



Water Planning Meeting AGENDA

**November 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
San Antonio River Authority – Board Room
100 E. Guenther Street
San Antonio, Texas 78204**

1. Introductions and Certification of a Quorum by the Secretary
2. Approval of the Minutes from the October 1, 2015, Meeting
3. Regional Water Alliance Budget Update
4. Region L Administrative Update and Recap of November 5, 2015 Meeting
5. Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) Update
6. Other Business/ New Business
7. Adjourn

Agenda Item 1

Introductions and Certification of Quorum by the Secretary

Agenda Item 2

Approval of the Minutes from the October 1, 2015,
Meeting



**Council of Representatives
MEETING MINUTES**

**10:00 a.m. – October 1, 2015
San Antonio River Authority,
Salado Room
100 E. Guenther Street
San Antonio, TX 78204**

Council of Representatives Present:

Mike Taylor	Crystal Clear SUD
Brandon Payne	San Antonio Water System
Brandon Bradley	Cibolo Creek Municipal Authority
Humberto Ramos	Canyon Regional Water Alliance
Albert Strzelczyk	East Central SUD
Avery Lunsford	Universal City
Sam Willoughby	Schertz
Steve Raabe	San Antonio River Authority

Members, Guests & Administrative:

Cole Ruiz	San Antonio River Authority
Gene Camargo	McCoy Water Supply Corporation

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Introductions and Certification of a Quorum by the Secretary

A quorum was established for this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Approval of the Minutes from the November 18, 2014, the February 12, 2015, and the April 7, 2015, meetings

Albert Strzelczyk made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2014, the February 12, 2015, and the April 7, 2015, meetings. Mike Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was approved by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Regional Water Alliance Budget Update

Cole Ruiz, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), briefed the Regional Water Alliance on the current status of the Regional Water Alliance Budget. He noted that the budget update would be a standing item on the meeting agendas moving forward. Specifically, Mr. Ruiz reviewed historical annual expenditures beginning in Fiscal Year 2013. Mr. Ruiz added that the current budget for Fiscal Year 2016, was \$11,000.00. Mr. Ruiz suggested that the group not make any major purchases throughout Fiscal Year 2016 in order to allow the reserve to build up for future years where expenditures may be needed (i.e. workshops or Region L technical consultant presentations).

Humberto Ramos asked what the current fees were. Mr. Ruiz confirmed that the fees were currently set at \$200.00 per year per entity.

Mr. Ramos asked whether SARA was contributing additional funds. Steve Raabe, SARA, answered, saying that SARA had contributed at an early stage to conduct some studies, but is currently only contributing at the regular rate of \$200.00 per year.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Region L Administrative Update and Recap of the September 3, 2015 Meeting

Cole Ruiz, with the San Antonio River Authority (SARA), reported to the Regional Water Alliance (RWA) that the most recent Region L meeting was held on Thursday, September 3, 2015, and recapitulated what transpired at the meeting.

Mr. Ruiz reported that the Region L Planning Group heard public comments concerning three versions of the same project. The comments were largely in favor of, or against the inclusion of the Cibolo Valley LGC Carrizo Projects (“MAG Limited” and “with Conversions”) as recommended water management strategies in the 2016 Regional Water Plan.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 3 of the Region L agenda, Mr. Ruiz noted that all minutes through April 2, 2015, were posted on www.regionltexas.org.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 5, Mr. Ruiz reported that the BBASC would be receiving funding to conduct additional studies in efforts to validate the necessity of in-stream flow standards. Steve Raabe briefed the group on some of the studies previously conducted.

Mr. Ruiz reported that Temple McKinnon replaced David Meeseey as Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) representative on the planning group. Mr. Ruiz added that Mrs. McKinnon highlighted the schedule for applying for SWIFT funding and the prioritization process for funding projects.

Mr. Ruiz briefed the planning group on Agenda Item No.9 of the Region L Agenda, which addressed the planning group’s efforts to mitigate public concern about particular projects in the 2016 Regional Water Plan, namely the Cibolo Valley LGC Carrizo Projects (“MAG-Limited” and “with Conversions”). Ultimately, the planning group took three separate votes to remove each version of the project from the plan. The votes to remove the projects failed to pass by a simple majority of the planning group members.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 10, Mr. Ruiz briefed the RWA members on process of prioritizing projects in the 2016 Regional Water Plan. Mr. Raabe added that the planning group authorized HDR Engineering to conduct the scoring and prioritizing of the projects in the 2016 Regional Water Plan pursuant to the method developed under the prioritization of the 2011 Regional Water Plan projects.

