

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gary Ashmore, David Bailey, John Bartos, Arthur Bredehoft, Brad Brunett, Carl Burch, Jun Chang, Mark Evans, Ken Kramer, Ivan Langford, Marvin, Marcell, Alisa Max, Mike O’Connell, Loyd Smith, Aubrey Spear, Michael Turco, and Cynthia Wagener.

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ekaterina Fitos for Greg Eyerly, Tommy Arredondo for Robert Istre, and Doug Haude for Kevin Ward.

MEMBERS ABSENT: WR Baker, Caleb Cooper, Jason Garrard, Danny Pierce, Byron Ryder, and Brandon Wade.

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Introductions

There were no introductions.

3. Review and approve minutes of the December 4, 2024 meeting

Ms. Max made a correction to item 6b, stating that she provided the report. Mr. Bredehoft made a motion to approve the minutes of December 4, 2024, as corrected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chang and carried unanimously.

4. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 5 through 7

There were no comments.

5. Planning Group Membership

a. Discuss and consider taking action to elect officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG).

Mr. Chang, Chair of the Nominating Committee, stated that the Nominating Committee met on February 5, 2025, and recommended that all current officers and the executive committee remain the same. It was explained that the officers and the two members at-large make up the Executive Committee. Mr. Evans announced that the officers and executive committee members are Mark Evans, Chair; Marvin Marcell, Vice Chair; John Bartos, Secretary; David Bailey, Member at-Large; Arthur Bredehoft, Member at-Large. Mr. Brunett made a motion to accept the recommendation by the Nominating Committee for the Officers and the Executive Committee members to remain the same. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kramer and carried unanimously.

With no objection, Mr. Evans announced that item 6e of the Addendum, would be discussed prior to item 6a.

6. Plan Development and Administration

- e. Receive report from the Water Management Strategy Committee on issues related to water supply and potential future water management strategies.**

Mr. Bartos stated that prior to reviewing the details of the water management strategies, discussion ensued regarding the transportation of excess water from this region to other regions. He explained that Mr. Eyerly provided information related to this topic. Mr. Bartos stated that the Water Management Strategy Committee met and feel very comfortable and confident with the Water Management Strategies proposed in the report.

- a. Receive update from the Consultant Team regarding the draft 2026 Region H Initially Prepared Regional Water Plan (IPP).**

Mr. Taucer provided a brief summary of the chapters within the IPP. He explained that the Water Management Strategies Committee reviewed the updates to the IPP and provided certain recommendations related to WMS category figures, key WMS table clarifications, clarifications on methodology and savings potential, and highlight demand management success stories. He stated that following the IPP, there will be a large number of small changes that will take place.

- b. Consider and adopt the IPP and approve the Consultant Team to prepare final copies of the IPP and supporting documentation and submit to Texas Water Development Board (“TWDB”) no later than March 3, 2025.**

Ms. Max made a motion to adopt the IPP and approve the Consultant Team to prepare final copies of the IPP and supporting documentation and submit to TWDB no later than March 3, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bredehoft and carried unanimously.

- c. Receive update from Consultant Team regarding public hearings.**

Mr. Taucer discussed the possible dates and locations for the public hearings.

- d. Discuss and take action on approval of public hearing schedule for presentation of the 2026 Region H IPP and authorize the San Jacinto River Authority and the Consulting Team to prepare and mail notices related to public hearings.**

Mr. Taucer explained that the water planning group will schedule three separate meetings, one to the north, one to the south, and one at the San Jacinto River Authority in Conroe. Mr. Langford made a motion to approve the public hearing schedule for the presentation of the 2026 Region H IPP and authorize the San Jacinto River Authority and Consulting Team to prepare and mail notices related to the public hearings. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kramer and carried unanimously.

7. General Updates and Outreach

- a. Receive update regarding schedule and milestones for the development of the 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan.**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of the schedule and milestones, explaining that the shift is now on public outreach and discussions with stakeholders. He stated that the IPP is due March 3rd, and the public hearings will take place in April or May.

b. Receive updates from liaisons to other planning groups.

Ms. Max provided an update related to the Region 6 Flood Planning Group and Mr. Ashmore stated that GMA 14 is beginning the DFC planning process.

c. Receive report regarding recent and upcoming activities related to communications and outreach efforts on behalf of the RHWPG.

There were no upcoming activities to report.

d. Receive update from TWDB

Ms. Rose provided updates from TWDB regarding staff changes and details related to the IPP public hearings.

e. Other agency communications and general information.

There were no other agency communications or general information to report.

8. Receive public comments.

Mr. Darrell Russell of Polk County spoke about non-compliant failing water systems.

9. Next Meeting

It was announced that the next RHWPG meeting would take place on May 7, 2025.

10. Adjourn

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.