



MEETING MATERIALS

May 7, 2014

San Jacinto River Authority

Region H Water Planning Group
10:00 AM Wednesday
May 7, 2014
San Jacinto River Authority Office
1577 Dam Site Rd, Conroe, Texas

AGENDA

1. Introductions.
2. Review and approve minutes of February 5, 2014 meeting.
3. **Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 4 through 14.** (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
4. Recognize and welcome Bech Bruun, Member of the Texas Water Development Board.
5. Receive presentation from Nancy Richards regarding the status of Texas Water Development Board Funding Programs.
6. Receive update from Senator Kip Averitt regarding the status of the Goldwater Project examining water conservation efforts in Region H.
7. Receive update from Consultant Team regarding the schedule and milestones for the development of the 2016 Region H Regional Water Plan.
8. Receive update from Consultant Team and Water Management Strategies Committee regarding the prioritization of water plan projects for use by the Texas Water Development Board in administering loan funding to implement water projects.
9. Consider and take action on authorizing the Consultant Team to finalize and submit the draft TWDB prioritization scoring template for Region H water management strategies included in the 2011 Regional Water Plan and authorize the Water Management Strategies Committee and consultant team to work to address comments received and develop final prioritization for Regional Water Planning Group approval.
10. Authorize the consultant team to prepare and submit the required technical memorandum prior to August 1, 2014 to be ratified by the Regional Water Planning Group following submittal.
11. Consider authorizing the request of additional funding for the study of water management strategies from the Texas Water Development Board.
12. Receive update regarding the status of the Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Stakeholder Committee.
13. Receive update regarding the status of the Brazos River and Associated Bay and Estuary System Stakeholder Committee.
14. Agency communications and general information.
15. **Receive public comments.** (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
16. Next Meeting: August 6, 2014.
17. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and would like to request auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact Jodi Chaney at (936) 588-3111 at least three business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Agenda Item 2

Review and approve minutes of February 5th, 2014 meeting.

**MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
February 5, 2014
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John R. Bartos, John Blount, Robert Bruner, Mark Evans, Gene Fisseler, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, John Hofmann, Jace Houston, John Howard, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Gena Leathers, Marvin Marcell, James Morrison, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Lisa Lattu for Jun Chang, Ken Kramer for Carl Masterson, Michael Turco for Ronald Neighbors, Jim Sims for J. Kevin Ward

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Tyler

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Temple McKinnon, Melinda Silva, Scott Hall

PRESIDING: Judge Mark Evans, Chair

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:05 A.M.

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2013 MEETING

The minutes for the November 6, 2013, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. Schindewolf, seconded by Mr. Hoffman, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 10

No public comments.

RECEIVE REPORT ON RENEWAL OF ERRORS AND OMISSIONS POLICY FOR REGION H PLANNING GROUP MEMBERS

Mr. Houston presented the annual insurance policy for renewal with an approximate amount due of \$1,100.00. No action required.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Jason Afinowicz gave an update on TWDB's revised planning schedule, pointing out key dates related to the schedule and action on project prioritization.

03/18/14 – Water Management Strategies Committee Meeting for making the first cut prioritization
05/07/14 – Region H Water Planning Group Meeting to review and approve before June 1st submittal
06/01/14 – Deadline for Draft 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB
07/02/14 – Approval of Technical Memorandum
08/01/14 – Deadline for Technical Memorandum to TWDB
08/06/14 – Region H Water Planning Group Meeting – group can ratify Memorandum
09/01/14 – Deadline for Final 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB
05/01/15 – Deadline for Initially Prepared Plan to TWDB
11/02/15 – Deadline for Final Adopted Plan to TWDB

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE REGARDING STATUS OF INVESTIGATION OF WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Afinowicz gave an update from the Water Management Strategies Committee regarding the status of investigation on water supply alternatives with a summary report on Allens Creek Reservoir, Regional Return Flows, City of Houston Reuse, Brackish Groundwater Desalination, Lone Star Lake, and Irrigation Conservation. Future strategy evaluations to come in the future. Mr. Afinowicz reported additional funds are available for other strategies and proposals.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PRIORITIZATION OF WATER PLAN PROJECTS FOR USE BY THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD IN ADMINISTERING LOAN FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT WATER PROJECTS

Mr. Afinowicz reviewed the timeline for the prioritization of projects in the 2011 and 2016 Water Plans stating that the draft was submitted and approved. The submission deadline to TWDB is June 1, 2014, for the *draft* prioritization and September 1, 2014, for the *final* prioritization. Currently, there are 829 entries for Region H projects for the strategy committee to bring to the planning group. The same process will be implemented for the 2016 plan. One difference being that a written request from the project sponsor will be required. Mr. Evans reiterated this is not required for the 2011 prioritization.

