

**Minutes of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group
October 19, 2022 – 10:00 A.M.**

The North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (NETRWPG) – Region D met in an open meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at the Region 8 Education Service Center, 4845 US 271 N, Pittsburg, TX 75686. Notice of the meeting was legally posted.

Jim Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made and a quorum was present. Twenty-one members of the planning group were present in person or represented by a designated alternate.

The following voting members were present:

Russell Acker	Allen Beeler	Brandon Belcher	John Brooks
Joe Bumgarner	Andy Endsley	Nicolas Fierro	Richard Garza
Cindy Gwinn	Billy Henson	Conrad King	Richard LeTourneau
Janet McCoy	Fred Milton	Ned Muse	George Otsstott
Bob Tardiff	Jim Thompson		

The following alternates were present:

James Brooks	Kevin Chumbley	David Nabors
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The following voting members were absent:

Joe Coats	Donnie Duffie	Rolin McPhee	Sharron Nabors
Lloyd Parker	Harlton Taylor		

The public was provided an opportunity for comment prior to any action being taken by the planning group. There were no public comments at this time.

Jim Thompson provided that the positions open for reappointment are currently held by Conrad King, John Brooks, Joe Bumgarner, Nicolas Fierro, Cynthia Gwinn, Rolin McPhee, Lloyd Parker, and Richard LeTourneau. There were nine nominations for the eight open positions. They included all of the current voting members minus Rolin McPhee and adding Newman Browning, David Akin and Kevin Chumbley. After approval by the Executive Committee, the appointees are as follows: Conrad King, John Brooks, Joe Bumgarner, Nicolas Fierro, Cynthia Gwinn, Richard LeTourneau, Kevin Chumbley, and David Akin. Terms for each of these positions is for 3 years commencing on October 1, 2022. A motion was made by Bob Tardiff to accept the slate of appointees as presented. David Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

David Nabors made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2022 meeting. Fred Milton seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Ron Ellis with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provided an update. His presentation will update the Board on contract amendments. The contract will route through DocuSign through to Kyle Dooley as the representative for Region D soon. The changes will

include anticipated total project cost, full scope of work, and updated contract guidance documents (exhibits C and D). The first meeting of the Interregional Planning Council is scheduled for November 9, 2022 both in person in Austin, Texas and virtually. There has been a one-page document published related to water planning. This document covers water supply and flood mitigation strategies. It can be found here:

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/education/WaterSupply_and_FloodMitigationProjects.pdf

The current project timelines were also presented. The timelines are tighter for this cycle due to the pandemic occurring during 2020 which was the census year. Once the draft numbers have been released, the Board will request revisions to that data. The revision requests need to be submitted by August 11, 2023. That leaves approximately a 6 month window to submit the draft population projections and draft municipal water demand projections. All data that has been released so far is on the interactive dashboard on the TWDB website. There are a few steps the Regional Planning Boards need to take to get these deadlines met. Boards should meet soon after the release of those projections and develop strategy for meeting the deadline. Regions are strongly encouraged to submit non-municipal revision requests before municipal data is released. Historical declines in population will be reflected in the draft population projections. Mr. Ellis reminded the board that planning groups must take official action to approve submitting revision requests. Planning groups are encouraged to coordinate with TWDB as early as possible on recommended revisions. Guidance for requesting revisions is lined out in Exhibit C of the contract amendments to be covered later in the presentation. Water Development Board staff is available for assistance any time. The process for data collection and revisions is: TWDB presents draft data, the planning group requests revisions, and then negotiations and discussions lead to final numbers to be presented to TWDB for adoption. Once the data is adopted planning funds cannot be used to revise the projections. The contract between TWDB and Riverbend provides the funds from the State of Texas for each Region to complete the planning process. Documents related to the 6th cycle of regional water planning can be found at the link below. Documents included are Working Schedule, Draft Projections, Recommended Water Management Strategies, and Contract Documents.

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2026/documents.asp>

Exhibit C is the guidance document on how to put together the plan. In Section 2.3 of this exhibit, which addresses water availability and existing supplies, the new requirement is that the technical memorandum and Regional Water Plans (RWP) must include methodology for calculating anticipated sedimentation rate and revising the area-capacity rating curves. This change was addressed at the last meeting. Reuse availability will now be presented as a separate subsection in Chapter 3. Hydrologic variance requests for surface water must use template checklist. Task 4B in Exhibit C, Section 2.11 requires that there is identification of infeasible water management strategies (WMS) previously presented in the 2021 RWP. This board will need to look back at the last plan and determine if any of the strategies in the last plan are infeasible. At a minimum, the strategies slated for coming online in the 2020 decade need to be reviewed. The infeasibility of a water strategy is determined by action taken by the project sponsor to file permit applications or spend money on planning the project. Analysis must be completed prior to March 4, 2024. Results must be presented at a planning meeting. In addition, the methodology for identifying potentially infeasible WMSs in 2026 RWP must also be presented. If any WMS are identified as infeasible, this board will amend the Region D 2021 RWP to either remove those strategies or projects, revise them, or incorporate new WMS or WMSP. The strategies could be revised by changing its “online