

**Meeting Minutes
Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group Regular Meeting
August 12, 2020
10:00 a.m.
Zoom Virtual Meeting**

Members Signing In:

Jim Brasher, GMA 15
John Burke, Water Utilities
Ron Fieseler, GMA 9
Lauri Gillam, Municipalities
Carol Olewin, Alternate for Public Interest
Barbara Johnson, Industries
David Lindsay, Recreation
Jason Ludwig, Electric Generating Utilities
Teresa Lutes, Municipalities
Mike Reagor, Municipalities
Robert Ruggiero, Small Business

Mitchel Sodek, GMA 8
James Sultemeier, Counties
Jim Totten, GMA 12
David Van Dresar, Water Districts
Jennifer Walker, Environmental
David Wheelock, River Authorities
Lann Bookout, Non-Voting, TWDB
Rusty Ray, Non-Voting, TSSWCB
Rob Barthen, Non-Voting, TDA
David Bradsby, Non-Voting, TPWD

Voting Members Absent:

Daniel Berglund, Small Business
David Caldwell, GMA 10
Karen Haschke, Public Interest, Alternate Attended
Jim Luther, Counties
Ann McElroy, Environmental
Charles Olfers, Agriculture
Paul Sliva, Agriculture
Byron Theodosios, Counties
Paul Tybor, GMA 7

Consultants/Support/Visitors/Other (as of start of virtual meeting)*:

Blake Neffendorf, City of Buda	Richard Hoffpauir, Hoffpauir Consulting
Carla Orts, Travis County WCID No. 10	Sarah Hoes, Austin Water
David Villarreal, TDA	Helen Gerlach, Austin Water
Marcin Tyszka, LCRA	Jaime Burke, AECOM
Marcus Richardson, Alt. for Small Business	Alicia Smiley, AECOM
Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water	Stacy Pandey, LCRA
Morgan White, TWDB	

*Consultants/support/visitors/other information was gathered from Zoom for attendees that entered a name.

Quorum:

Quorum: Yes

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 17

Number required for quorum per current voting membership of 25: 13

Formal Actions Taken:

1. The minutes from the July 15, 2020 Lower Colorado Regional Water Planning Group (LCRWPG) meeting were approved as presented.

Regular Meeting:

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman John Burke called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance. John Burke requested that Vice Chair David Wheelock chair the meeting today.
2. **Welcome and Introductions** – Vice Chair David Wheelock welcomed all to the meeting.
3. **Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items numbers 6 through 11 (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)** – No public comments.
4. **Attendance Report** – The Secretary’s attendance report was included in the members’ packets for review.
5. **Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2020 regular meeting** – The LCRWPG approved a motion by Barbara Johnson and seconded by Jennifer Walker to approve the minutes as presented from the regular July 15, 2020 meeting.
6. **Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) –**
 - a. Update on regional water planning activities and schedules: Lann Bookout, TWDB, updated the group on regional water planning activities. Lann informed the group that TWDB has extended the 2021 Regional Water Plan deliverable to November 5, 2020 and eliminated the requirement to submit hard copies of the Plan. Lann also reminded the LCRWPG that TWDB reviews regional water planning boundaries and they plan to begin that process again soon.
7. **Consultant Status Report –**
 - a. Progress to date: Jaime Burke, AECOM, updated the group on the consultant team’s efforts since the last meeting. AECOM has been working to address Region K Initially Prepared Plan comments, prepare updated chapters, coordinate meetings between TWDB and Austin, identify DB22 changes, and update the prioritization spreadsheet based on feedback.
 - b. Upcoming effort: Jaime Burke also presented the consultant’s upcoming efforts to the group. AECOM will be working to address and respond to all public and agency comments received, revise the draft project prioritization spreadsheet, bring plan edits to the LCRWPG for review, prepare LCRWPG for consideration of adoption of the 2021 Region K plan, and submit the adopted plan to TWDB on the LCRWPG’s behalf.

- 8. Discussion of comments and draft responses for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Take action as needed.** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over comments and draft responses for the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP). Copies of these comments and proposed draft responses were included in the Region K packets mailed out and posted on the Region K website. Jaime first went over comments from TWDB regarding some of Austin’s water management strategies (WMSs), including:
- Blackwater and Greywater Reuse
 - Onsite Rainwater and Stormwater Harvesting and Community-Scale Stormwater Harvesting
 - Capture Local Inflows to Lady Bird Lake
 - Longhorn Dam Operations Improvements
 - Lake Austin Operations

AECOM is continuing to coordinate with Austin and TWDB to address comments on these WMS. Jennifer Walker asked Jaime to provide some context for the discussions they had been having with TWDB regarding the TWDB comments on some of Austin’s WMSs. Jaime indicated that the primary focus of the comments generally relates to understanding how these innovative and decentralized-type strategies work in relation to the Region K drought of record. Teresa Lutes added that Austin is planning to provide more information to TWDB about strategy availability during the drought of record and described how these strategies are intended to work as part of a total water supply portfolio, essentially acting as a system with other strategies and supplies.

Jaime also went over comments in Chapters 3, 7, 10, and 11. For Chapter 11, David Wheelock requested that language stating that the Lane City Reservoir is currently under construction be added. David Lindsay also suggested adding language describing how Region K committee meetings have been open to the public.

- 9. Presentation and discussion of updated Chapter 8 (Additional Recommendations), Chapter 9 (Infrastructure Financing Recommendations), and Chapter 10 (Public Involvement Activities)** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over updates that have been made to Chapters 8, 9, and 10. The updates are presented in detail in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website.

- 10. Discussion of edits to the Prioritization spreadsheet** – Jaime Burke, AECOM, went over updates that have been made to the draft prioritization spreadsheet based on feedback from the City of Buda. These are outlined in more detail in the consultant presentation posted on the Region K website.

- 11. Update on TWDB Interregional Planning Council** – David Wheelock, LCRA, gave the LCRWPG an update on the TWDB Interregional Planning Council. The Council has established three main goals: planning for water resources as a state as a whole, increasing interregional cooperation, and developing best management practices for planning. The Council is meeting roughly every two weeks and has developed draft recommendations which are currently being reviewed.

12. Agenda items for next meeting

- a. Location and date of next meeting: The next LCRWPG meeting will be on September 15, 2020 and will be held virtually. Planning group members should also plan to keep October 14, 2020 for a Region K meeting in case another meeting is needed prior to the regional water plan due date.
- b. Other Committee meetings: None

13. New / Other Business (time permitting) – None.

14. Public Comments – None.

15. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair David Wheelock at 11:27 a.m.