Ms. Temple McKinnon reported the target goal for finalization of SWIFT rules for final publication is set for December 1, 2014.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTANT TEAM TO COMPLETE THE DRAFT TWDB PRIORITIZATION SCORING TEMPLATE FOR REGION H WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES INCLUDED IN THE 2011 REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE COMMENT ON THE DRAFT PRIORITIZATION

Motion was made by Mr. Bartos, seconded by Mr. Kramer, to authorize the consultant team to complete the draft TWDB prioritization scoring template and authorize the Water Management Strategies Committee to review and provide comment on the draft prioritization. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND SCOPE OF WORK RELATED TO PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS IN THE 2011 REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Motion made by Judge Henson, seconded by Judge Hebert, to authorize an agreement with the Texas Water Development Board for additional funding and scope of work related to prioritization of projects in the 2011 and 2016 regional water plan. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS SCHEDULE FOR PLANNING GROUP EFFORTS AND MEETINGS FOR 2014

Mr. Afinowicz gave an overview of upcoming meetings to include March 18, 2014, for the Water Management Strategies Committee. Judge Evans offered an open invitation to other members not on the committee to attend. Mr. Houston requested that other members wishing to attend contact him by email in the event a quorum is present. A regular planning meeting is scheduled on May 7, 2014, and an approval will be needed by the members to authorize submission on behalf of the planning group. Judge Evans suggested that the board ratify the submission at the August 8, 2014, planning meeting. Mr. Afinowicz noted that the July meeting would no longer be needed.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF HAROLD WALLACE AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING WATER UTILITIES

Motion was made by Judge Henson to accept the resignation of Mr. Harold Wallace, representing Water Utilities, seconded by Judge Hebert. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF GLYNNA LEIPER AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING INDUSTRY

Motion was made by Mr. Marcell to accept the resignation of Ms. Glynn Leiper, representing Industry seconded by Mr. Blount. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Leiper's resignation included her recommendation of Otis Dickinson.

Mr. Marcell suggested a token of appreciation for the retiring members.

Judge Evans stated that new officers would need to be elected. The Nominations Committee will consider vacancies and meet by phone. Judge Evans suggested any interested parties should submit a letter of interest stating their willingness to serve to Mr. Houston. A deadline was set for March 31, 2014, to give the Nominations Committee time to consider nominations.

RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING RECENT AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REGION H PLANNING GROUP

Mr. Afinowicz reported presentations were made on water conservation at Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association on December 10th and at Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium on January 23rd.

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Ms. McKinnon recapped the schedule, offering the website for tracking SWIFT activity, and their continued efforts in visiting around the region.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jill Savory, Fort Bend County resident, provided comments regarding water issues in Fort Bend County.

NEXT MEETING

May 7, 2014
San Jacinto River Authority
General & Administration
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, TX 77304

ADJOURNED AT 11:15 A.M.

Agenda Item 7

Receive update from Consultant Team regarding the schedule and milestones for the development of the 2016 Region H Regional Water Plan.

Schedule – Project Prioritization

| Date | Scheduled Events/Tasks |
|-------------------|---|
| 03/18/2014 | WMS Committee Meeting |
| 05/07/2014 | RWPG Meeting |
| 06/01/2014 | DUE DATE: RWPG Draft 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB |
| 09/01/2014 | DUE DATE: RWPG Final 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB |
| 03/01/2015 | DUE DATE: Deadline for TWDB Adoption of Rules |
| 11/02/2015 | DUE DATE: RWPG 2016 RWP with Project Prioritization to TWDB |

