

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL/JOIN BY PHONE
REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP “I”
MEETING
WEDNESDAY, August 18, 2021 – 10:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order – Chairman Kelley Holcomb called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.
2. Invocation – Chairman Kelley Holcomb called on David Alders for the invocation.
3. Welcome and Introductions – Chairman Kelley Holcomb

Chairman Holcomb welcomed everyone joining the meeting and advised they may speak during the Public Comments section.

4. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum – The roll was called by Stacy Corley and quorum was determined as follows:

Voting Members Present: (17 of 22)

David Alders – Ag
Chris Davis – Counties
Kate Dietz – Municipality
Mark Dunn – Small Business
Roger Fussell – Water Utility
Stevan Gelwick - Public
Scott Hall – River Authority
Kelley Holcomb – River Authority
Fred L. Jackson - Counties
John Martin – GMA-14
Matthew McBroom - Environmental
John McFarland – GMA-11
Monty Shank – River Authority
Randy Stanton – Electric Power
Terry Stelly - Public
Mary Vann - Designated Alternate for David Montagne (2nd designation in 2021)
Emily Whitworth – Water District

Voting Members Absent: (1)

David Gorsich - Industries

Voting Member Category Vacancies: (4)

Small Business
Industry
Agriculture
Municipality

Government Reporting Agencies:

Texas Water Development Board – Lann Bookout

Texas Department of Agriculture – Manual Martinez

Staff and Consultants:

Stacy Corley, City of Nacogdoches
Cynthia Syvarth, Plummer Associates
Rex Hunt, Plummer Associates
Cody McCann Plummer Associates
Dexter May, Plummer Associates
Jordan Skipwith, Freese and Nichols, Inc.
Philip Taucer, Freese and Nichols, Inc.

5. Pre-Planning Public Input Meeting on the Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plan
 - a. Receive public input and comments on issues that should be addressed or provisions that should be included in the 2026 Regional Water Plan and the 2027 State Water Plan.

Chairman Kelley Holcomb called the Pre-Planning Input open for discussion at 10:11 a.m. No one in attendance desired to provide any input or comments regarding the next Regional and State water plans. Chairman Kelley Holcomb closed the public input session at 10:15 a.m.

6. Consideration and Approval of the minutes of the March 17, 2021 meeting – Chairman Holcomb

David Alders moved the minutes of March 17, 2021 meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by John Martin and passed unanimously.

7. Reports from other state agencies, as necessary:
 - a. Texas Water Development Board – Lann Bookout

Lann Bookout gave the following updates: Mining Water Use Study; TWDB Member Survey; Rulemaking; Rulemaking; 2022 State Water Plan; Contract Executed August 12, 2021; Guidance Principles & Water Supply Planning Rules Review; Legislative Update on bills that affect the Regional Water Planning Group and Round 6 Update.

More information may be seen at

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2026/index.asp>

- b. Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife – Stephen Lange (absent)
- c. Texas Department of Agriculture – Manual Martinez

Manual Martinez reported the Texas Department of Agriculture is on schedule helping local Texas products make their way to rural Texans; and Floodplain work for Sabine & Neches Rivers.

More information may be seen at <https://www.texasagriculture.gov/Home.aspx>

- d. Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board – Rusty Ray (absent)
8. Report from consultant team – Rex Hunt, Cynthia Syvarth and Dexter May
 - a. Review of 6th Cycle Water Planning Schedule

Cynthia Syvarth presented a review of the 6th Cycle Water Planning Schedule stating TWDB/RWPG would be working on executing contracts between Plummer, Freese & Nichols and

AGS (James Beach has changed firms since the last RWPG meeting) before any work may be initiated.

Region I would begin to review the municipal WUG list, GPCD, historical population, and water use at the next RWPG meeting; provide feedback to the TWDB; and review draft projections and finalize adjustments with TWDB staff.

b. Educational Presentation – Water Demand

Dexter May presented a Water Demand Educational Presentation; slides pertaining to this presentation may be seen at the web link below.

