TWDB as a comment. Mr. McClure provided an in-depth explanation of the ranking criteria and suggested performing a transform on the data to help elevate the rankings of our projects. Laura-Ashley Overdyke commented on the “Nature Based Solutions” category to potentially gain some additional points. Discussion continued among the group and Mr. Hayter encouraged each member to submit their comments on the TWDB form by 5:00 pm tomorrow.

Joshua McClure announced the schedule of upcoming deliverables which included: April 13, 2023 – RFPG2 Meeting to discuss FME results and potential for FMPs, and to discuss new FMXs received; April-May 2023 – Prepare Amended RFP; May 4, 2023-RFPG2 Meeting to recommend FMPs and new FMEs for

inclusion in the plan, and provide update on the amended plan; May 11, 2023 – Submit Amended RFP for public comment (Minimum 14 days before vote); June 15, 2023 – Public Meeting to Review and Approve Amended RFP; June 29, 2023 – Public Comment Period closes; July 14, 2023 – Amended RFP Due to TWDB.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Update from Planning Group Sponsor**

Reeves Hayter turned the floor over to Chris Brown who announced that per Section 2 “Terms of Office” of the bylaws, each voting member must draw straws for a two-year or five-year term at a meeting prior to July 10, 2023. Brief discussion took place among the group and terms will be decided at the Region 2 Flood Planning Group meeting scheduled for May 4, 2023.

#### **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 Region 2 Flood Planning Group Board of Directors Meeting on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at a time and location to be determined and via webinar/teleconference. Mr. Hayter then announced that lunch will be provided to all attendees.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Adjourn**

Reeves Hayter called for the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.  
*Approved by the Region 2 Lower Red-Sulphur-Cypress RFPG at a meeting held on 5/4/2023.*

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Reeves Hayter, CHAIR