

**Minutes of the North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group
February 21, 2024 – 10:00 A.M.**

The North East Texas Regional Water Planning Group (NETRWPG) – Region D met in an open meeting on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 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. nineteen members of the planning group were present in person or represented by a designated alternate.

The following voting members were present:

David Aikin	John Brooks	Joe Bumgarner	Greg Carter
Joe Coats	Nicolas Fierro	Richard Garza	Cindy Gwinn
Hattie Hackler	Billy Henson	Robert Hurst	Conrad King
Richard LeTourneau	Janet McCoy	Fred Milton	Ned Muse
Jim Thompson			

The following alternates were present:

Alton Bradley	David Nabors
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The following voting members were absent:

Russell Acker	Brandon Belcher	Kevin Chumbley	Andy Endsley
Cory Moose	Sharron Nabors	Harlton Taylor	

The public was provided with an opportunity for comment prior to any action being taken by the planning group. Howdy Lisenbee, City Manager for the City of Commerce, made a comment that he is interested in item number 5 regarding the appointment of a new board member.

David Nabors made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2023 meeting. Ned Muse seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Jim Thompson opened the discussion on taking nominations for the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is as follows: Jim Thompson as the Chair, Richard LeTourneau as the Vice Chair, Cynthia Gwinn as the Secretary, and John Brooks and Joe Bumgarner as the At Large Members. David Nabors made a motion to reelect the Executive Committee as it currently stands. Janet McCoy seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Jim Thompson opened the discussion regarding the appointment of a successor for the unexpired term of the voting member position currently held by Cory Moose. Mr. Moose replaced Bob Tardiff at the meeting held in October 2023. Mr. Moose is no longer employed by the City of Lindale and has moved out of the area. Ned Muse commented that discussions were held several months back regarding the City of Commerce joining the Region D Board. Fred Milton made a motion to allow the administrator to open up a 30-day nomination period

to appoint a successor to the unexpired term currently held by Cory Moose. David Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Jim Thompson opened the discussion on amending the representation status of Jim Thompson and Fred Milton. Fred Milton is listed as representing Bowie County and Water Districts. Mr. Milton is no longer on the Board for Riverbend Water Resources District. Mr. Thompson recommends that Mr. Milton's representation switch from Water Districts to the Public. In addition, Jim Thompson was appointed to the Region D Board to represent Bowie County and the Public. Mr. Thompson suggests that he switch to Cass County and Small Business. David Nabors made a motion to accept the amendment to representation status for Mr. Milton and Mr. Thompson as presented. David Aikin seconded the motion. Motion carried, 18 voting aye with one abstention.

Ron Ellis with the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) provided a report. The technical memorandum is due to TWDB by March 4, 2024. The Water Use Survey is open until March 1, 2024. The Water Service Boundary Editor is open until July 1, 2024. The Agricultural Water Conservation Grant application is open until April 3, 2024. Webinars can be found here: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/AWCG/index.asp>. The RWPG Chairs call was held on January 16, 2024 and another call is scheduled for April 2024. The Interregional Planning Council (IPC) met February 8, 2024 where they reviewed the Final Draft of IPC Report which due to TWDB March 4, 2024. Resources posted on TWDB IPC web page here <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/ipc/2027IPC.asp>. TWDB is seeking public input on the Texas Water Fund at Board meetings on February 8, 2024 and March 10, 2024 and at workshops in Austin in March on a date TBD, and on April 10, 2024 in Lubbock. Updated SB28 FAQ and Issues for Consideration and Request for Feedback document are on the TWDB Web Page.

Upcoming Materials TWDB is supplying for RWPGs:

- County-Specific Water Supply Planning Info & Resource Documents
- Includes Rural Entities and At-Risk Suppliers (<7,500, SS, 180 Day)
- Conservation Resources
- Drought/Drought Preparedness Resources
- List of Entities Required to Submit Drought Contingency Plans to TCEQ
- Drought Preparedness Council Recommendations to RWPGs
- Updated Drought Management Costing Information
- Updated Uniform Costing Model

An updated one-pager can be found on the TWDB Webpage.

John McFarland, Region I and GMA 11 representative, reported that Region I held a meeting on February 15th and approved the submission of their technical memo. GMA 11 has a meeting scheduled for April 2024. Fred Milton made a motion to reappoint John McFarland as the GMA 11 and Region I. David Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Howdy Lisenbee volunteered to represent Region C if he is approved to be a voting member of the Region D Board. Jim Thompson tabled that discussion pending the nominations to the Board within the next 30 days for the open board position.

Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers, provided information on the process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies for the purposes of the 2026 Region D Water Plan. Mr. Smith's presentation was a summary of previous presentations regarding feasible and infeasible water management strategies. Upon conclusion of his presentation, he requested public comment on the process for identifying potentially feasible water management strategies for the Region D Water Plan. Greg Carter thanked the consultant for their hard work in gathering all of this data. Greg Carter made a motion to authorize the technical consultant to submit on behalf of the NETRWPG the results of the evaluation of infeasible strategies, indicating that no WMSs or WMSPs from the 2021 Region D Regional Water Plan have been identified as infeasible, consistent with the information discussed in this meeting, and approves for the consultant to work with the Administrator to submit further revisions and make responses to revision requests by the TWDB by the March 4, 2024, deadline. David Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers, reviewed the Technical Memorandum for use in the development of the 2026 Region D Regional Water Plan, updated with information received from public comments, and as necessarily modified during final coordination with other regions and TWDB. This mid-point snapshot covers the deadline of March 4, 2024. The specific requirements for the tech memo including water demand projections, existing water supply allocations and water needs. Water availability referencing the Region D Hydrologic Variance Request including the methodology for sedimentation rates for area-capacity rating curves and TWDB Approval, WAM development and documentation with firm and safe yields with model files, documentation of groundwater availabilities. The tech memo must also document the processes by which the planning group identified potentially feasible water management strategies (WMS). The potentially feasible WMS and WMSPs or a statement that no infeasible WMSs or WMSPs were identified by the planning group. Also, a summary of the planning group's interregional coordination efforts to date must be included. Mr. Smith also covered the digital formats of the memo as required by TWDB. Mr. Smith opened up the floor for public comment on the information presented within the Technical Memorandum and other required supporting documentation. Howdy Lisenbee commented on the population projections for Hunt County. He stated that the current population in the tech memo is low by 3000. James Beach with AGS told him he would revisit those numbers and will take his request to correct that as well as his suggestion to project accurate growth for Hunt County into consideration. David Nabors made a motion to approve the Technical Consultant to coordinate with TWDB staff and submit the Technical Memorandum for use in the development of the 2026 Region D Regional Water Plan, updated with information received from public comments, and as necessarily modified during final coordination with TWDB. Greg Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers, presented the list of Wholesale Water Providers (WWP) and Major Water Providers (MWP) for the purposes of the 2026 Region D Water Plan. Wholesale Water Providers must sell or deliver wholesale water at some point in the 50-year planning horizon. Planning groups determine which WWPs to use in their plan development. There are specific analysis and reporting requirements. Major Water Providers are a subset of Water User Groups and WWPs. They are identified and designated by the planning groups to be of particular significance to the region's water supply. Ned Muse made a motion to adopt the list of Wholesale Water Providers and Major Water Providers for the purposes of the

2026 Region D Regional Water Plan. David Nabors seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Tony Smith, Carollo Engineers, summarized the scope of work for Task 5B that evaluates and makes recommendations of Water Management Strategies and Projects that includes preparation of a separate chapter that identifies, evaluates, and recommends Water Management Strategies and Water Management Strategies Projects. The performance of work associated with any 5B subtasks will be contingent upon a written notice-to-proceed in the form of a contract amendment. TWDB has allocated \$481,863 in funds for Task 5B. Prior to evaluation of the Potentially Feasible WMSs identified, the planning group must develop and submit a scope of work and associated budget and request notice-to-proceed. The working schedule is as follows: Today Region D must adopt the tech memo and approve this scope of work; March 4 the tech memo must be submitted to TWDB; March through December 2024 the negotiation of the scope of work on Task 5B and initiate it and then develop a plan; and finally, March 3, 2025 is the presentation of the Initially Prepared Plan. David Nabors made a motion to authorize the technical consultant to submit on behalf of the NETRWPG the Draft Scope of Work and Budget for Task 5B for the Evaluation and Recommendation of Water Management Strategy and Projects, consistent with the information discussed in this meeting, and approve for the consultant to work with the Chair and Administrator to submit further revisions and make responses to revision requests by the TWDB as needed. Fred Milton seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

Kyle Dooley presented invoices from Carollo Engineers for payment approval. The invoices are for work spanning from August to December 2023. The total for the invoices is \$62,228.65. Greg Carter made a motion to authorize Kyle Dooley to pay the invoices to Carollo. Fred Milton seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting aye.

The public was provided with a second opportunity to make comments. No public comments were made.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 2024.

With no further business to discuss, Jim Thompson adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.


Secretary

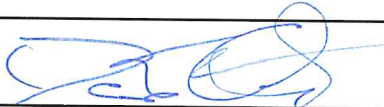

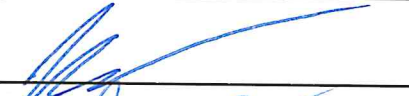





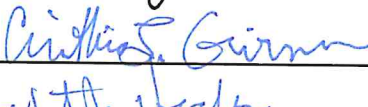


Date

VOTING MEMBER SIGN-IN

NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP

February 21, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Region 8 Education Service Center 4845 US Hwy 271 N. Pittsbl


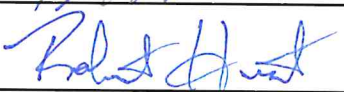






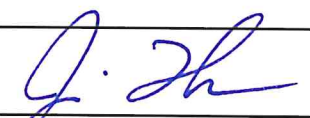
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VOTING MEMBER SIGN-IN

NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP

February 21, 2024 10:00 a.m.

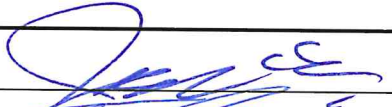

Region 8 Education Service Center 4845 US Hwy 271 N. Pittsb

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PUBLIC SIGN IN NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP
February 21, 2024 10:00 A.M., REGION 8 EDUCATION SER

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PUBLIC SIGN IN NORTH EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP
February 21, 2024 10:00 A.M., REGION 8 EDUCATION SEF

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