

**MINUTES  
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP  
FEBRUARY 3, 2016  
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY  
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
1577 DAM SITE ROAD  
CONROE, TX 77304**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carl Masterson, James Comin, Marvin Marcell, Pudge Willcox, Gene Fisseler, Glenn Lord, David Collinsworth, Robert Bruner, William Teer, Art Henson, David Bailey, Jun Chang, Mark Evans, Jace Houston, James Morrison, Jimmie Schindewolf, John Blount, Kathy Turner Jones, Bob Hebert, John Howard, Michael Turco, Ivan Langford

**DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:** Glenn Clingenpeel for Kevin Ward

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ruth Stultz, John Bartos, Robert Istre

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sarah Backhouse

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Evans welcomed Dr. Tom Linton and his Coastal Water Policy class from Texas A&M University Galveston Campus to the meeting and announced the alternate members present. He went on to welcome Sarah Backhouse and Carmen Cernosek from the Texas Water Development Board and announced that Sarah Backhouse is the new Texas Water Development Board representative to Region H.

**2. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 4, 2015 MEETING**

Art Henson made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2015. The motion was seconded by Jun Chang and carried unanimously.

**3. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 12. (PUBLIC COMMENTS LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)**

There were no comments.

**4. ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF RON NEIGHBORS AS A VOTING MEMBER REPRESENTING WATER DISTRICTS; DECLARE VACANCIES IN POSITIONS REPRESENTING WATER DISTRICTS, WATER UTILITIES, AND SMALL BUSINESS; RECEIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT; AND ELECT NEW VOTING MEMBERS REPRESENTING WATER DISTRICTS, WATER UTILITIES, AND SMALL BUSINESS**

Mr. Evans explained that upon Mr. Neighbors' resignation and the previous departure of two other Region H members, there were three current vacancies; one for Water Districts, one for Water Utilities, and one for Small Business. Mr. Jimmie Schindewolf, Chair of the Nominating Committee, explained that the Committee is composed of members, Mr. Bob Hebert, Mr. John Blount, Mr. Bill Teer, and Mr. Jun Chang. He went on to explain that the Nominating Committee discussed proposed

nominations via conference call on January 21, 2016. Mr. Schindewolf announced that the Nominating Committee recommended Mr. Michael Turco, General Manager of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District, to replace Mr. Ron Neighbors for Water Districts; secondly they recommended Mr. Ivan Langford, General Manager of the Gulf Coast Water Authority, to fill the vacancy of Mr. Harold Wallace for Water Utilities; and lastly, the committee recommended Ms. Ruth Stultz to fill the vacancy of Mr. Steve Tyler for Small Business. Mr. Houston presented a brief introduction of Ms. Stultz.

Mr. David Collinsworth made a motion to elect Mr. Turco as representative for Water Districts, Mr. Langford as representative for Water Utilities, and Ms. Stultz as representative for Small Business. The motion was amended to accept the resignation of Mr. Neighbors and to accept the election of the new representatives for Region H. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Bruner and carried unanimously

Mr. Evans congratulated the new members of the planning group and asked them to join the meeting.

**5. CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF EXISTING REGION H VOTING MEMBERS FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE-YEAR TERM.**

Mr. Houston briefly explained the current terms of voting members. Mr. Marvin Marcell made a motion to extend the term of existing Region H voting members for an additional five-year term. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gene Fisseler and carried unanimously.

**6. RECEIVE NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT AND ELECT OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE REGION H WPG**

Mr. Evans explained the need for an Executive Committee. He went on to announce the current members of the committee and due to Mr. Neighbors' resignation, the need to elect officers and members of the Executive Committee of the Region H Water Planning Group. He explained that the Nominating Committee also made recommendations for the Executive Committee, being Mr. Evans to continue as Chair, Mr. Chang to be elected to the position of Vice Chair, Mr. Houston to continue as Secretary, Mr. Bartos to continue as a member, and Mr. Willcox be elected as a member.

Mr. Hebert made a motion to accept the elections of the following officers: Mr. Evans, Chair; Mr. Chang, Vice Chair; Mr. Houston, Secretary; Mr. Bartos and Mr. Willcox, Members, of the Executive Committee of the Region H Water Planning Group. The motion was seconded by Mr. Blount and carried unanimously.

**7. RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING SUBMITTAL OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND THE SCHEDULE AND MILESTONES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2021 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Jason Afinowicz stated that the 2016 Regional Water Plan was submitted to the Texas Water Development Board on November 24, 2015, and approved on December 14, 2015. He went on to explain that the Regional Plan will now be incorporated into a State Water Plan. Mr. Afinowicz explained the public process for the State Plan. He went on to explain the 2021 Regional Water Plan, stating that the Texas Water Development Board contract with SJRA has been approved and that the consultant contract with SJRA was approved in December of 2015. He explained that a Chairs and Stakeholders call took place on January 26, 2016, which included the consultants, and the call consisted of lessons learned from the last plan, new initiatives for the fifth cycle, and the development of demand projects for the next round. Mr. Afinowicz went on to explain the amendment schedule for funding. Following the update, a brief discussion regarding surveys ensued.

**8. REVIEW AND TAKE ACTION TO AMEND THE BUDGET FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Afinowicz explained the budget amendment for the 2016 plan, describing how money was moved around to better reflect some of the effort during the tasks.

Mr. Houston made a motion to amend the budget for the development of the 2016 Regional Water Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Masterson and carried unanimously.

**9. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT TEAM REGARDING SCOPE OF WORK FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2021 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mr. Afinowicz gave a brief overview regarding the 2021 Region H Regional Water Plan Scope of Work, specifically speaking on task 2A, Non-Population Related Water Demands Projections, task 2B, Population and Population-Related Water Demand, task 10 relating to Public Participation and Plan Adoption, and the Water Demand Analysis.

**10. RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE REGION H ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCY REGARDING RENEWAL OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INSURANCE COVERAGE**

Mr. Houston explained the coverage and renewal process related to the renewal of directors and officers insurance coverage.

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

Mr. Afinowicz stated that a SWIFT Funding workshop was held at Houston-Galveston Area Council on January 7, 2016, and a Gulf Coast Water Conservation Symposium will be held on March 9, 2016, at the United Way Community Resource Center.

**12. AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION**

Mr. Evans welcomed Mr. Scott Galloway from the Texas Water Development Board. Ms. Sarah Backhouse announced the appointment of Mr. Peter Lake, new TWDB Board Member, and gave a brief overview of his background. She went on to announce that SWIFT Bridged Applications are due Friday, February, 5, 2016, and will be based on projects in the 2016 Regional Plan and the 2017 State Water Plan. She went on to explain that they are revising their planning rules. Ms. Carmen Cernosek stated that she welcomed suggestions regarding public outreach related to the Ag & Rule project.

**13. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

**14. NEXT MEETING**

Mr. Evans announced that the next regular meeting will take place on May 4, 2016.

**15. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.