More information, slides for both items may be seen at <https://www.etexwaterplan.org>

9. Consideration and Approval of the FY 2022 Annual Budget – Mark Dunn, Finance Committee

Mark Dunn was not able to present the Budget Presentation, therefore Chairman Holcomb stepped in. He presented the FY 2022 Budget request of \$15,000; stating there was nothing out of the ordinary for this fiscal year.

Roger Fussell moved the FY 2022 Budget be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by David Alders and unanimously passed.

10. Consideration and Possible Approval of Actions to Promote Interregional Coordination – Chairman Kelley Holcomb – Dexter May

a. Processes for conducting interregional coordination regarding water management strategies during development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans.

Dexter May identified three interregional coordination goals:

- i. Identify processes for promoting coordination with other regions regarding water management strategies during development of the 2026 Plan.
- ii. Identify water management strategies which may create opportunities for collaboration with other regions.
- iii. Discuss course of action for coordination with other regions.

b. Identification of water management strategies which may create opportunities for collaboration and cooperation with other planning regions.

Dexter May discussed interregional water strategies, advising there are 35 interregional water management strategies (WMS) identified in the 5th cycle plans which involve other regions as follows:

- 3 sponsored by Region A
- 19 sponsored by Region C (**5 benefit Region I**)
- 4 sponsored by Region F
- 2 sponsored by Region G
- **2 sponsored by Region I**
- 1 sponsored by Region K
- 4 sponsored by Region L

Region I entities would benefit from seven water management strategies listed in the 2021 Regional Plans

c. Potential course of action for interregional coordination with other RWPGs.

- Involve liaisons from neighboring regions in the Region I planning group meetings. Identify individuals from the Region I group to attend neighboring planning group meetings.
- Form a committee to meet with neighboring planning groups and their representatives.
- Authorize planning group administrators or technical consultants to meet with neighboring regions.

Scott Hall advised he attends the Region H meetings. John McFarland advised he attends Region D meetings as a liaison for GMA-11. Region C is the only neighboring regional meeting not attended.

Chairman Kelley Holcomb advised that the planning group formally designate Region I liaisons for the neighboring regions at the next planning group meeting.

11. Consideration and Approval of items related to East Texas Regional Water Planning Group Membership:

a. Resignation of Voting Members

Nominating Committee Chair Monty Shank moved to accept the resignations of Kimberly Lynn and Josh David. The motion was seconded by John Martin and passed unanimously.

b. Appointment of New Voting Members

Nominating Committee Chair Monty Shank stated no action at this time.

12. Consideration and Possible Approval of Executive Committee and Standing Committee Appointments - Monty Shank

Nominating Committee Chair, Monty Shank presented the 2021 Executive Committee as follows:

Chair – Kelley Holcomb

1st Vice Chair – John Martin

2nd Vice Chair – David Alders

Secretary – Terry Stelly

Asst. Sec – David Montagne

1st At Large – Matthew McBroom

2nd At Large – Mark Dunn

John Martin moved the revised list of the Executive Committee members be approved as presented by Nominating Committee Chair Monty Shank. The motion was seconded by Kate Dietz and unanimously passed.

Monty Shank stated he is preparing a letter to send to all the County Judges for their recommendations to fill the following **vacancies: Small Business ~ Industries ~ Agriculture ~ Municipality.**

Lann Bookout and Randy Stanton suggested putting a note on the East Texas Regional Water Planning website about the vacancies.

13. General Discussion – Chairman Kelley Holcomb - none

14. Set Next Meeting Date –February 16, 2022 – Chairman Kelley Holcomb

Chairman Kelley Holcomb advised the next meeting should be a regular, in-person meeting at the City of Nacogdoches Recreation/Library Center.

15. Adjourn

Randy Stanton moved to adjourn meeting at 11:31 A.M. The motion was seconded by David Alders and passed unanimously.

APPROVED THIS February 16, 2022

Kelley Holcomb, Chair
ETRWPG – Region I

ATTEST:

David Alders, Secretary

Minutes approved February 16, 2022

DRAFT