Mr. Ruiz continued to recapitulate the Region L meeting of September 3, 2015. Agenda Items 11

through 13 concerned TWDB's requirement of the public participation component to the regional water planning process. A Region L workgroup was tasked with the duty of considering and responding to public comments received after the submission of the 2016 Initially Prepared Plan. Their recommended responses were affirmed by the planning group on September 3, 2015. Public comments were received from TWDB, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, and the general public (including local, public agencies (non-state)).

Mr. Ruiz also emphasized some comments made by Region L Chair, Con Mims, at the September 3, 2015, meeting. The comments spoke to the importance of adopting a regional water plan by the TWDB deadline of December 1, 2015. If the planning group were to fail in adopting a plan, the effect would be such that there would be no plan to amend later. However, if a plan was adopted in accordance with the TWDB deadline, any disagreements warranting change could be effectively made through the amendment process after the plan's adoption, and inclusion in the 2017 State Water Plan.

Mr. Ruiz reminded the group that the next Region L meeting would be held on November 5, 2015.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5: Other Business/ New Business

Humberto Ramos made some comments regarding reuse projects. Mr. Ramos suggested that any conversations regarding reuse projects be relayed to the Regional Water Alliance members.

Steve Raabe noted that the next Regional Water Alliance meeting will included an update on the BBASC efforts, including any reuse discussion, and a recap of the November 5, 2015, Region L meeting.

Additionally, Cole Ruiz suggested sending out an online poll to schedule the next Regional Water Alliance meeting. Members agreed.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6: Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.

Avery Lunsford, Secretary

Agenda Item 3

Regional Water Alliance Budget Update

San Antonio River Authority
Project Expenditure Status Report
as of 09/30/2015

Project ID: 00000020 Regional Water Alliance

General Fund

Key: 0102100710 Regional Water Alliance FY10

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	18,488.95	18,488.95	0.00	0.00
00000299 - Other	135.15	135.15	0.00	0.00
00000392 - Professional Services	12,740.11	12,740.11	0.00	0.00
.	31,364.21	31,364.21	0.00	0.00
Total JL Key	31,364.21	31,364.21	0.00	0.00

Key: 0102101710 Regional Water Alliance FY11

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	18,531.93	18,531.93	0.00	0.00
00000299 - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
00000392 - Professional Services	7,408.28	7,408.28	0.00	0.00
.	25,940.21	25,940.21	0.00	0.00
Total JL Key	25,940.21	25,940.21	0.00	0.00
Total Project:	\$57,304.42	\$57,304.42	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total General Fund:	57,304.42	57,304.42	0.00	0.00

San Antonio River Authority
Project Expenditure Status Report
as of 09/30/2015

Project ID: 00000020 Regional Water Alliance

Regional Water Alliance

Key: 0102103430 Regional Water Alliance FY13

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	7,686.20	7,686.20	0.00	0.00
00000299 - Other	313.64	313.64	0.00	0.00
00000392 - Professional Services	1,233.17	1,233.17	0.00	0.00
.	9,233.01	9,233.01	0.00	0.00
Total JL Key	9,233.01	9,233.01	0.00	0.00

Key: 0102104030 Regional Water Alliance FY14

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	4,797.92	4,797.92	0.00	0.00
00000299 - Other	192.81	192.81	0.00	0.00
00000392 - Professional Services	4,623.82	4,623.82	0.00	0.00
.	9,614.55	9,614.55	0.00	0.00
Total JL Key	9,614.55	9,614.55	0.00	0.00

Key: 0102105030 Regional Water Alliance FY15

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	4,007.73	4,007.73	0.00	0.00
00000299 - Other	134.96	134.96	0.00	0.00
00000392 - Professional Services	5,163.97	5,163.97	0.00	0.00
.	9,306.66	9,306.66	0.00	0.00
Total JL Key	9,306.66	9,306.66	0.00	0.00

Key: 0102106030 Regional Water Alliance FY16

Object - Description	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Encumbrance</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
00000191 - Not Applicable - Labor	4,000.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00
00000299 - Other	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
00000392 - Professional Services	6,500.00	0.00	0.00	6,500.00
.	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	11,000.00
Total JL Key	11,000.00	0.00	0.00	11,000.00
Total Project:	\$39,154.22	\$28,154.22	\$0.00	\$11,000.00

Total Regional Water Alliance:	39,154.22	28,154.22	0.00	11,000.00
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San Antonio River Authority
Project Expenditure Status Report
as of 09/30/2015

