

Meeting Minutes
Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
Thursday, August 20, 2026, 2:30 p.m.

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Milton Purvis	Agricultural	Present
Jeff Branick	Counties	Absent
Liv Haselbach	Electric Generating Utilities	Present
Ellen Buchanan	Environmental	Present
Allen Sims	Flood Districts	Present
Steve Moon	Industries	Present
Kyle Kingma	Municipalities	Absent
Amanda Young	Public	Present
Scott Hall	River Authorities	Present
Brian McDougal	Small Business	Absent
Butch Wilson	Water Districts	Present
Robb Starr	Water Utilities	Present

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Kirian Brown	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	Absent
Michelle Ellis (Matthew Holloway)	Texas Division of Emergency Management	Absent
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	Absent
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	Absent
Cydney Robinson	Texas General Land Office	Absent
Katie Pietsch Koslan	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	Present
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Absent
Lisa McCracken Mairs	US Army Corps of Engineers	Absent
Keith Horn	Texas Department of Transportation	Alternate Present
Jacob Donellan	Federal Public Lands	Absent
Randy Reece	Sabine Neches Navigation District	Absent

<u>Liaisons</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Jonathan Spellman	Region 3. Trinity RFPG	Absent
Don Carona	Region 4. Sabine RFPG	Alternate Present
Vacant	Region 6. San Jacinto RFPG	Absent
Rolando Ayala	Freese & Nichols, Inc.	Present
Lincoln Abbott	Freese & Nichols, Inc.	Present
Risa King	Lower Neches Valley Authority	Present
Victoria Dai	Lower Neches Valley Authority	Absent

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 9

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

The names of meeting attendees were gathered from those who entered information to join the virtual meeting and those who were physically present.

Additional attendees included:

Chaitanya Desai , Texas Department of Transportation

Doug Manning, Region 4. Sabine RFPG

Jennifer Leonard, HDR

Emily Stephens, FNI

Kevin Wessels, TWDB

Aaron Burciaga

All meeting materials are available for the public at: <https://nechesfloodplanning.org/>

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order, Welcome, and Roll Call

Discussion/Action Items

- The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m.
- A quorum was established.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items.

Discussion/Action Items

- There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Update from Texas Water Development Board.

Discussion/Action Items

- Second-cycle regional flood planning progress and development of the 2028 Regional Flood Plan.
- TWDB review and informal comments on Technical Memorandums.
- Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs) for small and rural communities.
- Updates to the 2026–2027 Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) Intended Use Plan.
- Changes to project eligibility, prioritization, grant funding, and application requirements.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Approve minutes of the June 23, 2026, meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- This item was tabled.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Update from Technical Consultant

- Overview of comments received on the Technical Memorandum**
- Update on Task 4C (Performance of FMEs)**
- Update on Task 7 (Flood Response Information and Activities)**
- Update Task 8 (Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations)**
- Update on Task 9 (Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis)**

Discussion/Action Items

- The Consultant Team updated the Region 5 Neches Regional Flood Plan, covering Texas Water Development Board feedback and ongoing Flood Management Evaluations. Potential mitigation measures in seven communities include roadway and structure elevations, drainage upgrades, and detention projects.
- The team also reviewed flood response and recovery activities, proposed legislative, regulatory, and administrative recommendations for the second planning cycle, and potential flood infrastructure funding sources and associated challenges. Upcoming work includes continued evaluation of flood mitigation alternatives, incorporation of technical comments, public input, and development of draft plan chapters.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Public Comment

Discussion/Action Items

- There were none

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Reports from other flood planning region liaisons.

Discussion/Action Items

- Reports from other flood planning regions indicated similar progress and scheduling.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Status updates and discussions from RFPG members.

Discussion/Action Items

- Upcoming meeting dates and topics were shared.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider the meeting date for the next meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026, at 2:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Consider possible agenda items for the next meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- Tentative agenda items include finalizing the goals and recommendations for the Region 5 Neches Regional Flood Plan.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 17: Adjourn

Discussion/Action Items

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Scott Hall, Secretary

Steve Moon, Chair