Schedule – Regional Plan

| Date | Scheduled Events/Tasks |
|-------------------|--|
| 02/05/2014 | RWPG Meeting |
| 05/07/2014 | RWPG Meeting |
| 08/01/2014 | DUE DATE: Technical Memorandum to TWDB |
| 08/06/2014 | RWPG Meeting: <i>Review / Approve Chapters 1-3 Approval of Technical Memorandum</i> |
| 11/5/2014 | RWPG Meeting: <i>Review / Approve Chapter 4 and 7 Discuss Legislative Recommendations</i> |
| 01/07/2015 | RWPG Meeting: <i>Review / Approve Chapters 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 (partial), and 11</i> |
| 04/01/2015 | RWPG Meeting: <i>Review / Approve Initially Prepared Plan</i> |
| 05/01/2015 | DUE DATE: Initially Prepared Plan to TWDB |
| Q2/Q3 2015 | RWPG Meeting: <i>Review / Approve Final Plan</i> |
| 11/02/2015 | DUE DATE: Final Adopted Plan to TWDB |

Agenda Item 8

Receive update from Consultant Team and Water Management Strategies Committee regarding the prioritization of water plan projects for use by the Texas Water Development Board in administering loan funding to implement water projects.

RWP Project Prioritization Overview



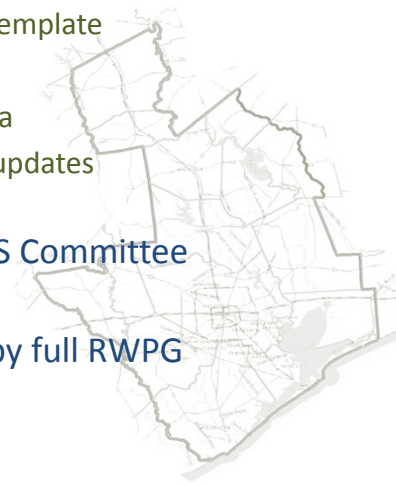
- RWPGs must consider:
 - Decade of need
 - Feasibility
 - Viability
 - Sustainability
 - Cost-effectiveness
- Uniform standards
- TWDB template
 - 829 projects
 - 13 criteria



Draft Prioritization Process



- Draft prioritization by consultant team
 - Uniform Standards and TWDB template
 - DB12 data
 - 2011 RWP technical memoranda
 - 2016 RWP survey and sponsor updates
- Review and comment by WMS Committee
- Recommendation for review by full RWPG



Draft Prioritization Results



- Complete List
- Short List
 - Focus on infrastructure projects
 - Remove zero-cost strategies
 - Remove contracts and reallocations



General Observations



- Largely objective process
- Large number of low-cost strategies that perform well
 - Conservation
 - Expanded groundwater
- Regional transmission and distribution project score highly
 - Regional water authorities
- Numerous projects that are required to make other projects work do not perform as well
 - Luce Bayou
 - Allens Creek



WMS Committee Concerns



- Definition of project
- Lack of mechanism to screen projects already implemented or unlikely to apply for funding
- Lack of provision for key supply relationships
- Difficulty in scoring phased infrastructure projects
- How will results ultimately be used?



