

**Minutes of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group
September 3, 2020**

Chair Scott called the virtual meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., held through the GoToMeeting online platform.

26 of the 31 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

Voting Members Present:

Tim Andruss	Blaine Schorp for Diane Savage
John Byrum	Suzanne Scott
Curt Campbell	Greg Senglemann
Rey Chavez	Mitchell Sowards
Alan Cockerell	Heather Sumpter
Will Conley	Thomas Taggart
Kevin Janak	Ryan Kelso for Ian Taylor
Tom Jungman	Diane Wassenich
Russell Labus	Adam Yablonski
Glenn Lord	
Gary Middleton	
Jonathan Stinson for Kevin Patteson	
Iliana Pena	
Robert Puente	
Humberto Ramos	
Weldon Riggs	
Roland Ruiz	

Voting Members Absent:

Pat Calhoun
Charlie Flatten
Vic Hilderbran
Russel Labus
Dan Meyer
Steve Ramsey

Non-Voting Members Present:

Elizabeth McCoy, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Marty Kelly, TX Department of Parks and Wildlife

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Ronald Fieseler, Region K Liaison
Iliana Delgado, TCEQ
Don McGhee, Region M Liaison
Joseph McDaniel, Region J Liaison
Jami McCool, TX Dept. of Agriculture
Carl Crull, Region N Liaison
Rusty Ray, Texas Soil & Water Cons. Board

Beginning with the February 11, 2016, meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group, all recordings are available for the public at www.regionltexas.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: (9:30 AM) ROLL CALL

Caitlin Heller, San Antonio River Authority, called the role, and confirmed a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE July 30, 2020, MEETING OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (SCTRWPG)

Mr. Lord moved for the approval of the minutes. Mr. Puente seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: STATUS OF EDWARDS AQUIFER HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (EAHCP), SCOTT STORMENT

Mr. Storment updated the planning group on the EAHCP's Springflow Habitat Protection Workgroup. The workgroup was created in May of 2015 and was established to review of low flows on the habitat on various native creatures. If the workgroup notices that there are low flows then this will trigger the Habitat Conservation Plan. The low flow analysis measures what has been done today by the EAHCP to search for potential gaps in need of study. Mr. Storment explained that this analysis will be integral in finalizing the upcoming Incidental Take Permits in 2028.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: STATUS OF GUADALUPE, SAN ANTONIO, MISSION, AND ARANSAS RIVERS AND MISSION, COPANO, ARANSAS, AND SAN ANTONIO BAYS BASIN AND BAY STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE (BBASC) AND EXPERT SCIENCE TEAM (BBEST)

Ms. Scott reminded the group that the TWDB organizing virtual meetings with Dr. Hardy to present on the *Statewide Environmental Flow Studies*. She encouraged members to attend one of these meetings.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. McCoy updated the group that the deadline for the 2021 Regional Water Plan has been extended to November 5, 2020 and the data entry deadline has been extended to October 6, 2020. The TWDB will be starting the Regional Water Planning Area Boundary Review which is required by statute to occur every 5 years. She informed the planning group that there is a new educational document on water availability and existing supply which can be found on the TWDB website.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Scott informed the group that she will be retiring from the San Antonio River Authority and that her last day would be on October 30, 2020. She will likewise be retiring from the SCTRWPG and starting as Director of the Texas Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She expressed her gratitude to the planning group members for all of their hard work and support over the years. Ms. Scott noted that this would be the last meeting that she would Chair. She encouraged members to consider becoming an officer and to reach out to her if they are considering becoming the Chair.

She moved on to the Interregional Planning Council which is continuing to meet in order to complete their report to the TWDB which is due in October.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE CONSULTANT'S WORK AND SCHEDULE

Ms. Gonzalez reviewed the Consultant's schedule and noted the changes to the deadlines that the TWDB has made. She informed the planning group that since August 24, 2020, the technical team has been reviewing the comments they have submitted on the revised chapters of the RWP. The 2021 Regional Water Plan and Prioritization are due to the TWDB at the revised deadline of November 5, 2020.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ADOPT AND SUBMIT THE 2021 REGIONAL WATER PLAN WITH THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONSULTANT TO MAKE MINOR EDITS PRIOR TO ITS SUBMITTAL TO THE TWDB

Ms. Gonzalez provided a brief overview of major developments that had occurred since the July 30th meeting, the comment on the draft RWP, and anticipated revisions to the plan.

Ms. Scott called for a motion to adopt the RWP. Mr. Middleton made the motion and Mr. Taggart seconded. Ms. Heller called upon each member to vote and all voted aye.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT THE 2021 REGIONAL WATER PLAN TO THE TWDB

Mr. Riggs made a motion and Mr. Middleton seconded. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ADOPT THE 2021 REGIONAL WATER PLAN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

Ms. Gonzalez informed the planning group that there may be changes to the DB22 data that may result in the need to update the Prioritization.

Mr. Andruss made a motion and Mr. Lord seconded. Ms. Heller called upon each member to vote and all vote aye.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT THE 2021 REGIONAL WATER PLAN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION TO THE TWDB

Mr. Taggart made a motion and Mr. Middleton seconded. The motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: ADMINISTRATOR REVIEW OF VOTING MEMBER TERMS EXPIRING IN 2021 AND DISCUSSION OF THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2020 REGIONAL WATER MEETING

Ms. Heller reviewed the list of planning group members whose terms will be expiring in August 2021. She then explained that the group would be voting on officer positions at the next meeting and encouraged interested parties to reach out to her or Suzanne for more information.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: UPDATE ON REGION L WEBSITE CHANGES TO INCREASE PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

Ms. Heller gave a brief presentation the updates made to the Region L website. She emphasized that this action was taken to make it easier for the public to find planning group meeting information.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 15: POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGION L MEETING

- a) Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing the Administrator to Negotiate and Execute Interlocal Agreement for Funding Region L Administrative Costs for calendar years 2021-2026
- b) Discussion and Appropriate Action to Designate a Political Subdivision to Administer the SCTRWPG for the 6th Cycle of Regional Water Planning
- c) Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing the San Antonio River Authority to Provide Public Notice, Submit a Grant Application to the TWDB, and Execute a contract with the TWDB on Behalf of the SCTRWPG for Funding to Complete the 6th Cycle of Regional Water Planning
- d) Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing the San Antonio River Authority to Issue a Request for Proposal to Procure Professional Services for the 6th Cycle of Regional Water Planning
- e) Election of Officers for the SCTRWPG Executive Committee
- f) Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Regional Liaison Nominations for Regions N, J, K, M, and P
- g) Discussion and Appropriate Action Setting the Schedule for Calendar Year 2021 Meetings

AGENDA ITEM NO. 16: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Approved by the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group at a meeting held on November 5, 2020.

GARY MIDDLETON, SECRETARY

SUZANNE SCOTT, CHAIR

