

Meeting Minutes
Region 4. Sabine Flood Planning Group Meeting
October 27, 2020
1:00pm
GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
James (Bill) Bruce	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
Johnny Trahan	<i>Counties</i>	X
Francis X. Shannon	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	X
Clyde V. McKee III	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
Don Carona	<i>Flood districts</i>	X
Nikki Davis	<i>Industries</i>	X
Alton Bradley	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Michelle Falgout	<i>Public</i>	X
William R. (Bill) Hughes	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Jeff Rogers	<i>Small business</i>	X
Roman D. Griffin	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Ross Gordon	<i>Water utilities</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent() / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Colleen Jones	General Land Office	X
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Brian Hurtuk	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Ryke Moore	Texas Water Development Board	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **12**

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 12: **7**

Other Meeting Attendees: **

TWDB Director Brooke Paup
 Reem Zoun (Facilitator), TWDB
 James Bronikowski, TWDB
 Morgan White, TWDB
 Richard Bagans, TWDB
 Hayley Gillespie, TWDB

Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
 Patrick Lopez, TWDB
 Robert (Bill) Adams
 Jason Afinowicz
 Seyoum Asamenaw
 Jim Brown

Stephanie Castillo
Jon Clingaman
Matt Hiland
John Martin
Ryan Murdock
Robin Phillips
Michael Reedy

Philip Taucer
Jennifer White
Allison Wood
Carman Apple
Michelle Ellis
Tina Hendon
Shaun Miller

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

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

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

1. AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Reem Zoun called the meeting to order at 1:09pm. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established.

2. AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions

Reem Zoun and TWDB Director Brooke Paup welcomed members to the meeting. Reem Zoun provided meeting facilitation information and instructions.

3. AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions

Each present voting and non-voting member of the Sabine RFPG introduced themselves.

Reem Zoun introduced supporting TWDB staff including Matt Nelson, James Bronikowski, and Morgan White.

4. AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation

Reem Zoun presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

5. AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion of group bylaws and consider adopting group bylaws

Reem Zoun presented the model bylaws provided by the TWDB for the RFPG to consider adopting and opened discussion on adopting group bylaws.

Reem Zoun pointed out the items to consider modifying in the bylaws and language based on Texas Administrative Code rules. Reem Zoun opened the floor to discussion about the bylaws.

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace "Model RFPG" throughout with "Region 4 Sabine RFPG".

The members discussed term limits and lengths and meeting format (in person vs virtual) but did not make changes to the model bylaws regarding these topics.

The members discussed that the bylaws can change in the future.

A motion was made by Roman Griffin to adopt the bylaws, with changes noted in the discussion.

The motion was seconded by Bill Bruce.

The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

6. AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Consider nominating and electing regional flood planning group Chair or Interim Chair

Reem Zoun described the Chair/Interim Chair election process and opened the floor to nominations for the Chair or Interim Chair position.

A nomination of Don Carona as the Chair was made by Bill Hughes.

Don Carona declined the nomination.

A nomination of Bill Hughes as the Chair was made by Don Carona.

A nomination of Don Carona as the Interim Chair was made by Clyde McKee.
Don Carona declined the nomination.

Bill Hughes spoke and stated that he would gladly serve as Chair of the Sabine RFPG.

A motion to cease nominations was made by Roman Griffin.
The motion was seconded by Johnny Trahan.
The motion passed by unanimous consent.

The nomination of Bill Hughes as the Chair was approved by unanimous consent.

7. AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Consider selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the regional flood planning group

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.
No public comments were given.

Chair Bill Hughes listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Sabine RFPG's planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:
The Sabine River Authority

Chair Bill Hughes continued with an open call for additional interested political subdivisions.

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG.

Chair Bill Hughes reaffirmed the Sabine River Authorities' interest in being a potential sponsor to the group.

A motion was made by Clyde McKee III to select the Sabine River Authority as the designated planning group sponsor for the Sabine RFPG.
Johnny Trahan seconded the motion.
The vote to select the Sabine River Authority as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

8. AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3)

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

Matt Nelson described existing notice requirements.

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

No action was taken.

9. AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

Reem Zoun provided information regarding grant funding for the RFPG.

The group discussed the grant funding allocation.

Johnny Trahan made a motion to authorize the Sabine River Authority to apply for grant funds and enter into contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Sabine RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Clyde McKee.

The vote to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 12 Ayes and 0 Nays.

10. AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.

No public comments were given.

The group discussed adding additional non-voting members, including from the State of Louisiana.

No action was taken.

11. AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Chair Bill Hughes opened the floor to public comments.

No public comments were given.

12. AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Chair Bill Hughes opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

After discussion, Chair Bill Hughes stated that the next meeting will be on 11/19/2020 at 1PM.

13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:22PM by Chair Bill Hughes.

Approved by the Sabine RFPG at a meeting held on 11/19/2020.



Jeff Rogers, SECRETARY



BILL HUGHES, CHAIR