

**MINUTES
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
10:00 A.M.
November 6, 2013
SAN JACINTO RIVER AUTHORITY
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
1577 DAM SITE ROAD
CONROE, TEXAS**

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John R. Bartos, Robert Bruner, Jun Chang, Judge Mark Evans, Bob Hebert, Judge Art Henson, John Hoffman, Jace Houston, John Howard, Robert Istre, Kathy Jones, Gena Leathers, Ted Long, Carl Masterson, Jimmie Schindewolf, William Teer, Steve Tyler, J. Kevin Ward, Pudge Willcox

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Charles Dean for John Blount, Zach Holland for James Morrison, Mike Turco for Ron Neighbors, Robert Thompson for Marvin Marcell

MEMBERS ABSENT: Glynn Leiper, C. Harold Wallace

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Temple McKinnon and Scott Hall

PRESIDING: Judge Mark Evans, Chair

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

A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Mark Evans welcomed everyone and alternates were announced. Mr. Mike Turco, the new General Manager of the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District, was introduced.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 3, 2013 MEETING

The minutes for the July 3, 2013, meeting were presented. Motion was made by Jace Houston, seconded by Jun Chang, to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

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

No public comments.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER ACTION TO APPROVE SUBMITTAL OF A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL'S PURSUIT OF A GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDIES RELATED TO DROUGHT PREPARATION FOR COMMUNITIES RESPONDING TO, AND PREPARING FOR, DROUGHT

Andrew Pompay, Regional Planner with the Houston-Galveston Area Council, addressed the board requesting a letter of support for a proposed grant application for the purpose of studies related to

drought preparation for communities. Mr. Pompay further explained that the project would include an advisory group with experts in water management, climatology, public policy, agriculture, and environmental protection, ensuring results are realistic and scientifically based in approaching drought preparation.

Motion was made by Mr. John Bartos to approve the letter of support, seconded by Mr. Robert Bruner. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Jason Afinowicz gave a short update on the schedule and milestones. Mr. Afinowicz gave an overview of the last meetings' approvals of the revised population and non-population based water demand projections that were submitted to TWDB and approved along with the funding of phase 2 Task 4D strategies.

Mr. Evans suggests a May meeting be considered with an upcoming aggressive timeline for approving the draft projects before submission.

DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION TO INITIATE PREPARATION OF A WORK PLAN TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN HOUSE BILL 4 RELATED TO THE PRIORITIZATION OF WATER PLAN PROJECTS FOR USE BY THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD IN ADMINISTERING LOAN FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT WATER PROJECTS

Mr. Afinowicz began a discussion of the process for House Bill 4 Project Prioritization outlining the proposed criteria, including the decade of need, project feasibility, project viability, project sustainability, and project cost effectiveness.

Mr. Evans noted that a committee of the planning group chairs was charged with developing uniform standards for scoring projects with a due date of December 1, 2013, to submit the standards to the TWDB.

DISCUSS SCHEDULE FOR PLANNING GROUP EFFORTS AND MEETINGS FOR 2013-2014

Upcoming meeting dates are scheduled for February 5, May 7, and August 6, 2014.

June 1, 2014 - Draft due for prioritization of projects from the 2011 Regional Water Plans to TWDB

September 1, 2014 – Final due for prioritization of projects from the 2011 Regional Water Plans to TWDB

December 1, 2014 – TWBD submission to the state

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE RESIGNATION OF TED LONG AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING ELECTRIC GENERATING UTILITIES

Motion was made by Judge Art Henson to accept the resignation of Ted Long, seconded by Carl Masterson. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSIDER AND TAKE ACTION ON THE SELECTION OF GENE FISSELER AS A VOTING MEMBER OF THE REGION H WPG REPRESENTING ELECTRIC GENERATING UTILITIES

Motion was made by Carl Masterson to Gene Fisseler as a new voting member of the Region H WPG representing electric utilities. Seconded by Jace Houston. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Evans stated that Gene Fisseler would be appointed to serve on any Region H committees on which Ted Long previously served.

NEXT MEETING

February 5, 2014
San Jacinto River Authority
General & Administration
1577 Dam Site Road
Conroe, TX 77304

ADJOURNED AT 11:16 A.M.