

**MINUTES  
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING  
10:00 A.M.  
FEBRUARY 4, 2009  
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY OFFICE  
LAKE CONROE DAM  
1577 DAMSITE ROAD  
CONROE, TEXAS**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Roosevelt Alexander, John Bartos, Reed Eichelberger, Mark Evans, Ted Long, John Howard, Robert Istre, Glynn Leiper, Ronald Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, Jun Chang, Steve Tyler, Mike Uhl, Danny Vance, Harold Wallace, Pudge Willcox

**DESIGNATED ALTERNATES:** Reeves Gilmore for John Blount, Tom Michel for Marvin Marcell, Jason Pierce for James Morrison, and Jace Houston for William Teer

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Baker, Robert Bruner, Jack Harris, and Bob Hebert

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Temple McKinnon and Melinda Silva

**PRESIDING:** Mark Evans, Vice-Chair

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

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2008 MEETING**

Motion was made by Harold Wallace to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2008 meeting; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS 4 – 15**

Brandt Mannchen commented on the Environmental Flows Study Draft Report (agenda Item No. 11). He began by thanking Region H for conducting the environmental flows analysis. He continued by distributing a written summary of his personal comments and then he discussed each of the specific comments.

Ken Kramer with the Sierra Club commented on the submittal of the Drought Management Study Draft Report to the Texas Water Development Board on or before March 31, 2009 (agenda Item No. 9). He expressed concern over the focus of reservoir levels in the report to serve as trigger mechanisms for water usage cutbacks. Mr. Kramer questioned a statement in the conclusion of the report pertaining to the relevance of drought contingency plans since they are based on the drought of record. He proposed that in the third round of regional planning that the issue of drought contingency be revisited. His formal written comments on the Drought Management Study Draft Report will be submitted this spring. He continued by briefly commenting on agenda Item No. 11 pertaining to the Environmental Flows Study Draft Report. Mr. Kramer spoke on Region C's management strategies, reuse projects, and the impact on

flows. In summary, he informed everyone that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's *Texas the State of Flowing Water* would air on PBS on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

**ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JOHN BAKER AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING RIVER AUTHORITIES**

A motion was made by Danny Vance to accept the resignation of John Baker; seconded by Ronald Neighbors. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF JOHN HOFMANN (CENTRAL AND LOWER REGION MANAGER FOR BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY) AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING RIVER AUTHORITIES**

A motion was made by Robert Istre to accept the nomination and appointment of John Hofmann as a voting member of the Region H Water Planning Group representing river authorities; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

**ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JACK HARRIS AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP REPRESENTING COUNTIES**

A motion was made by Ronald Neighbors to accept the resignation of Jack Harris as a voting member of the Region H Regional Water Planning Group; seconded by Danny Vance. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Jimmy Schindewolf made recommendations on behalf of the Nominating Committee for the 2009 Executive Committee as follows:

Chair	Mark Evans
Vice-Chair	Ronald Neighbors
Secretary	Reed Eichelberger
Member	C. Harold Wallace
Member	John R. Bartos

**TAKE ACTION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009**

A motion was made by Danny Vance to approve the recommended nominations as Jimmy Schindewolf presented on behalf of the Nominating Committee; seconded by Bob Hebert. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE DROUGHT MANAGEMENT STUDY DRAFT REPORT FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT (TWDB) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2009**

Mike Reedy with AECOM stated that there have been no official comments to date on the plan other than verbal comments received at the last meeting. Mr. Reedy stated that all comments have been addressed and clarifications made as needed. A motion was made by Ron Neighbors to approve the Drought Management Study Draft Report for submittal to the TWDB; seconded by Roosevelt Alexander. The motion carried unanimously.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE INTERRUPTIBLE SUPPLY STUDY DRAFT REPORT FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2009**

