

**Minutes of Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group
October 19, 2020
Edna, Texas**

A meeting of the Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group was held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. With respect to COVID-19, the meeting was held via video conference.

Voting Group Members present via video were Patrick Brzozowski, Jim Coleman, Steve Cooper, Neil Hudgins, Jack Maloney, Richard Ottis, Robert Shoemate, Michael Skalicky, Jill Sklar, Phillip Spenrath, and Ed Weinheimer.

Absent Voting Group Members were: Tom Chandler, Marie Day, Bart McBeth, Edward Pustka, and David Wagner.

Also present via video were: Texas Water Development Board Member Kathleen Jackson, Jean Devlin of Texas Water Development Board, Jaime Burke and Alicia Smiley of AECOM, Jami McCool of Texas Department of Agriculture, Leslie Hartman, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Rick Crabtree and Mike Rivet of Formosa Plastics, Rusty Ray of Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board, Jerry Adelman, LNRA Board of Director, Karen Gregory, LNRA Deputy General Manager, Scott Hartl, LNRA Assistant Manager, Operations, Kimberly Rhodes, Jennifer White, and Lee Hafernack.

Chairman Spenrath called the meeting to order.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Remarks by Texas Water Development Board Member

Texas Water Development Board Member Kathleen Jackson addressed the Group. She commended the Region P members for their participation and involvement in the regional water planning process. Board Member Jackson also acknowledged Patrick Brzozowski and Judge Phillip Spenrath for their appointment to the Initial Regional Flood Planning Group. She also briefed the Group on the TWDB's Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) which provides financial assistance in the form of loans and grants for flood control, flood mitigation, and drainage projects.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 27, 2020 public hearing and the August 24, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Weinheimer moved to approve the minutes as presented. Ottis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Nominations for New Voting Members

Brzozowski informed the Group that Robert Shoemate recommended Lee Hafernack be nominated to fill the voting member position, Agriculture, Jackson County, replacing Robert Martin who has retired.

Brzozowski moved to appoint Lee Hafernack as a voting member of the Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group, Agriculture, Jackson County. Ottis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Remaining vacant positions include Agriculture, Jackson County to replace Gary Skalicky, Small Business, Lavaca County, and Municipalities, Lavaca County.

The Group will continue to seek new members to fill the vacancies.

Briefing and Update from Texas Water Development Board

Devlin informed the Group as follows:

Update to Final 2021 Regional Water Plan Deadline and Deliverable

- Deadline to submit the final regional water plans to the TWDB is extended from October 14, 2020 to November 5, 2020.
- The data entry deadline is extended from September 14, 2020 to October 6, 2020.
- The requirement to submit nine (9) hard copy deliverables of the final regional water plan is eliminated.
- TWDB will follow up with instructions on how to submit the final regional water plan deliverables electronically.
- PDFs must pass the Acrobat accessibility full check.

Present and Discuss Edits to 2021 LRWP

Burke briefed the Group on the minor edits made to the data base reports after discussion with the TWDB. The data base summary has been finalized and appears in the Executive Summary and Appendixes. The Group was presented copies prior to the meeting for their review.

Executive Summary

- Updated adopted plan due date from October 14, 2020 to November 5, 2020.
- Updated “will be” to “were” with respect to finalizing the plans.
- Database reports (DB22) updated.

Chapter 9

- Received Infrastructure Response Survey response from LNRA – Chapter updated accordingly.

Chapter 10

- Added meeting summary for meetings on August 24, 2020 and October 19, 2020.
- Appendix 10C, Public Agency Comments with Responses, was updated with signed letters.
- Will update Appendix 10A, Meeting Minutes, with approved and signed meeting minutes.

TWDB staff approved of all of our other previous changes with respect to addressing their comments.

Discuss and Consider Adoption of 2021 LRWP

Cooper moved to adopt the 2021 Lavaca Regional Water Plan as presented. Hudgins seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Authorize Consultant to Make Edits After Adoption

Brzowski moved to authorize Region P Consultant to make non-substantive edits after adoption as needed or as requested by Texas Water Development Board and submitting the deliverables to the Texas Water Development Board by November 5, 2020. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Present and Discuss Edits to Project Prioritization Spreadsheet

Burke informed the Group of the edits to project prioritization as follows:

LNRA requested edits at previous meeting

- Uniform Standard 2A – Lavaca Off-Channel Reservoir projects have models suggesting a sufficient quantity of water, score changed from 0 to 3.
- Uniform Standard 2C – Lavaca Off-Channel Reservoir Projects and LNRA Desalination are now all rated 7 (meaning a preliminary engineering report has been completed).
- No other edits have been proposed.

Weinheimer moved to approve the Project Prioritization associated with the 2021 Lavaca Regional Water Plan as presented. Ottis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

LNRA to Serve as Region P Political Subdivision

Ottis moved to authorize LNRA to serve as the Region P Political Subdivision for the 6th cycle of regional water planning. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Authorize Political Subdivision to Perform Tasks for the 6th Cycle

Cooper moved to authorize the Political Subdivision to provide public notice, submit a grant application to the TWDB, and execute a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the LRWPG for the initial funding of the 6th cycle of Regional Water Planning. Sklar seconded the motion. Motion passed.

LNRA to Initiate Consultant Selection

Maloney moved to authorize LNRA to initiate the process for consultant selection for the next Regional Planning Cycle. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Schedule Future Meetings

The Group will tentatively meet in January or February 2021.

Receive Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Brzowski moved for the meeting to adjourn at 10:50 a.m. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion passed.