

**MINUTES**  
**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING**  
**10:00 A.M.**  
**April 3, 2013**  
**SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY**  
**GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**1577 DAM SITE ROAD**  
**CONROE, TEXAS**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Bailey, John Bartos, Robert Bruner, Jun Chang, Mark Evans, Art Henson, John Hofmann, Jace Houston, John Howard, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Gena Leathers, Ted Long, Carl Masterson, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Steve Tyler, J. Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox

**DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:** Charles Dean for John Blount, Michael O'Connell for Bob Hebert, Robert Thompson for Marvin Marcell, and Tom Michel for C. Harold Wallace

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Glynn Leiper and James Morrison

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lann Bookout (for Temple McKinnon) and Melinda Silva

**PRESIDING:** Mark Evans, Chair

**CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:09 A.M.**

A quorum was present.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2012 MEETING**

The minutes for the December 5, 2012, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors, seconded by Mr. Henson, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 12**

Zach Holland, General Manager of the Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District, discussed Electro Purification, LLC's application. He stated that the application was filed before the Bluebonnet Groundwater Conservation District. Mr. Holland further discussed the process, procedure, and additional application information. Discussion ensued regarding geographic location of the wells.

Ken Parker, Woodlands homeowner, mentioned possible sites for additional water supply and flood control reservoirs. Specifically, he discussed a piece of property where the San Jacinto River meets Lake Creek.

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

Mr. Houston updated the group on the insurance policy. He stated that this is the policy the group has maintained since the beginning and that the policy had been renewed.

## **RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM SALT OF THE EARTH ENERGY REGARDING DESALINATION TECHNOLOGY AND POTENTIAL WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**

Joe Veytia, Salt of the Earth Energy LLC Senior VP, and Todd Kinsey, League City-City Council Position 4, gave the presentation on desalination technology and potential water management strategies. Mr. Veytia discussed the development of a desalination plant in Galveston County, while Mr. Kinsey mentioned League City's extreme water shortage and strategies to address that issue. Discussion ensued regarding the salinity in the area, overall price, and amount of fresh water produced.

## **RECEIVE REQUEST FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2011 REGION H WATER PLAN AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO INITIATE A REQUEST TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR A PLAN AMENDMENT**

Mr. Kinsey presented the planning group with a letter requesting that Region H add desalination as a water source to meet the future water needs for League City. Discussion ensued on the formal process to add desalination as a management strategy and an amendment to the regional water plan.

Mr. Houston stated that he believes that the request does meet the qualifications for a minor amendment due to the fact that it is sea water based. Discussion ensued regarding criteria, population demands, and if the request is minor or major.

Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors to authorize that the application be submitted to the Texas Water Development Board to determine if the amendment is minor or major, contingent on League City entering into a contract with Freese and Nichols to put together the application packet. Mr. Bruner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Afinowicz updated the group on the schedule and milestones. He gave the status of the Accelerated Studies and Phase 2 Planning.

## **RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND NON-POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING REVISED MINING PROJECTS FOR USE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND CONSIDER APPROVAL**

Mr. Afinowicz presented progress since September 2012 on non-population demands regarding mining projections. He explained that a follow-up study of mining demands was commissioned

by TWDB and that these projections represent the new recommended projections with the exception of Chambers County, which the committee had previously elected to revise. Discussion ensued regarding the demands of several counties based on the revised projections by the Bureau of Economic Geology. The committee will follow up with additional information at the next meeting prior to approval. Projections must be approved at the next meeting in order to meet TWDB schedule.

#### **RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING DRAFT POPULATION AND DEMAND PROJECTIONS FOR USE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Afinowicz discussed the comparison of where we were in 2011 and where we are now. Discussion ensued regarding the per capita demands graph and WUG survey. The consultant team will be conducting a survey of Water User Groups and solicit requests for population and demand revisions. These results as well as the detailed projections will be presented to the committee and brought before the Planning Group at the next meeting in order to meet the TWDB schedule.

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

Mr. Afinowicz discussed recent community outreach activities. He indicated that the consultant team spoke at the *City of Conroe* (12/18), *Houston Gulf Coast Irrigation Association* (02/12), and *Texas Chemical Council* (02/14).

#### **CONSIDER ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING LEGISLATION**

Discussion ensued regarding the infrastructure financing legislation.

Motion was made by Mr. Neighbors to adopt a resolution of support for infrastructure financing legislation. Mr. Ward seconded the motion. Mr. Tyler opposed. The motion carried.

#### **AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

Mr. Bookout stated that Ms. McKinnon would be making a presentation at a future meeting on the recent TWDB rule changes.

Discussion ensued regarding Allen's Creek Reservoir and private vs. state water regulations.

#### **RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments were received.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

July 3, 2013  
San Jacinto River Authority  
General and Administration Building  
1577 Dam Site Road  
Conroe, Texas 77304

**ADJOURNED AT 11:51 A.M.**