Total Report:	<u>\$96,458.64</u>	<u>\$85,458.64</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$11,000.00</u>
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Regional Water Alliance Fund
Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2016

Fund: 32

Available Funds	FY 2013/14 Actual	FY 2014/15 Estimate	FY 2015/16 Budget
Beginning Balance			
Operating Reserve	\$ 19,212	\$ 13,065	\$ 7,275
Total Beginning Balance	\$ 19,212	\$ 13,065	\$ 7,275
Revenue			
Investment Earnings	\$ (12)	\$ 10	\$ 10
Intergovernmental Revenue	4,200	4,200	4,200
Total Revenue	\$ 4,188	\$ 4,210	\$ 4,210
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$ 23,400	\$ 17,275	\$ 11,485

APPROPRIATIONS

Operating Expenditures	\$ 10,335	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000
TOTAL OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 10,335	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000
Operating Reserve	\$ 13,065	\$ 7,275	\$ 485
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 23,400	\$ 17,275	\$ 11,485

Regional Water Alliance Fund

Fund 32

Description

The Regional Water Alliance Fund is used to promote and facilitate the sharing of ideas, knowledge, experience and resources of twenty-one water purveyors and regional water entities that have joined together to form the Regional Water Alliance. This group seeks out and implements collaborative solutions to effectively meet the region's diverse water needs. Revenue comes from membership dues. Expenditures mainly relate to San Antonio River Authority staff and some outside resources to support the group's activities.

Appropriations:

	<u>FY 2013/14</u> <u>Actual</u>	<u>FY 2014/15</u> <u>Estimate</u>	<u>FY 2015/16</u> <u>Budget</u>
Operating Expenditures	\$10,335	\$10,000	\$11,000
<i>Total Appropriations</i>	<i>\$10,335</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>	<i>\$11,000</i>

Program Justification and Fiscal Analysis

The FY 2015/16 Budget for the Regional Water Alliance Fund remains at about the same level as expenditures in the past two years. The funds are used to pay for San Antonio River Authority staff and some outside consulting services to support the alliance's efforts.

Agenda Item 4

Administrative Update and Recap of November 5, 2015,
Region L Meeting

**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING OF
THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS
REGIONAL WATER PLANNING
GROUP**

TAKE NOTICE that a meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group as established by the Texas Water Development Board will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015, at **9:00 a.m.** at San Antonio Water System (SAWS), Customer Service Building, Room CR 145, 2800 US Highway 281 North, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas. The following subjects will be considered for discussion and/or action at said meeting.

1. Public Comment
2. Approval of Minutes from the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group's Meeting on September 3, 2015
3. Status of Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) – Nathan Pence, Executive Director EAHCP
4. Status of Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) and Expert Science Team (BBEST)
5. Chair's Report
6. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Communications
7. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Consultants Work and Schedule
8. Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) to Submit a Written Request to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to Modify Task and Expense Budget Categories in Accordance with SARA's Agreement for Professional Services with HDR Engineering, Inc.
9. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Prioritization of Water Management Strategies in the 2016 Regional Water Plan
10. Discussion and Appropriate Action on Whether to Reconsider the Vote Taken at the September 3, 2015, meeting on Removing the Cibolo Valley LGC Carrizo Projects from the 2016 Regional Water Plan as Recommended and Alternate Water Management Strategies
11. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Adoption of the 2016 South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (Region L) 2016 Regional Water Plan with the Authorization of HDR Engineering to Make Non-Substantive Edits Prior to its Submittal to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
12. Discussion and Appropriate Action Confirming Region L Regional Water Planning Group Meetings Schedule for Calendar Year 2016

13. Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing SARA to Provide Public Notice and Hold a Preplanning Public Meeting to Gather Suggestions and Recommendations From the Public as to Issues that Should be Addressed or Provisions that Should be Included in the 2021 Regional Water Plan and 2022 State Water Plan
14. Discussion and Appropriate Action Confirming the Administrator's Budget for Calendar Year 2016
15. Discussion and Appropriate Defining Conflicts of Interests Among Technical Consultants and Planning Group Members
16. Discussion and Appropriate Action Authorizing SARA to Issue a Request for Proposal to Procure Professional Services for the Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Planning
17. Possible Agenda Items for the Next South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group Meeting
18. Public Comment

The South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Area consists of Atascosa, Bexar, Caldwell, Calhoun, Comal, Dewitt, Dimmit, Frio, Goliad, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, La Salle, Medina, Refugio, Uvalde, Victoria, Wilson, Zavala and part of Hays Counties.