DRAFT 2011 RWP Project Prioritization:
Full List

| Row | ID | Sponsor Region | Sponsor | Recommended Water Management Strategy Name | Criteria 1 - Decade of Need for Project | | | | Criteria 2 - Project Feasibility | | | | | | Criteria 3 - Project Viability | | | | | | Criteria 4 - Project Sustainability | | | | Criteria 5 - Project Cost Effectiveness | | FINAL SCORE | Rank | | |
|-----|------|----------------|--|--|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------|---------------------------------|--------|
| | | | | | MAXIMUM SCORES ----> | | | | 5 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 25 | 100 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 30 | 250 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | | 100 | 1000.0 |
| | | | | | 1A Online Decade | 1B Fundind Decade | Criteria 1 Total Score | Weighted Criteria 1 Total | 2A Supporting Data | 2B Rights | 2C Level of Planning | 2D Sponsor Request | Criteria 2 Total Score | Weighted Criteria 2 Total | 3A Start Decade Supply Factor | Converted Needs-based score for Uniform Standard 3A | 3B 2060 Supply Factor | Converted Needs-based score for Uniform Standard 3A | 3C Economic Feasibility | 3D Multiple WUG? | Criteria 3 Total Score | Weighted Criteria 3 Total | 4A Lifespan | 4B Change in Supply? | Criteria 4 Total Score | Weighted Criteria 4 Total | 5A Relative Unit Cost | | Weighted Criteria 5 Total | Total |
| 812 | H45 | H | BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY | BRA to NRG Energy contract | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 167 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | 100 | 452.7 | 812 |
| 813 | H588 | H | NRG | BRA to NRG Energy contract | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 167 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | 100 | 452.7 | 812 |
| 814 | H575 | H | NORTH HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY | NHCRWA indirect reuse | 4 | 6 | 10 | 200 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 8 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 61 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 447.1 | 814 |
| 815 | H595 | H | OLD RIVER-WINFREE | Expanded use of groundwater | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 16 | 64 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | 100 | 435.4 | 815 |
| 816 | H733 | H | SPRING CREEK UD | Expanded use of groundwater | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | 100 | 418.6 | 816 |
| 817 | H661 | H | RICHMOND | Contract with Cities of Richmond-Rosenberg | 0 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 56 | 41 | 4 | 41 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 68 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 5 | 100 | 413.6 | 817 |
| 818 | H362 | H | HOUSTON | Wastewater reuse for industry | 0 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 56 | 100 | 10 | 100 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 167 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 412.7 | 818 |
| 819 | H49 | H | BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY | Fort Bend off-channel reservoir | 2 | 6 | 8 | 160 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 58 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 404.0 | 819 |
| 820 | H118 | H | COUNTY-OTHER, FORT BEND | Contract with GCWA | 4 | 6 | 10 | 200 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 16 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 16 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 402.4 | 820 |
| 821 | H348 | H | HOLIDAY LAKES | Expanded use of groundwater | 0 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 50 | 5 | 50 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 15 | 125 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 2 | 40 | 399.0 | 821 |
| 822 | H548 | H | NEW CANEY MUD | Expanded use of groundwater | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 4 | 80 | 395.6 | 822 |
| 823 | H391 | H | JACINTO CITY | Reallocation of existing supplies | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 1 | 0 | 36 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 31 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 1 | 20 | 365.0 | 823 |
| 824 | H794 | H | WALLER | Reallocation of existing supplies | 0 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 28 | 3 | 28 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 46 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 4 | 80 | 360.3 | 824 |
| 825 | H388 | H | JACINTO CITY | Contract with City of Houston | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 17 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 23 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 1 | 20 | 357.2 | 825 |
| 826 | H50 | H | BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY | Freeport desalination plant | 2 | 4 | 6 | 120 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 13 | 52 | 22 | 2 | 19 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 35 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 356.5 | 826 |
| 827 | H570 | H | NORTH HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY | City of Houston indirect reuse | 4 | 6 | 10 | 200 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 12 | 48 | 19 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 7 | 57 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 355.4 | 827 |
| 828 | H341 | H | HILLCREST | Expanded use of groundwater | 0 | 2 | 2 | 40 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 11 | 44 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 8 | 63 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 2 | 40 | 336.5 | 828 |
| 829 | H46 | H | BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY | Brazoria off-channel reservoir | 0 | 4 | 4 | 80 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 36 | 14 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 23 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 288.7 | 829 |



REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
Senate Bill 1 - Texas Water Development Board

c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P. O. Box 329, Conroe, Texas 77305
Telephone 936-588-1111 Facsimile 936-588-3043

May 30, 2014

Agricultural

Robert Bruner
Pudge Wilcox

Counties

John Blount
Mark Evans, Chair
Judge Art Henson

Electric Generating Utilities

Gene Fisseler

Environmental

John R. Bartos,
Executive Committee

Groundwater Management Areas

David Bailey
Kathy Jones

Industries

Gená Leathers

Municipalities

Jun Chang
Robert Istre

Public

Carl Masterson

River Authorities

David Collinsworth
Jace Houston, Secretary
Kevin Ward

Small Businesses

Judge Bob Hebert
John Howard
Steve Tyler

Water Districts

Marvin Marcell
Ron Neighbors, Vice-Chair
Jimmy Schindewolf

Water Utilities

James Morrison
William Teer

TWDB Liaison

Lann Bookout

Mr. Kevin Patteson
Executive Administrator
Texas Water Development Board
1700 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Prioritized Projects from the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan

