

Minutes of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group
April 11, 2018 – 1:00 P.M.
Mount Pleasant Civic Center
1800 N. Jefferson, Mount Pleasant, Texas

The North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (NETRWPG) – Region D met in an open meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 1:00 P.M. The meeting was held at the Mount Pleasant Civic Center, 1800 N. Jefferson, in Mount Pleasant, Texas. Notice of the meeting was legally posted.

Chair Richard LeTourneau called the meeting to order at 1:00 and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made and a quorum was present. David Nabors gave the invocation. Twenty-Two members of the planning group were present in person or represented by a designated alternate.

The following voting members were present:

Bill Kirby	John Brooks	Cheri Stuart
Bob Staton	Brandon Belcher	Cindy Gwinn
Mike McCoy	Bruce Bradley	George Frost
Ned Muse	Danny Evans	JoAnn Duman
Richard LeTourneau	David Nabors	Joe Bumgarner
Rolin McPhee	Dennis Hilliard	Nicolas Fierro
Russell Acker	Fred Milton	Greg Carter

The following alternates were present:

Newman Browning for Lloyd Parker

The following non-voting members were present:

Ron Ellis, representing TWDB
Sandy Cash, representing UTRWD
Liz Fazio Hale, Liaison-Riverbend Water
Darrell Dean, Texas Dept of Agriculture
Leah Adams, representing Region I
Amanda Maloukis, representing GMA#11

The following non-voting members were absent:

Curtis Campbell	David Montagne
Marcia Hackett	Larry LeBeau
Mike Rickman	Darrell Dean
Troy Sellers	

The following voting members were absent:

Lloyd Parker
Larry Calvin
Harlton Taylor

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A correction in the minutes from April 11, 2018 was suggested. Region I designated Leah Adams as Liaison for Region I. Worth Whitehead is no longer the Liaison. David Nabors made a motion to approve the suggested correction to the minutes. Bob Station seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye. David Nabors made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 11, 2018 meeting as corrected. Bob Station seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Chair Richard LeTourneau asked for updates from our existing liaisons. David Nabors, Liaison for Region C, stated that Region C met this past Monday. They appointed an interim committee to study possible lake sites or stream segments. David Nabors also stated that the Texas Legislature has not yet designated ParkHouse (2)/North as a future site. Mr. Nabors also reported that GMA#8 has not met. Region I met in February and election of committees have been voted on and its next meeting is in May. GMA #11 is anticipating a meeting, but no date as been set.

Ron Ellis with TWDB reported that on March 21, 2018, the board adopted changes to planning rules, effective date being April 11, 2018. TWDB has updated contract amendments for planning contracts adding committed funds to the planning contracts. Ron stated in October we approved the revision request for Tony Smith to submit to TWDB. The board staff is now taking those revisions from all regions to the board on April 16, 2018. Once final projections have been approved by the board they will go into the planning database for the 2020-2021 regional water planning. Ron also mentioned recent updates to interactive State Water Plan. You can now see water management strategies for each entity. TWDB is developing a State Flood Assessment. The goal is assessing flood risk, flood mitigation cost and planning. A survey has been sent out, responses are due back by April 30, 2018.

Fred Milton, representative for Riverbend Water Resources District, stated that Riverbend continues to work to finalize its regional water master plan. Mr. Milton indicated that Riverbend is getting closer to the projected numbers that were provided to Region D. Riverbend continues to look at water rate studies to help support a possible future water treatment plant in the near future. Data should be available by the end of the year. It was mentioned that Riverbend continues to support the military complex that includes Red River Army Depot and TexAmerica Center. Riverbend is anticipating a large economic plus for its area and is involved in an opportunity to supply water and wastewater services to a cold storage facility in the TAC East area. They are talking to Corps of Engineers for a grant funding agreement to support a contract of this size. Liz Fazio Hale with Riverbend added that there is progress being made on the water availability model in the Sulphur River Basin. They have contracted with Bob Brandes. Mr. Brandes is the original engineer who did the model back in 1997. Mr. Brandes will be meeting with TCEQ. It is hoped that TCEQ will adopt the changes to the water availability model after it has been updated. Liz Fazio Hale stated this activity will likely not impact this planning cycle but would be helpful in the next cycle.

