

**MINUTES  
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING  
10:00 A.M.  
February 5, 2014  
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY  
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
1577 DAM SITE ROAD  
CONROE, TEXAS**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Bailey, John R. Bartos, John Blount, Robert Bruner, Mark Evans, Gene Fisseler, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, John Hofmann, Jace Houston, John Howard, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Gena Leathers, Marvin Marcell, James Morrison, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Pudge Willcox

**DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:** Lisa Lattu for Jun Chang, Ken Kramer for Carl Masterson, Michael Turco for Ronald Neighbors, Jim Sims for J. Kevin Ward

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Steve Tyler

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Temple McKinnon, Melinda Silva, Scott Hall

**PRESIDING:** Judge Mark Evans, Chair

**CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:05 A.M.**

A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2013 MEETING**

The minutes for the November 6, 2013, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. Schindewolf, seconded by Mr. Hoffman, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 10**

No public comments.

**RECEIVE REPORT ON RENEWAL OF ERRORS AND OMISSIONS POLICY FOR REGION H PLANNING GROUP MEMBERS**

Mr. Houston presented the annual insurance policy for renewal with an approximate amount due of \$1,100.00. No action required.

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

Mr. Jason Afinowicz gave an update on TWDB's revised planning schedule, pointing out key dates related to the schedule and action on project prioritization.

03/18/14 – Water Management Strategies Committee Meeting for making the first cut prioritization  
05/07/14 – Region H Water Planning Group Meeting to review and approve before June 1<sup>st</sup> submittal  
06/01/14 – Deadline for Draft 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB  
07/02/14 – Approval of Technical Memorandum  
08/01/14 – Deadline for Technical Memorandum to TWDB  
08/06/14 – Region H Water Planning Group Meeting – group can ratify Memorandum  
09/01/14 – Deadline for Final 2011 Project Prioritization to TWDB  
05/01/15 – Deadline for Initially Prepared Plan to TWDB  
11/02/15 – Deadline for Final Adopted Plan to TWDB

**RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE REGARDING STATUS OF INVESTIGATION OF WATER SUPPLY ALTERNATIVES FOR THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Afinowicz gave an update from the Water Management Strategies Committee regarding the status of investigation on water supply alternatives with a summary report on Allens Creek Reservoir, Regional Return Flows, City of Houston Reuse, Brackish Groundwater Desalination, Lone Star Lake, and Irrigation Conservation. Future strategy evaluations to come in the future. Mr. Afinowicz reported additional funds are available for other strategies and proposals.

**RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE REGARDING THE PRIORITIZATION OF WATER PLAN PROJECTS FOR USE BY THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD IN ADMINISTERING LOAN FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT WATER PROJECTS**

Mr. Afinowicz reviewed the timeline for the prioritization of projects in the 2011 and 2016 Water Plans stating that the draft was submitted and approved. The submission deadline to TWDB is June 1, 2014, for the *draft* prioritization and September 1, 2014, for the *final* prioritization. Currently, there are 829 entries for Region H projects for the strategy committee to bring to the planning group. The same process will be implemented for the 2016 plan. One difference being that a written request from the project sponsor will be required. Mr. Evans reiterated this is not required for the 2011 prioritization.

Ms. Temple McKinnon reported the target goal for finalization of SWIFT rules for final publication is set for December 1, 2014.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTANT TEAM TO COMPLETE THE DRAFT TWDB PRIORITIZATION SCORING TEMPLATE FOR REGION H WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES INCLUDED IN THE 2011 REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND AUTHORIZING THE WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE COMMENT ON THE DRAFT PRIORITIZATION**

Motion was made by Mr. Bartos, seconded by Mr. Kramer, to authorize the consultant team to complete the draft TWDB prioritization scoring template and authorize the Water Management Strategies Committee to review and provide comment on the draft prioritization. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION AUTHORIZING THE SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND SCOPE OF WORK RELATED TO PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS IN THE 2011 REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Motion made by Judge Henson, seconded by Judge Hebert, to authorize an agreement with the Texas Water Development Board for additional funding and scope of work related to prioritization of projects in the 2011 and 2016 regional water plan. The motion carried unanimously.

**DISCUSS SCHEDULE FOR PLANNING GROUP EFFORTS AND MEETINGS FOR 2014**

Mr. Afinowicz gave an overview of upcoming meetings to include March 18, 2014, for the Water Management Strategies Committee. Judge Evans offered an open invitation to other members not on the committee to attend. Mr. Houston requested that other members wishing to attend contact him by email in the event a quorum is present. A regular planning meeting is scheduled on May 7, 2014, and an approval will be needed by the members to authorize submission on behalf of the planning group. Judge Evans suggested that the board ratify the submission at the August 8, 2014, planning meeting. Mr. Afinowicz noted that the July meeting would no longer be needed.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF HAROLD WALLACE AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING WATER UTILITIES**

Motion was made by Judge Henson to accept the resignation of Mr. Harold Wallace, representing Water Utilities, seconded by Judge Hebert. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF GLYNNA LEIPER AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING INDUSTRY**

Motion was made by Mr. Marcell to accept the resignation of Ms. Glynn Leiper, representing Industry seconded by Mr. Blount. The motion carried unanimously. Ms. Leiper's resignation included her recommendation of Otis Dickinson.

Mr. Marcell suggested a token of appreciation for the retiring members.

Judge Evans stated that new officers would need to be elected. The Nominations Committee will consider vacancies and meet by phone. Judge Evans suggested any interested parties should submit a letter of interest stating their willingness to serve to Mr. Houston. A deadline was set for March 31, 2014, to give the Nominations Committee time to consider nominations.

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

Mr. Afinowicz reported presentations were made on water conservation at Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association on December 10th and at Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium on January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

Ms. McKinnon recapped the schedule, offering the website for tracking SWIFT activity, and their continued efforts in visiting around the region.

**RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jill Savory, Fort Bend County resident, provided comments regarding water issues in Fort Bend County.

**NEXT MEETING**

May 7, 2014  
San Jacinto River Authority  
General & Administration  
1577 Dam Site Road  
Conroe, TX 77304

**ADJOURNED AT 11:15 A.M.**