

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, Robert Bruner, Brad Brunett, James Comin, Mark Evans, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, Jace Houston, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Ivan Langford, Glenn Lord, Marvin Marcell, Michael Turco, Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox.

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Alisa Max for John Blount, Veronica Osegueda for Yvonne Forrest, Ken Kramer for Carl Masterson, Zach Holland for James Morrison, Jun Chang for Jimmie Schindewolf, and Tom Michel for William Teer.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth Stultz.

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Kristen Lambrecht and Lann Bookout.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 4, 2018, MEETING

Mr. Chang made a motion to approve the minutes of October 31, 2018. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hebert and carried unanimously.

4. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 13

There were no public comments.

5. DISCUSS VACANCIES ON THE REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO APPROVE MEMBERS TO FILL VACANCIES ON THE PLANNING GROUP

Mr. Hebert made a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. W.R. Baker to the Region H Water Planning Group to represent small business. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bruner and carried unanimously.

6. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2021 REGION H WATER PLAN (RWP)

Mr. Taucer provided an update relative to the schedule and milestones for the development of the 2021 Region H Regional Water Plan (“RWP”), siting upcoming due dates for certain events/tasks.

7. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING WATER SOURCE AVAILABILITY

Mr. Taucer provided a recap of the run of river surface water availability, particularly changes to the Brazos, Trinity, and Brazos-Colorado Basins. He discussed the changes in Lake Houston and Lake Livingston relative to reservoir availability. Mr. Taucer then provided an overview of management strategies for groundwater and reuse availabilities for the region.

8. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING PROJECTED WATER NEEDS AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING CONSULTANT TEAM TO SUBMIT A REQUEST TO TWDB FOR ANALYSIS OF SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS OF UNMET WATER NEEDS IN THE REGION H WATER PLANNING AREA

Mr. Taucer provided information related to substantial changes in projected water needs due to better data, utility-based WUGs, changes to overall non-municipal demand projections, MAG peak factors, and project implementation. He provided an overview of projected water needs in various basins. Mr. Taucer explained that the projected need is primarily in agricultural demand with little growth in manufacturing demand over time, and much more growth in municipal needs. Mr. Lord made a motion to authorize the consultant team to submit a request to TWDB for analysis of socioeconomic impacts of unmet water needs in the Region H Water Planning Area. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ward and carried unanimously.

9. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE TEXAS LIVING WATERS PROJECT REGARDING THE 2018 WATER CONSERVATION BY THE YARD REPORT

Ms. Jennifer Walker and Ms. Meagan Bach presented information related to Water Conservation by the Yard which restricts outdoor water by advocating the adoption of a mandatory, year-round, no more than twice per week watering schedule. She provided outdoor water use metrics and provided data exhibiting estimated municipal savings from outdoor watering restrictions for the Region H area. Ms. Walker stated that enacting this program can significantly reduce municipal water demand, which will in turn help close the gap between future municipal demand and future water supplies.

10. RECEIVE UPDATE REGARDING STATUS OF INVESTIGATION OF WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE 2021 REGION H WATER PLAN

Mr. Taucer provided information related to water supply alternatives focusing on TWDB’s municipal conservation planning tool. He stated this tool provides an accounting framework for projecting future conservation program costs and water savings as well as estimating the water savings from previous implementation of conservation measures. Mr. Taucer also explained other water supply alternatives such as water loss reduction, expanded use of groundwater, groundwater reduction plans, reuse, and other infrastructure. He briefly discussed data management and comprehensive cost updates.

11. RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE REGION H LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Evans and Mr. Marcell explained the premise for the Region H Legislative Committee and the path forward relative to the current session.

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

Mr. Taucer reported on recently attended and upcoming meetings related to the Region H Water Planning Group.

13. AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Mr. Bookout provided an update of the Texas Water Development Board's upcoming Finance Workshop in Dallas on February 12, 2019.

14. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

15. NEXT MEETING

Mr. Evans announced that the next Region H Water Planning Group meeting will take place on May 1, 2019.

16. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.