

**MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
OCTOBER 6, 2010
LONE STAR CONVENTION AND EXPO CENTER
9055 FM 1484
CONROE, TEXAS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roosevelt Alexander, Jun Chang, Reed Eichelberger, Mark Evans, Art Henson, John Hofmann, John Howard, Gena Leathers, Glynn Leiper, Ted Long, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Steve Tyler, Danny Vance, C. Harold Wallace, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Mary Carter for John Bartos, Charles Dean for John Blount, Jim Sims for Robert Bruner, Mike O'Connell for Bob Hebert, Tom Michel for Marvin Marcell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Istre and James Morrison

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Ahrens, Temple McKinnon, and Melinda Silva

PRESIDING: Ron Neighbors, Vice-Chair

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING AT 10:10 A.M.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2010 MEETING

The minutes for the August 4, 2010, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. Vance; seconded by Mr. Wallace, to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

(Mr. Evans began presiding at 10:15 A.M.)

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4-6

No comments were made by the public.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) ON STATUS OF REGIONAL WATER PLAN SUBMITTAL

Mr. David Parkhill with AECOM gave a short status report on activities related to Region H. He then introduced Mr. Philip Taucer. Mr. Taucer updated the group on Region H activities since the last meeting. He discussed the submittal of the Plan to the TWDB on August 26, 2010, and the Infrastructure Finance Report (IFR), including the surveys and changes to the Plan. Mr.

Parkhill continued with an update on the status of the Senate Bill 3 (Environmental Flows) process, including the timeline since the creation of the Environmental Flows Advisory Group and appointment of the Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST). He briefly discussed the flow regime recommendations of the BBEST and the Stakeholder Committee and the work plan for same. He stated that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is working on proposed rules related to environmental flows. Mr. Parkhill discussed TCEQ's rulemaking activities and closed by discussing the history of House Bill 1763 and the adopted Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs) in Region H.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM SCOPING COMMITTEE REGARDING LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS AND PREPARATION FOR 2016 PLANNING ROUND

Mr. Evans stated that the Scoping Committee was appointed after the last meeting. He recognized the members appointed: Marvin Marcell (Chair), Jimmie Schindewolf, Pudge Willcox, Danny Vance, and Gena Leathers. Mr. Evans updated the group on the outcome of the conference call held to discuss the three tasks assigned to the committee. The tasks assigned were to: (1) consider the scope for the next round of planning; (2) coordinate the development of a request for qualifications for selecting consultant services for the next round of planning; and (3) recommend any legislative issues for special report from the Region H Planning Group.

Mr. Evans stated that the committee went through the tasks and recommended that a letter be sent to the Governor, Speaker, and Lieutenant Governor with certain legislative recommendations, including a request that the TWDB be given funding to be allocated specifically for regional water planning. He then briefly discussed the Request for Statement of Qualifications to prepare the 2016 Regional Water Plan for the Region H Water Planning Group. He discussed the selected process with the group and stated this is the same process as previously used to select a consultant team. Mr. Schindewolf stated that the committee meeting was productive, and he thanked Mr. Houston for his help with the process and his involvement with Region H.

Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors to approve the Request for Statement of Qualifications and to authorize Mr. Evans to sign the proposed letters to the Governor, Speaker, and Lieutenant Governor; seconded by Mr. Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE HARRIS-GALVESTON SUBSIDENCE DISTRICT ON THEIR REGULATORY PLAN REVIEW

Mr. Tom Michel presented an update on the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District's Regulatory Plan Review. Mr. Michel discussed the importance of the project to Region H, the need for same, and the changing landscape with regional water authorities since 1999. He discussed the sponsors and focus area of the project. Mr. Mike Reedy with Freese & Nichols, Inc., discussed the project study area, stakeholder involvement, the schedule, challenges and opportunities, and other details related to the project. Mr. Reedy continued by discussing the current status of the project and the future direction and goals of same. In closing, Mr. Michel briefly discussed how the study will be used to support an update of the District's Regulatory Plan. Mr. Neighbors

discussed the long range plan and continual work needed. He discussed the previous and current regulations, possible recommended changes, and factors for consideration.

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Temple McKinnon gave the agency report for the TWDB. She stated that their Data Team completed their review of the Plan submitted by Region H. A summary of same will be sent to Mr. Houston.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments received.

NEXT MEETING:

January 5, 2011
San Jacinto River Authority
General and Administration Building
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

ADJOURNED AT 10:45 A.M.