

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 2, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Ashmore, David Bailey, John Bartos, Arthur Bredehoft, Brad Brunett, Carl Burch, James Comin, Mark Evans, Jace Houston, Robert Istre, Ken Kramer, Ivan Langford, Danny Pierce, and Loyd Smith.

ALTERNATES:

Krystal Boggs for Jun Chang, Ekaterina Fitos for Yvonne Forrest, Mike Uhl for Glenn Lord, Robert Thompson for Marvin Marcell, Bobby Walters for Byron Ryder, Veronica Osegueda for Michael Turco, Jake Hollingsworth for Brandon Wade, and Jim Sims for J. Kevin Ward.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

W.R. Baker, Caleb Cooper, and Mike O'Connell.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Elizabeth McCoy, Texas Water Development Board

CONSULTANT TEAM:

Philip Taucer and Jason Afinowicz

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF AUGUST 3, 2022 MEETING

Mr. Bredehoft made a motion to approve the minutes of August 3, 2022, to include the correction of the spelling of his name and to note that he was present at said meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Houston and carried unanimously.

4. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 7

There were no public comments.

5. SPECIAL ITEMS AND INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. Receive presentation from Consultant Team regarding the proposed application by the Lower Neches Valley Authority to amend the 2021 Region H Water Plan (RWP) and consider approving the submittal of the application package to Texas Water Development board (TWDB) for the determination of minor amendment status**

Mr. Taucer explained the proposed amendment by the Lower Neches Valley Authority (“LNVA”) would expand pumping capacity in the LNVA Devers system and support current and future water needs of customers. Mr. Taucer then explained that the proposed amendment is anticipated to be a minor amendment, but it would have to be submitted to TWDB for the official determination. Mr. Sims made a motion to approve the submittal of the application package to TWDB for determination of the minor amendment status. The motion was seconded by Mr. Langford and carried unanimously.

6. PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

- a. Receive update from the Consultant Team and the Non-Population Demands Committee regarding data and projections for the 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of the data and projections for the 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan. He reviewed the different methodologies for irrigation, mining, livestock, manufacturing, and steam electric. Mr. Taucer reviewed the path forward stating that the committee would take a detailed look at the background data and look for evidence of data errors, new or missed facilities, planned facilities, closures, and major differences in long-term demand. He stated that revisions are due July 14, 2023.

- b. Receive update from Consultant Team, Population Demands Committee, and Subsidence Districts regarding data and projections for the 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan**

Mr. Taucer discussed the potential alignment with Houston Galveston Subsidence District and the Fort Bend Subsidence District Joint Regulatory Plan Review. He stated that said alignment would yield highly detailed local analyses, enhanced spatial resolution, and include nine Region H counties. Mr. Taucer stated that this is an ongoing coordination with the Region H Water Planning Group and TWDB and any revision requests are due August 11, 2023.

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 related to the schedule and milestones for the development of the 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan by providing dates of scheduled events/tasks.

b. Receive update from liaisons to other planning groups

Mr. Evans stated that the Interregional Planning Council's next meeting will take place on November 9, 2022, and he will provide an update at the next Region H Water Planning meeting.

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

There were no meetings to report.

d. Agency communications and general information

Ms. Elizabeth McCoy of TWDB reported on a number of new publications provided by TWDB, reported on information related to projection timelines, and reviewed certain deadlines for the upcoming year.

8. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

9. NEXT MEETING

It was announced that the next meeting of the Region H Water Planning Group will take place on February 1, 2023.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.