

MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
June 6, 2012
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, Robert Bruner, Mark Evans, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, John Hofmann, John Howard, Gena Leathers, Glynn Leiper, Marvin Marcell, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Steve Tyler, C. Harold Wallace, J. Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Charles Dean for John Blount, Lisa Lattu for Jun Chang, Davies Mtundu for Jace Houston, Ivan Langford for Robert Istre, Paul Nelson for Kathy Jones, and Zach Holland for James Morrison

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ted Long and Carl Masterson

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Balboa, Scott Hall, Temple McKinnon, and Melinda Silva

PRESIDING: Mark Evans, Chair

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:04 A.M.

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 2, 2012 MEETING

The minutes for the May 2, 2012, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. C. Harold Wallace, seconded by Mr. Art Henson, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 11

Brandt Manchenn expressed his personal comments regarding Agenda Items 9 and 10. He also presented the planning group with a letter outlining his comments. Mr. Manchenn specifically pointed out the need for a clearly understandable evaluation criteria for the 2016 Region H Water Plan and mentioned that he is opposed to the dam/reservoir proposed on Lake Creek.

Ken Cramer, Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, discussed his concern regarding Agenda Item 10. Mr. Cramer mentioned that there needs to be more focus on the lower Brazos.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF DANNY VANCE AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING RIVER AUTHORITIES

Recommendation was made by Mr. Ron Neighbors to accept Mr. Vance's resignation as a member of the Region H Water Planning Group representing River Authorities. Mr. Bob Hebert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE SELECTION OF J. KEVIN WARD AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING RIVER AUTHORITIES

Recommendation was made by Mr. Henson to accept the selection of Mr. Ward as a member of the Region H Water Planning Group representing River Authorities. Mr. John Bartos seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Jason Afinowicz updated the group on the schedule and milestones. He stated that when the group meets again the consultant team will have an updated schedule from the Texas Water Development Board. He specifically stated that the technical memorandum has shifted from February to a year down the road. Ms. Temple McKinnon stated that a critical building block for the technical memorandum is not ready and that is the reason for moving it out.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CONSULTANT TEAM TO PROVIDE PUBLIC NOTICE AND SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO TWDB ON BEHALF OF REGION H FOR FUNDING THE SECOND PHASE OF THE FOURTH ROUND OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

Mr. Afinowicz stated that the scope is dictated by the Texas Water Development Board's agenda and budget. Ms. McKinnon stated that the schedule will look similar to Phase 1.

Recommendation was made by Mr. Neighbors to authorize the Consultant Team to provide public notice and submit a grant application to TWDB on behalf of Region H for funding the second phase of the fourth round of regional water planning. Mr. John Hofmann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND SURFACE WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE REGARDING DRAFT SURFACE WATER SUPPLY AVAILABILITY ESTIMATES FOR USE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Afinowicz updated the group on the draft surface water supply model results for the Trinity and San Jacinto River Basins, including the variations from the 2011 Plan. Discussion ensued regarding shortages in the Brazos and sedimentation.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGY SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA FOR THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY

Mr. Afinowicz mentioned that as a continuation from discussions at the last meeting, generally the feedback from the group was that the water management strategy process needs to contain as much specificity as possible and that the selection process needs to be understandable. Discussion ensued regarding making the evaluation process consistent and picking one that makes the most sense.

Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors to authorize the consultant team to move forward with the strategy selection process and criteria for the 2016 Regional Water Plan. Mr. Marvin Marcell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING CONSULTANT TEAM TO SUBMIT A SCOPE OF SERVICES AND BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR ACCELERATED FUNDING UNDER TASK 4D OF THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Mike Reedy updated the group on the budget estimate for accelerated funding under Task 4D of the 2016 Regional Water Plan. He further discussed Allens Creek Reservoir, regional return flows, Houston indirect reuse, brackish groundwater desalination, Montgomery County Reservoir, and the budget summary. Discussion ensued regarding brackish groundwater desalination.

Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors to authorize the consultant team to submit a scope of services and budget estimate for accelerated funding under Task 4D. Mr. J. Kevin Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING RECENT AND UPCOMING ACTIVITIES RELATED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE REGION H PLANNING GROUP

Mr. Afinowicz continued by discussing recent community outreach activities. He stated that the consultant team spoke at the *Brazos Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)* meeting (05/30) and the *Gulf Coast/Montgomery County Water Efficiency Network* (06/04). He also mentioned the *Brazoria County EDA* (07/09).

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Ms. McKinnon stated that the draft rules for public comment ended Monday and that they had received six comments from the public.

Mr. Hofmann mentioned that BRA had submitted an application to TCEQ for a permit to appropriate available flows in the Brazos Basin.

Discussion ensued regarding the Legislative Reception and Texas Groundwater Summit.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Kramer stated that a Water Conservation Symposium was scheduled for June 21st in Waco, Texas, and that the group can find registration information at txwater.org.

NEXT MEETING

September 5, 2012
San Jacinto River Authority
General and Administration Building
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

ADJOURNED AT 11:38 A.M.