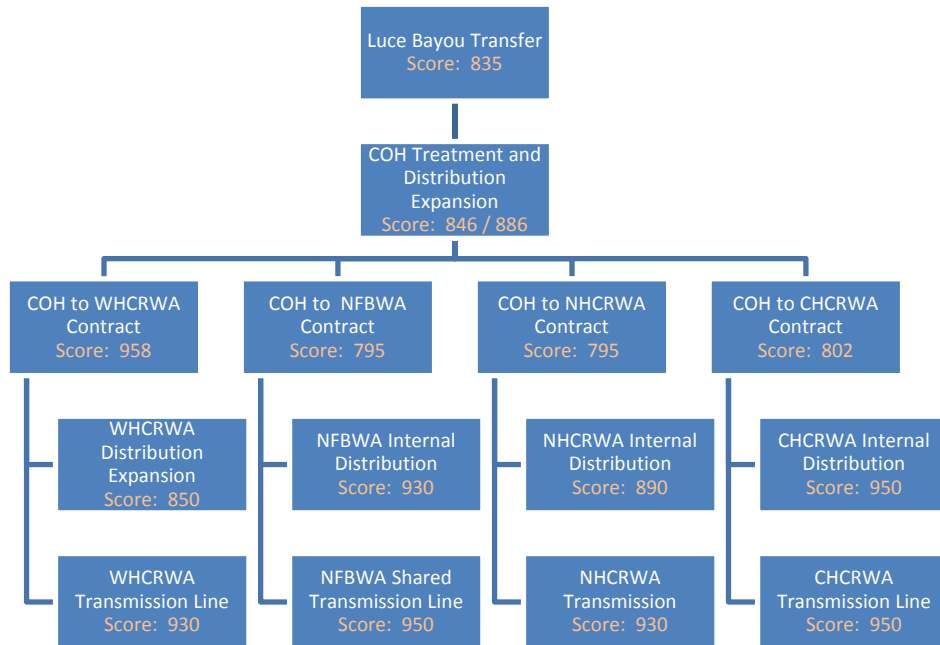
Dear Mr. Patteson:

The Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG) is transmitting its list of prioritized projects from the 2011 Region H Regional Water Plan (RWP) as prepared according to the direction of the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and the uniform standards proposed by the HB 4 Stakeholder Committee (SHC). This process has been carried as a collaborative effort by the RWPG and the Water Management Strategies (WMS) Committee chaired by Fort Bend County Judge Bob Hebert. As a region demonstrating an advanced level of growth and, in turn, water need over the upcoming 50 years, Region H is committed to the mission of HB 4 and the procedures in development by TWDB to commit funds to critical infrastructure projects in Texas.

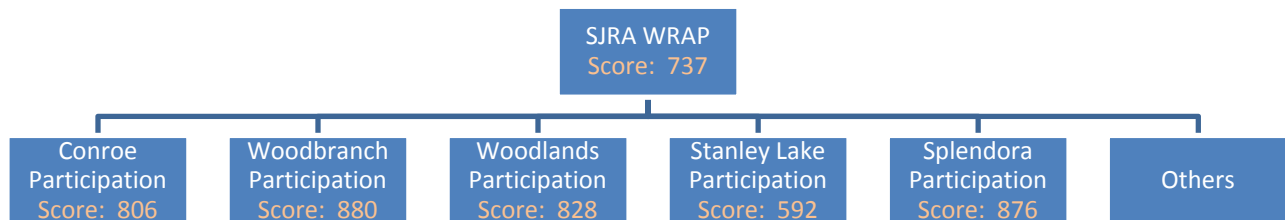
The RHWPG recognizes that this submittal is a draft prioritization of 2011 RWP projects and that changes to the process may be enacted before the final submittal in order to more uniformly apply the given standards and to identify critical funding needs. However, the RHWPG wishes to comment on the methodology as currently presented and share observations made during the prioritization process. The RHWPG's experience in working with the uniform standards demonstrated that the methodology was fairly objective in application, as was the goal of the SHC. However, the RHWPG also noted that the approach does not adequately account for some factors that make some projects more significant to the region than others. This and other identified concerns are demonstrated below with examples from Region H.