Mike Reedy with AECOM reviewed the amendments to the scope of work for interruptible supplies. In order to fulfill the contractual agreement with the Texas Water Development Board, he requested approval for the Interruptible Supplies Study to be submitted to the TWDB on or before March 31, 2009. A motion was made by Danny Vance to approve the Interruptible Supply Study Draft Report for submittal to the TWDB; seconded by Roosevelt Alexander. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT ON THE RESULTS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS STUDY DRAFT REPORT**

Mike Reedy with AECOM started his presentation by thanking the Environmental Flows Committee for their input on the study. He explained the purpose of the study and presented an overview of the project. A brief discussion ensued regarding future challenges of implementing measures to meet environmental flow targets. John Bartos, Chair of the Environmental Flows Committee briefly commented on the committee's discussions concerning the study.

**RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEM 11**

No comments received.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON APPROVING THE ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS STUDY DRAFT REPORT FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2009**

A motion was made by Reed Eichelberger to approve the Environmental Flow Study Draft Report for submittal to the Texas Water Development Board; seconded by Ron Neighbors. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM CONSULTANT ON THE STATUS OF CURRENT PLANNING AND FUTURE WORK SCHEDULE FOR THE 2011 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Mike Reedy presented information on the 2011 Regional Water Plan development. He discussed the development of population projections at the county, WUG, and county-other level and asked for the planning group's input on gathering this data. Discussion followed regarding the completion of surveys. Robert Istre commented regarding the inclusion industrial demand information. Mike Reedy explained how the population projections are used in developing the water demands for the 2011 Regional Water Plan. Temple McKinnon commented on the population projections and water demands and presented the planning group with a summary of the Texas Water Development Board's study entitled "Water Demand Projections for Power Generation in Texas" dated January, 2009. Mr. Reedy stated that he would come back with recommendations associated with this item. In summary, Mr. Reedy presented a schedule of deliverables and explained the need to hold more frequent meetings in order to meet the upcoming deadlines.

**CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THE TWDB FOR POTENTIAL USE OF ALTERNATIVES TO USING WAM RUN 3 MODELS AND POTENTIAL USE OF ALTERNATIVES TO FIRM YIELD FOR DEFINING REGIONAL WATER SUPPLIES IN REGION H**

After a brief discussion, motion was made by Danny Vance to request approval from the TWDB for use of alternatives to WAM Run 3 and the potential use of alternatives to firm yield for defining regional water supplies in Region H; seconded by Ronald Neighbors. The motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY MUD 8 AND 9 REGARDING PLANNING FOR A REGIONAL REUSE PROJECT AND DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE REGION H PLAN TO ALLOW FOR ADDITIONAL REUSE PROJECTS**

Dan Davis appeared on behalf of MUD 8 and MUD 9 and presented information on planning for water recycling projects and the potential for amendments to the Region H plan. Mike Reedy and Temple McKinnon met with Mr. Davis to discuss this matter. Mr. Reedy explained that small reuse projects are not identified in the plan and that they are not looking to amend the plan.

**RECEIVE UPDATES BY LOCAL WATER AGENCIES OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES REGARDING ANY WATER RELATED INITIATIVES OR PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY OR PLANNED**

Danny Vance wanted to make everyone aware that Mike Reedy recently made a presentation on the Environmental Flows Study to the Chairman of the Environmental Flows Science Advisory Committee, Bob Huston.

Temple McKinnon gave an update on the retirement of Bill Mullican, Deputy Executive Administrator for Water Science and Conservation and stated that Robert Mace will be filling his position.

Jason Pierce with the City of Huntsville inquired as to the vacant position of Jack Harris. Mark Evans confirmed that recommendations will be considered at the next meeting.

### **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dan Davis commented on the challenges of distributing Region H surveys and requests for information to various public utility districts. He requested to be included on future correspondence with his MUD.

### **AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

May 6, 2009  
San Jacinto River Authority  
Lake Conroe Dam  
1577 Damsite Road  
Conroe, Texas 77305

**ADJOURNED AT 12:20 P.M.**