Minutes of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group June 26, 2019 – 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, June 26, 2019, 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. Bill Kirby gave the invocation. Twentyone 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 Lloyd Parker Fred Milton Ned Muse Larry Calvin Russell Acker Sharron Nabors Joe Bumgarner Nicolas Fierro

Cindy Gwinn Mike McCoy Brandon Belcher Richard LeTourneau

The following alternates were present:

Jim Davis for Harlton Taylor
Darwin Douthit for Dennis Hilliard
Jim Thompson for George Frost
Donnie Duffee for Greg Carter
Don Hightower for Bob Staton
Linda Price for Cheri Stuart
Judge Leward J. Lafleur for Bruce Bradley

The following non-voting members were present: Ron Ellis, representing TWDB Sandy Cash, representing UTRWD Kyle Dooley, Riverbend Water Resources District Meg Shelton, SRBA Darrell Dean, Texas Dept of Agriculture

The following non-voting members were absent: Wayne Harris, Luminant Mike Rickman, Region C Larry Lebeau, Texas Parks and Wildlife Amanda Maloukis, Region I and GMA #11 Liaison Rusty Ray, TSSWCB

The following voting members were absent:
Jo Ann Duman Rolin McPhee
Wade Bartley

Bill Kirby made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2019 meeting. Sharron Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

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Chair Richard LeTourneau asked for updates from the liaisons. Ron Ellis with Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provided an update on the 86th Texas Legislative Session. Legislature passed several bills directly relevant to the RWPG and flood planning and project funding.

- HB 807 requires TWDB to appoint an interregional planning council (based on RWPG) consisting of one member from each RWPG during each five year planning cycle prior to the adoption of a new state water plan.
- HB 721 requires TWDB to conduct studies of Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) projects and aquifer recharge projects and conduct a state wide survey to identify the relative suitability of various major and minor aquifers.
- HB 723 requires TCEQ to obtain or develop updated WAMs by December 1, 2022.
- Senate Bill 7 Flood Funding and Senate Bill 8 Flood Planning.

No report was provided for GMA#8, GMA#11 or Region I. Sharron Nabors, Liaison for Region C, stated that Region C will meet September 18, 2019. Fred Milton with Riverbend Water Resources District reported Riverbend continues to support the U.S. Army and TexAmerica Center. Mr. Milton Stated that HB 1574 passed and that law ends term limits for Riverbend's board members. Riverbend is seeking funding help through TWDB for water infrastructure. Meg Shelton with SRBA reported that SRBA is developing and implementing a strategic plan to help the basin and the communities involved with the basin.

Tony Smith with Carollo provided a powerpoint presentation concerning possible content for Chapter 8. Mr. Smith went over the beginning draft of Chapter 8. Topics included ecologically unique stream segments, instream flows, legislative recommendations and unique reservoir sites.

There was discussion on the letters from TWDB dated April 3, 2019 and May 29, 2019 on opportunities for interregional dialog in order to minimize or avoid interregional conflict. It is anticipated that the dialog will be continuing during the next several months.

Walt Sears, Jr. gave an update on HB 4166 passed in the 2019 Texas Legislative Session. HB 4166 enables water planning in the Red River Basin in relation to possible navigation.

Ned Muse made a motion to approve the Financial Report by the Administrator, including approval for payment of the consultant invoices. Mike McCoy seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

The next meeting of the regional water planning group was set for August 1, 2019 by consensus.

Public comments were made by David Nabors. No additional public comments were made.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Don Hightower and a second by Larry Calvin. Motion carried, all voting aye.

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ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES:

Walt Sears, Jr.

Osiris Brantley

Robyn Goodson

Tony Smith

Secretary

Stan Hays

Paula Coleman

Dawn Pilcher

Kim Cox

Paul Prange

Conrad King

Dolores Cheatwood

Barbara Calvin

David Nabors

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Hayes Engineering

Hayes Engineering

LJA Engineering, Inc.

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