**Meeting Minutes**

**Region 12 San Antonio Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021**

**9:00 AM**

**GoToMeeting Virtual Meeting**

**Roll Call:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Voting Member** | **Interest Category** | **Present (x) /Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (\*)** |
| Vacant | *Agricultural interests* |  |
| David Wegmann | *Counties* | X |
| Doris Cooksey | *Electric generating utilities* | X |
| Deborah (Debbie) Reid | *Environmental interests* | X |
| Nefi M. Garza | *Flood districts* | X |
| Cara C. Tackett | *Industries* | X |
| Jeffrey Carroll | *Municipalities* | X |
| John Paul Beasley | *Public* |  |
| Suzanne B. Scott | *River authorities* | X |
| Steve Gonzales | *Small business* | X |
| David Mauk | *Water districts* | X |
| Steve Clouse | *Water utilities* | X |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Non-voting Member** | **Agency** | **Present(x)/Absent( )/ Alternate Present (\*)** |
| Marty Kelly | Texas Parks and Wildlife Department | X |
| Natalie Johnson | Texas Division of Emergency Management |  |
| Jami McCool | Texas Department of Agriculture | X |
| Jarod Bowen | Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board | X |
| Kris Robles | General Land Office | X |
| Anita Machiavello | Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) | X |
| Susan Jablonski | Texas Commission on Environmental Quality |  |

**Quorum:**

Quorum: **YES**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 10

Number required for quorum per current voting positions of 12: 7

*All meeting materials are available for the public at:* [*http://www.region12texas.org.*](https://www.region12texas.org/)

**AGENDA ITEM NO.1: ROLL CALL**

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

**AGENDA ITEM NO.2: PUBLIC COMMENT – LIMIT 3 MINUTES PER PERSON**

Ms. Elizabeth Lebitz, AECOM, GLO on combined River Basin Flood Study. She wanted to introduce her study on effects of Hurricane Harvey. She will stay in contact with the group.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 02, 2020 SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP MEETING (REGION 12)**

Meeting notes were moved to approve, then passed forward.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.4: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 09, 2021 SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP MEETING (REGION 12)**

Meeting notes were moved to approve, motion passed.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.5: COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB)**

Ms. Machiavello thanked planning group members and is looking forward to working with Region 12.

Concluded grant contract with Region 12. TWDB needs to approve executed sub-contract on technical consultant. Emailed her high-level review of the contract to group on April 2nd.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.6: CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Garza gave an overview of the status of identifying a technical consultant.

Chair Garza mentioned the missing Agricultural Component.

Chair Garza asked Brian Mast to provide further information on the RFQ process.

Mr. Mast explained it had been decided in the Executive Meeting that the River Authority will put together a Scoring Committee including members from the planning group. This will be exempt from the Open Meetings Act.

Chair Garza explained that the final decision will still be the responsibility of the Planning Group.

Chair Garza reported on the conversations he had with other Regional leaders.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.7: PRE-PLANNING INPUT:**

The SARFPG is soliciting public input regarding suggestions and recommendations as to issues, provisions, projects, and strategies that should be considered during the flood planning cycle and/or input on development of the regional flood plan (as required per Texas Water Code §16.062(d) and 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(a(4))

Ms. Machiavello presented on Pre-Planning Input. There will be many opportunities to provide public input during Regional Flood Planning Group meetings.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.8: SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY PRESENTATION OF AVAILABLE FLOOD DATA**

Ms. Cavazos, San Antonio River Authority Senior Engineer, presented on available flood data. The models focus on hydrologic and hydraulic studies using base level engineering, detailed or limited detail studies, and predictive flood models. Watershed Master Plans and ongoing projects span from Bexar County down to Goliad. Data is accessible at [d2mr.sara-tx.org](http://d2mr.sara-tx.org/Login?ReturnUrl=%2F#/).

Chair Garza requested information on critical infrastructure throughout the region. Specifically, hospitals, schools, municipal facilities. He additionally requested available information and locations for Green Infrastructure.

Ms. Cavazos explained that some information is available, but the River Authority is developing further data sets on Green Infrastructure and this will be available soon.

Ms. Scott mentioned that these updates are driven by Atlas 14 and newly available data. This is a collaboration that has been ongoing with local partners to take care of flood data and mind its impact on decision making.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING VACANT AGRICULTURE INTERESTS REPRESENTATION**

Ms. Heller provided an update on the vacancy and the Executive Committee’s status their applicant review. Executive Committee finalized their recommendation.

Ms. Tackett provided a summary on the steps that the Executive Committee took to review candidates for the Agriculture Interests Representation. Ms. Tackett formally recommended Mr. Brian Yanta to fill the vacant Agriculture seat.

Ms. Reid seconded the motion. No discussion followed.

Mr. Brian Yanta introduced himself. He works with Texas A&M AgriLife, born and raised in Karnes County.

The Committee had no questions and unanimously voted in favor.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.10: REGIONAL LIAISON UPDATES**

Ms. Tackett, Region 10 Liaison, provided an update. Region 10 has selected their technical consultant.

Ms. Scott, Region 11 Liaison, provided an update. Region 11 has selected their technical consultant. It will take about 4-6 weeks to finalize contract with the consultant and to finalize, they will meet in person in June. As they move forward, Region 11 will investigate options for Green Infrastructure further.

Mr. Mauk, Region 13 Liaison, provided an update. Region 13’s upcoming meeting will include presentations from the TWDB and address their vacancies.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.11: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.12: POTENTIAL DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Ms. Heller informed the committee that the next meeting will be on May 14, 2021, at 9:00 AM. She additionally noted that the Scoring Committee will be able to formally present their recommendation for technical consultant at this time.

Ms. Scott noted that it may be worth requesting information from local partners such as the City of San Antonio or Bexar County to provide an update on investments made in flood planning.

Chair Garza also requested that we extend to the Southern Basin and requested a presentation from the River Authority on flood planning in Karnes and Goliad counties.

Mr. Mauk requested information on USGS’ ongoing projects.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.13: ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.