

**MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
FEBRUARY 3, 2010
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY OFFICE
LAKE CONROE DAM
1577 DAMSITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roosevelt Alexander, John R. Bartos, John Blount, Robert Bruner, Jun Chang, Reed Eichelberger, Mark Evans, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, John Hofmann, John Howard, Robert Istre, Gena Leathers, Glynn Leiper, Ted Long, Marvin Marcell, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Steve Tyler, Danny Vance, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Morrison and C. Harold Wallace

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

PRESIDING: Mark Evans, Chair

CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC MEETING AT 10:09 A.M.

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2, 2009 MEETING

Motion was made by Ron Neighbors, seconded by John Blount and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the December 2, 2009 meeting.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2010 MEETING

Motion was made by Danny Vance, seconded by Art Henson and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2010 meeting.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 10

Dan Davis with Montgomery County Municipal Utility District No. 8 was introduced and thanked Temple McKinnon, Jason Afinowicz, and David Parkhill for their work and efforts in the planning process.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON RENEWAL OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INSURANCE POLICY

Jace Houston presented the annual renewal of the directors and officers insurance policy for the Region H Planning Group. Motion was made by Bob Hebert, seconded by Robert Bruner, to

approve the annual renewal of the directors and officers liability policy. The motion carried. As chairman of the TWCA Risk Management Fund, Ron Neighbors abstained from the vote.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT REGARDING LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE RESULTS OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

Jason Afinowicz introduced Chris Krueger with KBR to discuss the legislative recommendations and the recommendations of the subcommittee. Mr. Krueger began by acknowledging the subcommittee members: Danny Vance, Ron Neighbors, Reed Eichelberger, Robert Istre, John Bartos, and John Hofmann. He continued by discussing the subcommittee's recommended changes on Task 8 of the Regulatory, Administrative, and Legislative Recommendations.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCLUSION IN CHAPTER 8 OF THE REGIONAL WATER PLAN

John Bartos briefly commented on the recommendations made by the subcommittee. He stated that he opposed the committee's proposed language in Item 4 of the legislative recommendations related to the removal of barriers to interbasin transfers of water within Region H. Danny Vance and Marvin Marcel led discussions related to the language and the barriers that exist.

Steve Tyler commented on the legislative recommendations and suggested the institution of a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary, statewide planning effort. Also, he recommended that direction be given to the state demographer's office to explore potential changes in population distribution made possible by advancements in information technology. Discussion ensued on Mr. Tyler's recommendations, including the need to communicate with the state demographer's office on the available data and accuracy of same.

Approval of Legislative Recommendation 1-3, 5-9, and 11-16 were then considered by the Group. Motion was made by Danny Vance, seconded by John Bartos and carried unanimously, for the inclusion of the stated recommendations in Chapter 8 of the Regional Water Plan.

The Group then considered Legislative Recommendation 4 language, as proposed by the committee. Motion was made by Ron Neighbors, seconded by Danny Vance, to approve the Legislative Recommendation 4 language as stated by the committee. John Blount abstained from the vote, and John Bartos opposed. The motion carried.

Motion was then made by John Hoffman to take action on Mr. Tyler's recommendation to direct the state demographer's office to explore potential changes in population distribution made possible by rapid advancements in information technology, seconded by Bob Hebert. The motion carried.

Consideration was then given to Mr. Tyler's second legislative recommendation to encourage the institution of a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary, statewide planning effort. Discussion ensued

regarding the language, and the need to develop more specific language during the comment period. No action was taken.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT REGARDING COMMENTS TO THE DRAFT INITIALLY PREPARED PLAN FOR REGION H PRESENTED ON JANUARY 6, 2010

Jason Afinowicz presented comments to the DRAFT Initially Prepared Plan, as requested at the January 6, 2010 meeting. He stated that comments were received through February 2, 2010. He discussed the comments submitted and the clarifications, corrections, and additions made to the DRAFT Initially Prepared Plan. Mr. Afinowicz continued by discussing the timeline for submission of the document to Texas Water Development Board.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION TO ADOPT THE 2011 INITIALLY PREPARED PLAN FOR REGION H AND AUTHORIZE THE CONSULTANT TO TRANSMIT THE ADOPTED DOCUMENT TO TWDB

Motion was made by Ron Neighbors to adopt the 2011 Initially Prepared Plan for Region H and to authorize the consultant to transmit the adopted document to Texas Water Development Board; seconded by Jimmy Schindewolf. Steve Tyler voted nay. The motion carried.

John Bartos stated his support of the plan. He continued by stating that public comments on Millican Reservoir should be expected, due to the environmental impacts and costs involved with same.

CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE TWDB TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF SOCIECONOMIC IMPACTS OF UNMET WATER NEEDS IN THE REGION H WATER PLANNING AREA

Jason Afinowicz discussed the socioeconomic impacts of unmet water needs and the need for the Texas Water Development Board to conduct an analysis of same in the Region H Water Planning Area. Motion was made by Ron Neighbors, seconded by John Bartos, to approve the Texas Water Development Board to conduct an analysis of socioeconomic impacts of unmet water needs in the Region H Water Planning Area. The motion carried unanimously.

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Temple McKinnon stated that the Texas Water Development Board is looking forward to receiving Region H's plan document.

Jamie Schubert with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department reminded the Group about the *Freshwater Inflows: Beyond 2010 Conference* in Corpus Christi, Texas, starting on February 8, 2010.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brandt Mannchen with the Houston Sierra Club commented briefly on the recent forum *Water for Our Future* held in Brazoria County.

NEXT MEETING

Jace Houston announced the date and change in location for the next meeting:

April 7, 2010
Lone Star Convention Center and Expo Center
9055 FM Road 1484
Conroe, Texas 77303

Glenda Callaway announced that the information related to the upcoming public hearings has been posted on the Region H website at <http://www.regionhwater.org/>.

ADJOURNED AT 11:25 A.M.