

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gary Ashmore, David Bailey, John Bartos, Brad Brunett, James Comin, Mark Evans, Carl Burch, Art Henson, Jace Houston, Robert Istre, Brandon Wade, Glenn Lord, Carl Masterson, Michael Turco, Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox.

**DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:** Loyd Smith for John Blount, Veronica Osegueda for Yvonne Forrest, and Jun Chang for Jimmie Schindewolf.

**MEMBER ABSENT:** Robert Bruner, Bob Hebert, W.R. Baker, Marvin Marcell, James Morrison, Ivan Langford, and William Teer.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Kathleen Jackson, Director of the Texas Water Development Board stated that she was looking forward to the various strategies and projects that will emerge in the Sixth State Water Planning Cycle.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 2, 2020, MEETING**

Mr. Houston made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2020, regular Region H Water Planning Group meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Lord and carried unanimously.

**4. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 17**

There were no comments.

**5. RECEIVE UPDATE ON AND DISCUSS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP MEMBERSHIP FOR THE SIXTH ROUND OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of the Region H Water Planning Group membership, citing that the group is made up of twenty-six members and twelve interest groups of broad distribution and diverse backgrounds. He noted the current voting members and current non-voting members.

**6. ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JIMMIE SCHINDEWOLF AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP (RHWPG) REPRESENTING WATER DISTRICTS, DECLARE A VACANT POSITION, AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO APPOINT A NEW VOTING MEMBER REPRESENTING WATER DISTRICTS**

Mr. Houston made a motion to accept the resignation of Jimmie Schindewolf as a voting member of the Region H Water Planning Group, declare the position vacant, and to appoint Jun Chang as the new voting member representing Water Districts. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

**7. DISCUSS AND ELECT OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE RHWPG**

Mr. Evans stated the current members of the Executive Committee are up for election for a one-year term, and announced the current slate of officers: Mark Evans, Chair; Marvin Marcell, Vice-Chair; Jace Houston, Secretary; and John Bartos and Pudge Willcox, Members. Each of the members expressed their willingness to continue serving in their respective capacity, with the exception of Mr. Willcox, who resigned as a Member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Masterson made a motion to re-elect the current slate of officers along with Member John Bartos for a one-year term and declared Mr. Willcox's position vacant until the item can be addressed at the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ward and carried unanimously.

**8. REVIEW REGION H COMMITTEE AND LIAISON ASSIGNMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2026 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN (RWP)**

Mr. Taucer explained the various committees that meet during the course of the planning cycle along with the responsibilities of same. Mr. Evans stated as the Executive Committee Chair, he will review each committee and current members for the upcoming cycle.

**9. CONSIDER AND APPOINT A NON-VOTING MEMBER TO THE REGION 6 SAN JACINTO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP**

Mr. Evans explained that the Region 6 San Jacinto Regional Flood Planning Group requested the Region H Water Planning Group to appoint a non-voting member to their group. Mr. Turco stated that he will be attending the upcoming meetings as a representative of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District, and will provide an updated related to the responsibilities of the non-voting member at the next Region H Water Planning Group meeting. Mr. Evans requested this item be tabled until the April 7, 2021, Region H Water Planning Group meeting.

**10. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY TO USE FUNDS FROM THE REGION H LOCAL CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNT TO PAY FOR RENEWAL OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR RHWPG MEMBERS**

Mr. Houston provided a brief overview of the account history and balance. Mr. Ward made a motion to authorize the San Jacinto River Authority to use funds from the Region H Local Contribution account to pay for the renewal of director and officer liability insurance for RHWPG members. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

**11. RECEIVE UPDATE REGARDING THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2026 REGION H RWP**

Mr. Taucer explained the working timeline for the initial contracts and Request for Application related to the Sixth Cycle of Regional Water Planning provided by the Texas Water Development Board.

**12. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD REGARDING THE PROCESS FOR AND PREPARATION OF AN APPLICATION FOR A REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GRANT FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR FUNDING OF THE SIXTH ROUND OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING FOR REGION H**

Mr. Bookout provided information related to the anticipated timeline for initial Request for Applications (RFA) for the Sixth Cycle of Regional Water Planning. He provided an overview related to contracting and initial scope of work.

**13. RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON THE SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDING AND THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THE SIXTH CYCLE OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING (2022-2026)**

Mr. Taucer provided information related to the Sixth Cycle of Regional Water Planning. He stated that the Water Planning Group previously authorized the San Jacinto River Authority to prepare and submit the grant application; post public notice; and negotiate and execute a contract with Texas Water Development Board. Mr. Taucer then reviewed the various aspects of the application process.

**14. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC NOTICE AND HOLD A PRE-PLANNING PUBLIC MEETING TO OBTAIN PUBLIC INPUT ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2026 RWP AND 2027 STATE WATER PLAN.**

Mr. Taucer explained the various elements related to public input relative to the development of the 2026 Regional Water Plan and the 2027 State Water Plan. He stated that the meeting is likely to occur in the later part of the year, prior to the technical analysis and is one of largest notification cycles in the planning period. Mr. Bartos made a motion to authorize the San Jacinto River Authority to provide public notice and hold a pre-planning public meeting to obtain public input on the development of the 2026 Regional Water Plan and the 2027 State Water Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

**15. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERREGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL**

Ms. Temple McKinnon provided an overview of the activities and select recommendations of the Interregional Planning Council to TWDB such as Regional Water Planning process revisions; TWDB Communications and information sharing; and revisions to planning requirements for enhanced interregional coordination. She then provided a summary of the TWDB actions.

**16. RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING RECENT AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE RHWPG**

Mr. Taucer had nothing to report.

**17. AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION.**

Lann Bookout provided information related to TWDB's mining water use study; the 5-year boundary review process; and the flood planning website.

**18. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**19. NEXT MEETING**

The next Region H Water Planning Group meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 7, 2021.

**20. ADJOURN**

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.