

REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Bailey, John Bartos, Arthur Bredehoft, Brad Brunett, Carl Burch, Jun Chang, Mark Evans, Sarah Kouba, Mike O’Connell, Byron Ryder, Loyd Smith, Michael Turco, Cynthia Wagener, and Kevin Ward.

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ekaterina Fitos for Greg Eyerly, Matt Barrett for Aubrey Spear, and Richard Stolleis for Marvin Marcell.

MEMBERS ABSENT: WR Baker, Caleb Cooper, Jason Garrard, Jake Hollingsworth, Robert Istre, Ken Kramer, Ivan Langford, Alisa Max, and Danny Pierce.

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

2. Introductions

There were no introductions.

3. Review and approve minutes of the May 7, 2025 Meeting

Mr. Evans explained the necessary corrections to items 6e and 6f. Mr. Bartos made a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2025, as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bredehoft and carried unanimously.

4. Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 5 through 7

There were no public comments.

5. Planning Development and Administration

a. Receive presentation from the Consultant Team regarding TWDB analysis of socioeconomic impacts of unmet water needs in the Region H Water Planning Area.

Mr. Philip Taucer explained that evaluating the social and economic impacts of not meeting identified water needs is a required analysis in the regional water planning process. He provided data regarding three specific impacted areas: economic, social, and financial transfers. Mr. Taucer explained that income losses and at-risk job losses were two key measures used to assess the regional economic impacts. He explained that lost tax collections, trucking costs for imported water, declines in utility revenues, and declines in utility tax revenue collected by the state were factors used to determine the impacts on financial transfers. And finally, Mr. Taucer explained that consumer surplus losses for municipal water users, and at-risk population and school enrollment losses were factors in determining the various social impacts.

- b. Receive update from Consultant Team regarding the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) public and agency comment process and discuss responses.**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of the IPP process and reported on the various comments received during the public comment period. He provided details of the proposed agency responses relative to the comments submitted. Mr. Taucer stated that there are many opportunities for implementation in the next cycle. He then provided a timeline of certain steps in need of taking place prior to the submission of the Region H Regional Water Plan.

- c. Receive presentation from Consultant Team regarding proposed revisions to the IPP in preparation of the draft Final 2026 Region H Regional Water Plan (RWP) to be approved at a subsequent meeting.**

Mr. Taucer provided a high-level overview of the proposed revisions to the Regional Water Plan which included minor adjustments for TWDB comments, stakeholder requests, RWPG member comments, and a database tune-up through TWDB. Mr. Taucer provided information related to potential additions to the plan such as the City of Pasadena Infrastructure project, the City of Waller GW Expansion project, CWA Pump Station Improvements, Lake Whitney Reallocation, Municipal Drought Management, Highlands Infrastructure Enhancement project, the West University Place Infrastructure project, and finally, reporting on the removal of the Brazoria County GW Reallocation project. In addition, he listed other refinements to the plan such as the incorporation of MAG peak factor, the socioeconomic impact analysis, Chapter 10 documentation, updates for new WCPs and DCPs, enhanced drought management messaging, and other minor text revisions. Mr. Taucer then explained the necessary steps to be taken for the submittal of the Final Regional Water Plan.

- d. Receive update from Legislative Committee and Consultant Team regarding the 89th Texas Legislative Session.**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of various legislation relative to land and economic development, water districts and public law, and water policy and utilities.

6. General Updates and Outreach

- a. Receive update regarding schedule and milestones for the development of the 2026 Region H RWP.**

Mr. Taucer provided an overview of the upcoming milestones stating that the final Regional Water Plan is due to TWDB in October.

- b. Receive update from liaisons to other planning groups.**

Mr. Kevin Ward reported on Region C and Region D.

- c. Receive report regarding recent and upcoming activities related to communications and outreach efforts on behalf of the Region H Water Planning Group.**

Mr. Taucer provided the various meetings and events that members of the Region H Water Planning Group participated in and/or will participate in.

d. Receive update from TWDB.

Ms. Heather Rose of TWDB, reiterated that the due date for the submission of the Regional Water Plans is October 20, 2025. She then provided milestones for the 2031 Regional Water Plan. Ms. Rose also provided details regarding Senate Bill 7.

e. Other agency communications and general information.

There were no communications or general information to report.

7. Receive public comments.

There were no public comments.

8. Next Meeting: October 1, 2025.

It was announced that the next Region H Water Planning Group meeting will take place on October 1, 2025.

9. Adjourn.

With no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.