- There is concern that the definition of what constitutes a project for purposes of the RWPG prioritization process and the list of projects provided to the Region H RWPG do not realistically reflect the future supply needs of the Region; in many cases the template is more reflective of the planning database than anticipated project development.
- There is no mechanism in the template to screen out projects which have already been implemented, such as City of Houston to WHCRWA contract, NHCRWA transmission 2010, etc.

- The template does not include provisions for key supply relationships among projects. In a number of cases, large supply or infrastructure projects (some of which are actively in development) receive low scores, while other projects which are wholly or partially dependent on them score much higher.
 - Example 1:** Water from the Luce Bayou transfer will, with other supplies, be treated and distributed through future City of Houston (COH) infrastructure expansions. A portion of this supply is contracted to regional water authorities and will be conveyed through future expansions of authority treatment and distribution infrastructure to the area to meet needs in those service areas.



- Example 2:** The San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) Water Resources Assessment Plan (WRAP) reflects SJRA’s Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP), which will allow a large number of entities in Montgomery County to meet regulations designed to reduce dependence on groundwater. The first phase of infrastructure for this GRP is being constructed and will be operational by 2016. However, a number of projects reflecting WUG participation in the GRP outscore the GRP (WRAP) itself. An example is shown below.



- The template requires the scoring of many projects which are unlikely to need or apply for funding. There is a concern that this unnecessarily pushes more critical projects in need of funding lower on the list.
 - Example 1:** The zero-cost listing which exists only to transfer water from the Missouri City WWP to the Missouri City WUG in DB12 is ranked above the SJRA’s WRAP; infrastructure to implement the WRAP is already under construction.
 - Example 2:** The City of Houston has indicated that many of its GRP participants would simply be allowed to take more water. However, a number of Houston’s GRP participants outscore the City of Houston infrastructure expansions key to GRP function.
- The template creates challenges in consistently and realistically scoring phased infrastructure projects. This is particularly important because many of the key strategies in the 2011 Region H RWP involve multiple phases of

infrastructure development, including treatment and distribution expansions for the City of Houston and the Regional Water Authorities, as well as some GRPs.

- **Example 1:** During the 2011 planning cycle, most phased infrastructure projects were listed as a single project in DB12. However, due to the availability of detailed decadal cost estimates, the treatment and distribution expansion for North Harris County Regional Water Authority were each represented in DB12 as three separate phases. In order to score fairly, these phases were combined and scored together.
- **Example 2:** Because the phased infrastructure expansions are listed as one project each, several of the criteria (primarily 1A, 1B, 3A, 5A and others to some extent) are scored based on development phases which have already been completed. For example, treatment and distribution expansion projects for several regional water authorities include Year 2010 phases which are built and will not need funding, as well as year 2020 and 2030 phases which have not yet been built or funded.
- There are significant concerns regarding how the results from the completed scoring template will be used in determining project ranking and eligibility of funding in TWDB's process, particularly given the WMS Committee's observation that the resultant scores poorly reflect the strategy needs of the Region.
 - **Example 1:** If the TWDB process takes an approach of only considering a certain number of projects starting from the top score and working down, many projects considered critical for Region H could be ignored. As an example, if only the top 50 projects were considered, most of the qualifying projects would be participants in the City of Houston and SJRA GRPs and regional water authority infrastructure expansions. However the major supply strategies required to make the top 50 possible (Luce Bayou Transfer, City of Houston Treatment and Distribution Expansions, and the SJRA WRAP) would not make the list in spite of being in design or construction.
 - **Example 2:** As noted earlier, phased infrastructure projects are not well represented by the project list. There are concerns that an entity seeking funding for an expansion phase that is a smaller portion of a project as listed in the template might not be eligible for funding as the relevant phase would be significantly different in timing, volume, etc. If the same project had been entered into the database with the same decadal costs and volumes but divided into separated phases or "projects", there would be a project listing matching the relevant phase. Examples include the City of Houston and regional water authority infrastructure expansion strategies. This is an artifact of how projects shown in DB12 and should not be allowed to impact funding eligibility.
 - **Example 3:** Some strategies include multiple participants which may not all initiate participation or require funding at the same time. This is particularly common for GRPs, which may have multiple phases of development and involve WUG participants actively receiving surface water or other alternate supplies at various times. The associated WWP-level supply infrastructure projects and the various stages of participation are all necessary for the GRP to fulfill its mandate. Differences in timing for project participants should not be allowed to reduce funding eligibility for WWP-level projects and their associated infrastructure.
- For the rural / agricultural indicator, no definition of rural was provided for purposes of completing the prioritization template. While this does not impact the project scoring in the template, it could play a role in determining which projects qualify for portions of funding set aside for rural interests. The draft Region H template assumes rural entities to be those with Year 2010 populations below 10,000.
- For the conservation and reuse indicator, no definition of conservation projects was provided for purposes of completing the prioritization template. This does not impact the project scoring in the template, it could play a role in determining which projects qualify for portions of funding set aside for conservation and reuse. While in some cases this question is simple to answer, in others the definition may be less clear.

