

MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
May 2, 2012
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, John Blount, Robert Bruner, Jun Chang, Mark Evans, Bob Hebert, Art Henson, John Hofmann, Jace Houston, John Howard, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Gena Leathers, Glynn Leiper, Ted Long, Carl Masterson, James Morrison, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, C. Harold Wallace, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Tom Michel for Marvin Marcell, Jim Sims for Danny Vance

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Teer and Steve Tyler

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Hall, Temple McKinnon, and Melinda Silva

PRESIDING: Mark Evans, Chair

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:12 A.M.

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 29, 2012 MEETING

The minutes for the February 29, 2012, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. Ron Neighbors, seconded by Mr. Art Henson, to approve the minutes. Mr. Pudge Willcox stated that a small change needed to be made on the last page of the minutes to reflect that he had made the comments noted during the public comment period. The motion carried unanimously with the change.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 11

There were no public comments.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP

Mr. Evans stated that since Mr. Reed Eichelberger had stepped down from the planning group at the last meeting and because he also served as the Secretary of the Executive Committee, it was necessary to appoint someone to take his place. Mr. Jimmie Schindewolf encouraged the group to replace Mr. Eichelberger with Mr. Jace Houston.

Recommendation was made by Mr. Henson to replace Mr. Eichelberger with Mr. Houston as the Secretary for Region H and a member of the Executive Committee. Mr. Bruner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Jason Afinowicz gave a presentation regarding the schedule and milestones for the first phase of development. He stated that nothing had changed since the last meeting.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND GROUNDWATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE REGARDING DRAFT GROUNDWATER SUPPLY AVAILABILITY ESTIMATES FOR USE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Afinowicz discussed the draft groundwater supply availability estimates. He mentioned that Region H contains the following GMAs which are comprised of a specific number of counties: GMA-11 (1 county), GMA-12 (2 counties), and GMA-14 (12 counties). Discussion ensued regarding possible issues with GMA-14. The Groundwater Supply Committee and the Consultant Team will continue to work with GMA 14 in order to reconcile differences in the approximation of available groundwater supplies.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND SURFACE WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE REGARDING DRAFT SURFACE WATER SUPPLY AVAILABILITY ESTIMATES FOR USE IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN, INCLUDING SUPPLIES ORIGINATING FROM NECHES-TRINITY, TRINITY-SAN JACINTO, AND BRAZOS-COLORADO COASTAL BASINS

Mr. Afinowicz updated the group on the draft surface water supply availability estimates. He continued by stating the source, county, and yield for the following coastal basins: Neches-Trinity, Trinity-San Jacinto, and Brazos-Colorado. Discussion ensued regarding local supplies (ie: stock ponds and mining).

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE CONSULTANT TEAM AND WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGY SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA, PRELIMINARY LIST OF ALTERNATIVES FOR DETAILED ANALYSIS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN, AND DEVELOPMENT OF A SAFETY FACTOR FOR THE ALLOCATION OF SUPPLIES AND STRATEGIES TO WATER USER GROUPS AND TAKE ACTION AS NECESSARY

Mr. Afinowicz presented the results from the Water Management Strategy Committee meeting including the rating system for WMS. Mr. Bob Hebert stated that the committee's recommendation was to stay away from negative numbers and to utilize a 1-5 system to give flexibility with regard to the evaluation criteria.

Discussion ensued regarding the WMS selection process, list of WMS for study, and safety factor for allocations. Discussion continued regarding how the rating system relates to specific projects for specific WUGs.

Mr. Afinowicz provided the potential water management strategies list and requested that the group email him any additions or changes within two weeks.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTANT TEAM TO DEVELOP A SCOPE OF SERVICES AND BUDGET ESTIMATE FOR ACCELERATED FUNDING UNDER TASK 4D OF THE 2016 REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Mr. Afinowicz discussed developing a scope of services and budget estimates for accelerated funding. He stated that the Task 4D Schedule had changed resulting in a need for an additional meeting in June.

Motion was made by Mr. Morrison to authorize the consultant team to develop a scope of services and budget estimate for accelerated funding under Task 4D. Mr. Hebert seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Afinowicz continued by discussing recent community outreach activities. He stated that the consultant team spoke at the *Houston Land Water Sustainability Forum* at the end of March and the GMA 14 meeting in April. He also mentioned the following meetings: *Brazoria County Petrochemical Council (05/17)*, *Deer Park CAC (06/04)*, and *Brazoria County EDA (07/09)*.

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Ms. Temple McKinnon stated that the Board had proposed rule changes to Chapters 357, 358, and 355. She discussed the comment period on the rules.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brandt Manchenn, with the Houston Chapter of the Texas Sierra Club, expressed his ongoing concerns regarding proposed new reservoirs.

NEXT MEETING

June 6, 2012
San Jacinto River Authority
General and Administration Building
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

ADJOURNED AT 12:10 P.M.