

MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
September 5, 2012
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, Robert Bruner, Mark Evans, Art Henson, John Hofmann, Jace Houston, Robert Istre, Gena Leathers, Glynn Leiper, Ted Long, Marvin Marcell, Ron Neighbors, Jimmie Schindewolf, C. Harold Wallace, J. Kevin Ward, and Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Charles Dean for John Blount, Lisa Lattu for Jun Chang, Mike O'Connell for Bob Hebert, Zach Holland for John Howard, and Paul Nelson for Kathy Jones

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carl Masterson, James Morrison, William Teer, and Steve Tyler

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Temple McKinnon and Melinda Silva

PRESIDING: Mark Evans, Chair

CALL TO ORDER REGULAR MEETING AT 10:05 A.M.

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2012 MEETING

The minutes for the June 6, 2012, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Mr. C. Harold Wallace, seconded by Mr. David Bailey, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 4 THROUGH 10

Mr. Justin Bower, H-GAC, expressed his personal comments regarding Agenda Item 7. Mr. Bower specifically pointed out that he is concerned about the population projections for rural cities. He continued by offering to meet with the consultant team regarding numbers.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM THE TEXAS WATER FOUNDATION REGARDING PROPOSED PILOT PROJECT TO QUANTIFY WATER CONSERVATION SAVINGS IN REGION H

Senator Kip Averitt advised the group about a project he and Carol Baker are implementing with the Texas Water Foundation. He stated that the concept of the project is to quantify conservation strategies in the Region H plan so that their impact can be correctly understood. He continued by expressing his gratitude towards the planning group. He then discussed another component of the project; how to engage in conservation efforts without negatively affecting revenue. Discussion ensued regarding the cost of the project.

Recommendation was made by Mr. Ron Neighbors for the Region H Planning Group to fully endorse, support, and encourage the proposed pilot project to quantify water conservation savings in Region H. Mr. John Bartos seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Discussion continued. Mr. Jace Houston indicated that he would draft a letter from the Region H Planning Group in support of the pilot project.

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 updated the group on the Texas Water Development Board schedule and milestones. He stated that the group is scheduled to review population demands in December and continued by reviewing the dates for Phase 2 Planning.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CONSULTANT TEAM AND NON-POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE REGARDING GALVESTON COUNTY MANUFACTURING DEMAND PROJECTIONS RECOMMENDED FOR THE 2016 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND CONSIDER APPROVING SUBMITTAL TO TWDB

Mr. Afinowicz updated the group on a follow-up item from the last meeting. He specified that the TWDB is comfortable with the non-population demands, but they are still in the review process.

Recommendation was made by Mr. Robert Istre to approve submittal of the recommended Galveston County manufacturing water demand projections to the TWDB. Mr. Kevin Ward seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Mike Reedy gave a presentation on the population and demand projections development process. He specifically stated that the Regional Groundwater Study provides the population projections for a five-county area, and the TWDB provides population projections for remaining counties. He then provided an overview of the projects for Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, and Montgomery.

RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM TOM MICHEL ON STATUS OF BRAZOS RIVER AND ASSOCIATED BAY AND ESTUARY SYSTEM STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE PROGRESS

Mr. Tom Michel updated the group on the Brazos River and associated Bay and Estuary System Stakeholder Committee. He presented the group with a memorandum regarding the Brazos River BBASC Report. He concluded by stating that the committee had completed the majority of the process and had adopted the consensus report on 19 gauges along the Brazos River and 1 gauge on the San Bernard River.

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 *North Houston Association (06/28)*, the *Water Resource Stress Conference (08/16)*, and the *Region H Legislative Reception (08/21)*. He also mentioned the *Water Efficiency Network (09/20)*.

AGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Ms. Temple McKinnon stated that they are working on outreach to entities, tracking implementation, and rule revision.

Mr. Evans stated that he would be involved in the Regional Chairs conference call.

RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were received.

NEXT MEETING

December 5, 2012
San Jacinto River Authority
General and Administration Building
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, Texas 77304

ADJOURNED AT 12:02 P.M.