

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 7, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Region H Water Planning Group was held at 10:00 a.m., June 7, 2017, at the San Jacinto River Authority General and Administration Building, a notice of said meeting was posted as required by law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, Robert Bruner, David Collinsworth, Mark Evans, Gene Fisseler, Art Henson, Jace Houston, Robert Istre, Ivan Langford, Glenn Lord, Marvin Marcell, Carl Masterson, William Teer, Michael Turco, Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Alisa Max for John Blount, Mike O'Connell for Bob Hebert, Paul Nelson for Kathy Turner Jones, and Jun Chang for Jimmie Schindewolf

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Comin, John Howard, James Morrison, Ruth Stultz

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Lann Bookout

CONSULTANT TEAM: Jason Afinowicz, Philip Taucer, and Mike Reedy

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed Ms. Yvonne Forrest and Ms. Veronica Osegueda, both of the City of Houston, as well as John Burke of the Region K Water Planning Group.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2017 MEETING

Mr. Houston clarified a correction to the minutes of February 28, 2017, and made a motion to approve the minutes of February 28, 2017, Region H Water Planning Group meeting, as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey with all present voting aye.

3. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 12

There were no public comments.

4. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON REVISED 31 TEXAS ADMINISTRATIVE RULES CHAPTER 357

Mr. Bookout provided information related to the revised 31 Texas Administrative Rules, Chapter 357. He stated that the purpose of the 2016 rules revisions were to implement legislative changes, address stakeholder concerns, improve the planning process, increase flexibility in planning requirements,

reduce certain unessential reporting requirements, clarify rules, and refine definitions. Mr. Bookout reviewed the revision process and provided an overview of some of the changes.

5. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2021 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Afinowicz provided an update to the 2021 Regional Water Plan schedule referencing various due dates.

6. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FUNDING OF THE FIFTH ROUND OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING FOR REGION H AND TAKE ACTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AMENDED CONTRACTS WITH SUBCONSULTANTS

Mr. Afinowicz explained the process by which funding is obtained from the Texas Water Development Board for the Fifth Round of Regional Water Planning for Region H, stating that amended contracts with subconsultants needed to be executed in order to proceed. Mr. Bartos made a motion to authorize the San Jacinto River Authority to execute amended contracts with subconsultants. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

7. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND NON-POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING TWDB DRAFT NON-MUNICIPAL DEMAND PROJECTIONS FOR THE 2021 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Philip Taucer stated that the non-municipal demand projections were recently released. He provided an overview of the data related to irrigation, livestock, manufacturing, mining, and steam-electric power. Discussion ensued related to the significant changes in demand projections as it related to manufacturing. Mr. Taucer explained that the demand projections could be changed due to various reasons and stated that the deadline to submit the requested changes to TWDB is January 12, 2018.

8. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING TWDB DRAFT MUNICIPAL POPULATION AND WATER DEMAND PROJECTIONS FOR THE 2021 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Taucer explained that coordination with TWDB took place to obtain more information on the process that went into the development of the projections. He stated that at the county and region levels, the census and population projections were very close and are well within the percentage that is recommended by TWDB. He explained that the largest change is related to the definition of WUGs, stating that redistribution among WUGs was a major undertaking for TWDB. Mr. Taucer went on to further explain in detail, the methodologies utilized by TWDB to compile the projections. Finally, he stated that the WUG stakeholder survey will be distributed in the near future.

9. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING THE SUB-WUG PLANNING OPTION AND CONSIDER

TAKING ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE POTENTIAL SUB-WUGS AND SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR SUB-WUGS TO TWDB

Mr. Taucer explained that this planning option was requested by several Water Planning Groups, primarily to account for rural areas. He stated that this option would require additional effort to develop the data and is due to TWDB by September 1, 2017. Mr. Marcell recommended that the Population Demands Committee meet to discuss and assess the sub-WUG planning option. With little discussion, Mr. Fisseler made a motion to authorize the Population Demands Committee to evaluate the inclusion of potential sub-WUGs for possible submittal of same to TWDB. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

10. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR WATER PROVIDERS FOR REGION H AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO SUBMIT A LIST OF RECOMMENDED MAJOR WATER PROVIDERS TO TWDB

Mr. Taucer stated that the Major Water Providers (MWP) is a new concept for the Fifth Cycle in which it largely replaces the Wholesale Water Provider (WWP) role. Further, he stated that this determination is made solely by each Water Planning Group. Mr. Taucer reviewed the existing WWPs and discussed the possibility of adding large suppliers/large GRP sponsors. Discussion ensued related to the determination of a threshold to further define MWPs. Further discussion was had related to producing a logical hierarchy to ensure a sensible roll up as related to the addition of other suppliers. Mr. Evans recommended that the Population Demands Committee resume discussion and provide a recommendation to the Water Planning Group at the next scheduled meeting.

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

Mr. Evans stated that he attended the Lower Brazos River Coalition meeting on May 31, 2017.

12. AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Mr. Bartos announced that the Trinity and San Jacinto River Basins and Galveston Bay BBASC will meet at 1:00 p.m., June 7, 2017, at the San Jacinto River Authority.

13. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

14. NEXT MEETING

Mr. Evans announced that the next meeting will take place on September 6, 2017.

15. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 a.m.