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Ron Ellis with TWDB provided a presentation on revised rules. Ron Ellis recapped some of the changes. The following three bills that were passed by the Legislative have been used in the justification for updated rules. 1) SB 347, changes to planning groups, planning group committees, and sub-committees making them subject to Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act. 2) HB 2215, synchronize the State Water Planning and Desired Future Conditions processes; goal is to develop new MAGs and have fresh MAGs for planning. 3) SB 1511, several changes to development of regional water planning, identifying and excluding infeasible Water Management Strategies. The purpose is to look backwards at the adopted plan and ask if any of these WMS are infeasible. If they are, then amending the existing water plan and removing the infeasible strategy with a feasible strategy may be appropriate. On 2-1-2018, Region D had a public meeting to determine the process and identify feasible water strategies. The new rules require a public meeting to identify infeasible and feasible water strategies and to list these strategies in the Technical Memo. There is a 14-day notice and 14-day comment period involved with the Technical Memo. Notice must go out to any project sponsors of infeasible water strategies being removed and new feasible water strategies being implemented. Mr. Ellis mentioned the possibility of simplified planning in the updated rules. Simplified planning may occur during off-census planning cycles, must include a determination of water availability, supply, demand, and have no significant changes in the numbers in the plan. A Technical Memo is now required for all regions as a deliverable of the contract. At the next meeting in August, Tony Smith will talk more about how Region D will comply with the requirement of a Technical Memo. Also discussed were TSSWCB membership in regional planning groups and additional updated rules involved meeting and hearings to be held at a central location readily accessible to the public.

Tony Smith with Carollo gave a presentation outlining the planning schedule for the current cycle. The TWDB database is now up and running. The Technical Memo is a new requirement in this process, with a tentative approval date in August 2018. The information will be gathered and entered in the Technical Memo include: demand, identification, supply evaluation, and needs determination based on the comparisons. Mr. Smith informed about the process of water availability and supply. A motion to approve submittal of a Water Supply Assumptions Memo documenting procedures from the consultant team for determining water availability and water supplies for 2021 Regional D Plan was made by Ned Muse and seconded by Rolin McPhee. Motion carried, all voting aye. Consideration and action for approval and authorization to submit the approved notice-to-proceed request to TWDB for Task 5A, authorizing Tony Smith of Carollo Engineers and the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District (NETMWD) to work with TWDB on any follow up information that might be required, and authorizing NETMWD to negotiate and execute a subsequent TWDB contract amendment. Motion by David Nabors and seconded by Rolin McPhee. Motion carried, all voting aye.

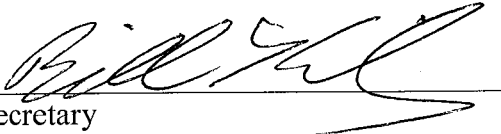
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Bob Station made a motion to approve the Financial Report by the Administrator, including approval for payment of the consultant invoices. Joann Duman seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

The next meeting of the regional water planning group was set for August 8, 2018 on a motion by David Nabors and seconded by Bob Station. Motion carried, all voting aye.

No public comments were made.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus.


Secretary

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Walt Sears, Jr.	NETMWD
Osiris Brantley	NETMWD
Robyn Goodson	NETMWD
Tony Smith	Carollo Engineering
Stan Hays	Hayes Engineering
Paula Coleman	Hayes Engineering
Sharon Elkins	Rep. Gary VanDeaver
Zack Rose	City of Clarksville
Matthew McAdoo	City of Clarksville
Paul Prange	ATCOG
Darrell Dean	Texas Ag
Lou Ann Everett	Canton
Mike Buttram	SRBA
Austin Lightle	KSA
Lanny Buck	KSA
Gary Cheatwood	
Sharron Nabors	
Mike McCoy	
Mike Burke	
Darwin Douthit	