The RHWPG appreciates this opportunity to provide comment along with the transmittal of its draft list of prioritized projects. Although the task of prioritizing the numerous projects in the State Water Plan is a challenging goal, the RHWPG looks forward to working with TWDB in the future to help ensure the most appropriate allocation of valuable

Mr. Kevin Patteson
May 30, 2014

funding to achieve the goals of HB 4. Please feel free to contact either of us or the Region H consultant, Jason Afinowicz, at 713.600-6841 or jason.afinowicz@freese.com if you have any questions regarding this submittal or wish to discuss the issues identified by the RHWPG further.

Sincerely,

Mark Evans
Region H Chair

Robert Hebert
Fort Bend County Judge,
Region H WMS Committee Chair

cc: Lann Bookout, TWDB

Agenda Item 10

Authorize the consultant team to prepare and submit the required technical memorandum prior to August 1, 2014 to be ratified by the Regional Water Planning Group following submittal.

Technical Memorandum



- Due to TWDB by August 1, 2014
- Scope revised by TWDB
- Limited to DB17 reports
 - Entities and demands
 - Existing supplies
 - Needs
- Portions of database under development
- Authorization and submittal required before next RWPG meeting.



Agenda Item 11

Consider authorizing the request of additional funding for the study of water management strategies from the Texas Water Development Board.

Task 4D Funding



WMS Funding Summary

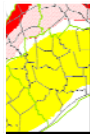
- 2nd Biennium funding of \$800,407
- \$448,807 requested to-date
- \$351,600 remaining for potential funding
 - Requires approval by RWPG



Task 4D Funding



Recommended Projects



Groundwater

- Aquifer Storage and Recovery



Groundwater Reduction Plans

- GRP Updates



Reuse

- General Reuse Strategies



Facilities Strategies

- Brazos Saltwater Barrier
- Other Projects



Surface Water Supply

- BRA System Operations



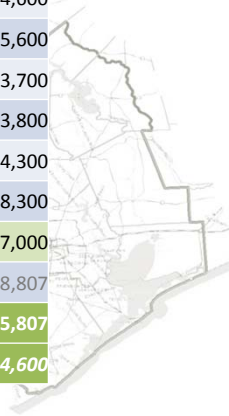
Contracts

- Contractual Transfers

Task 4D Funding



| | Water Management Strategy | Budget |
|------|--|------------------|
| 14.2 | Aquifer Storage and Recovery | \$36,700 |
| 17.2 | Brazos Saltwater Barrier | \$14,600 |
| 17.3 | Other Facility Projects | \$35,600 |
| 18.1 | Groundwater Reduction Plans | \$133,700 |
| 19.1 | System Operation Permit | \$13,800 |
| 20.1 | Reuse Strategies | \$24,300 |
| 21.1 | Contractual Transfers | \$48,300 |
| | Total Task 4D Group 2 Funding | \$307,000 |
| | Total Task 4D Group 1 Funding (authorized) | \$448,807 |
| | Total Task 4D Funding | \$755,807 |
| | Remaining Task 4D Funding | \$44,600 |



Agenda Item 14

Agency communications and general information.



WE WISH TO EXPRESS
OUR SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR
FRIENDSHIP, KINDNESS AND PRAYERS
DURING THIS TIME OF GREAT SORROW

THE FAMILY OF
CHARLES HAROLD WALLACE

Dear SJRA + Region 11
Friends -
Thanks so much
for the beautiful flowers
you sent for Dad's
memorial. They
were very much
appreciated by all.

Most sincerely,
John Wallace
