

Meeting Minutes
 Region 5. Neches Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
 Wednesday, July 23, 2025, 2:00 p.m.
 Hybrid (in-person/virtual) Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent ()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Brent Heironimus	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	Absent
Jeff Branick	<i>Counties</i>	Absent
Liv Haselbach	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	Present
Ellen Buchanan	<i>Environmental interests</i>	Present
Allen Sims	<i>Flood districts</i>	Absent
Steve Moon	<i>Industries</i>	Present
Kyle Kingma	<i>Municipalities</i>	Absent
Amanda Young	<i>Public</i>	Present
Scott Hall	<i>River authorities</i>	Present
Brian McDougal	<i>Small business</i>	Present
Doug Canant	<i>Water districts</i>	Present
Robb Starr	<i>Water utilities</i>	Absent

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent ()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Bregan 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
Rhonda Masters (Jet Hays)	Texas General Land Office	Absent
Katie Pietsch Koslan	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	Present
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Absent
Lisa Mairs/Helena Mosser	US Army Corps of Engineers	Absent
Lisa Collins/Keith Horn	Texas Department of Transportation	Absent
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 *Doug Manning	Region 4. Sabine RFPG	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	Present

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 7

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

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Shanna Verret

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

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 2:03 p.m.
- A quorum was established.

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

Discussion/Action Items

- There were no registered public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Accept resignation of Doug Canant (Water Districts).

Discussion/Action Items

- The Group received Doug Canant's resignation.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Authorize vacancy notice and initiate nomination process for Water Districts representative.

Discussion/Action Items

- The process for posting vacancy announcements was discussed.
- A motion was made by Liv Haselbach and seconded by Robb Starr to proceed with posting the vacancy announcements.
- The motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Consider reaffirmation of voting members with terms expiring July 22, 2025.

- **Brent Heironimus (Agricultural Interest)**
- **Jeff Branick (Counties)**
- **Liv Haselbach (Electric Generating Utilities)**
- **Steve Moon (Industries)**
- **Scott Hall (River Authorities)**
- **Robb Starr (Water Utilities)**

Discussion/Action Items

- The Chair presented the list of voting members with terms expiring July 22, 2025.
 - Brent Heironimus stated his intention to resign from the RFPG.
 - Jeff Branick, Liv Haselbach, Steve Moon, Scott Hall, and Robb Starr were each nominated to be reappointed as representatives for their previous interest categories.
- A motion was made by Ellen Buchanan and seconded by Amanda Young to accept the resignation of Brent Heironimus and approve the reappointment of Jeff Branick, Liv Haselbach, Steve Moon, Scott Hall, and Robb Starr.
- The motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Update from Texas Water Development Board.

Discussion/Action Items

- Texas Flood Managers Association (TFMA) 2024 Higher Standards Survey Data and the Working Conceptual Schedule are now available on the TWDB website.
- TWDB hosted a Technical Conference Call on June 25th at 1:00 PM for RFPG Chairs, Sponsors, and Technical Consultants. Agenda items included (1) aligning the 2029 State Flood Plan with the 28-29 FIF cycle; and (2) defining Emergency Need for the 2028 Regional Flood Plans.
- The TWDB Flood Planning team received 14 Amended 2023 Region Flood Plans by the April 1, 2025, deadline. Plan review is still underway. Requests for information will be sent out to the RFPGs as soon as possible.
- TWDB has made minor changes to the Exhibit C Technical Guidelines, available now on our Second Cycle Planning Documents webpage. 2nd Cycle public/stakeholder survey.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Approve minutes of the March 20, 2025, meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- There were no comments or discussions regarding the meeting minutes as presented.
- A motion was made by Robb Starr and seconded by Amanda Young.
- The motion was approved.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Update from Technical Consultant

- a. Update on Task 2B (Future Condition Flood Risk Analyses)**
- b. Update on Task 3A (Evaluation & Recommendation on Floodplain Management Practices)**
- c. Update on Task 3C (Flood Mitigation & Floodplain Management Goals)**
- d. Update on Task 4A (Identification and Evaluation of Potential FMEs and Potentially Feasible FMSs and FMPs)**
- e. Update on Task 4B (Preparation and Submission of Technical Memorandum)**

Discussion/Action Items

- 2nd Cycle public/stakeholder survey update
- Existing Condition Flood Hazard Update
- Future Condition Flood Hazard Process
- Review Cycle 1 Goals and Goal Updates

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Public Comment

Discussion/Action Items

- No public comments were submitted.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Reports from other flood planning region liaisons.

Discussion/Action Items

- Region 3. Trinity: Currently on the same track as Neches RFPG planning-wise.
- Region 4. Sabine: Also working with Traylor and Associates. The next Sabine RFPG meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2025.

- Region 6. San Jacinto: The next San Jacinto RFPG meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Status updates and discussions from RFPG members.

Discussion/Action Items

- Liv Haselbach informed the Group that the Southeast Texas Flood Coordination Study has meetings planned for August 21, 2025, where they will present the opportunity to participate in the 2nd Cycle State Flood Plan survey.
- The Southeast Texas Flood Coordination Study will also host their fourth annual Big Flood Meet on October 23, 2025.
- The Group also discussed potentially moving forward with a Communications and Outreach Committee following

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Consider the meeting date for the next meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2025, at 2:30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Consider possible agenda items for the next meeting.

Discussion/Action Items

- Invitation to Traylor and Associates to attend and provide an update on their involvement with the RFPG.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 14: Adjourn

Discussion/Action Items

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Scott Hall, SECRETARY

Steve Moon, CHAIR