Please visit www.RegionLTexas.org to review available chapters of the 2016 Initially Prepared Plan

Agenda Item 5

Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and
Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano,
Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and
Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) Update

From: [Jade Rutledge](#)
To: [Leslie Patterson](#); [Bill Braden](#); [Bob McCann](#); [Brian Mast](#); [Chris Hale](#); [Cole Ruiz](#); [Colt Cook](#) (colt.cook@tpwd.texas.gov); [Con Mims](#); [David Crow](#); [David Mauk](#) (dmauk@bcragd.org); [Debbie Madgin](#) (dcmagin@qvec.net); [Dianne Wassenich](#); [Doris M. Cooksey](#); [Eddie Seidensticker](#) (eddieside@aol.com); [Everett Johnson](#); [Garrett Engelking](#); [Gary Middleton](#); [Hope Wells](#); [Illgner, Rick](#); [Jack Campbell](#); [James Lee Murphy](#); [Jay Gray](#); JDodson@naismith-engineering.com; [Jennifer Ellis](#); [Jerry James](#); [Josh Gray](#); [Ken Dunton](#); kgarcia@victoriatx.org; [Louisa Eclarinal](#); [Lynne Hamlin](#); [Mike Mecke](#); [Mike Peters](#); [Milan Michalec](#) (redfish@gvtc.com); [Myron Hess](#); [Norman Johns](#); [Paula DiFonzo](#); [Richard Fritz](#); [Robert Puente](#); [Roger Biggers](#); [Roland Ruiz](#) (Ruiz@edwardsaquifer.org); [Sam Vaughn](#); [Steve Graham](#); [Steve Raabe](#); [Steven Clouse](#); [Suzanne Scott](#); [Thomasson, Lance E](#); [Thurman S. Clements, Jr.](#); [Tim Andruss](#); [Tommy Hill](#); [Tunnell, Jace W](#); [Debbie Magin](#); [Ed Buskey](#); [Gregg Eckhardt](#); [Liz Smith](#); [Scott Holt](#); [Thom Hardy](#); [Tim Bonner](#); [Warren Pulich](#); jcarriello@edwardsaquifer.org
Cc: [Ruben Solis](#) (Ruben.Solis@twdb.texas.gov); [Cindy Loeffler](#) (Cindy.Loeffler@tpwd.texas.gov); [Kathy Alexander](#); [Nolan Raphelt](#) (Nolan.Raphelt@twdb.texas.gov)
Subject: ATTENTION GSA BBASC: VOTE NEEDED ASAP!!!
Date: Thursday, October 29, 2015 11:59:53 AM
Importance: High

Stakeholders,

At its meeting on September 30, 2015, the BBASC designated a Study Review Workgroup and charged it with the task of prioritizing studies to be funded by the newly appropriated funds from the Legislature pursuant to the SB3 Environmental Flows recommendation process. The workgroup met twice, and offered a full BBASC conference call on Oct. 28th to brief the committee on workgroup's recommendations and discuss any questions.

The following recommendation was made assuming a minimum spending amount of \$300,000. The workgroup prioritized their recommended studies to allow for an additional project to be funded if more funds became available, or negotiations reduced study costs.

The workgroup first selected five studies of interest, and requested cost estimates from the science teams. Those studies are listed below in no particular order.

- The blue crab and shrimp or focal species modeling project of TPWD data which Lindsay Shaefer presented at our last meeting.
- The continuation of the Instream Flow studies done by SARA, Dr. Bonner, Biowest.
- The rangia clam study that studied the rings of growth on the shells.
- The UT modeling of the San Antonio Bay and Guadalupe Bayous, presented at our last meeting by Dr. Ben Hodges
- The USGS flow and sediment loads at estuarine gauge (The purpose of this study is to determine the magnitude of unaccounted flow that might be flowing to the estuary through canals and wetlands instead of the main channel).

BBASC Study Review Workgroup Recommendation:

After receiving the proposals with initial cost estimates, the workgroup deliberated on the merits of each study, and the value they provide. That discussion resulted in a prioritized list of studies based on a \$300,000 spending limit. The following list reflects the results in order of priority (1 being the highest):

- 1. Focal species, blue crab and shrimp additional modeling (\$99,968)**
- 2. Instream flow studies, continued (TWDB \$215,000 / SARA contribution \$60,000)**
- 3. USGS flow and sediment loads at estuarine gauge (\$62,500)**

***Funding all of these three may not be possible within the \$300,000, but negotiation efforts will favor parts of each study that can be achieved within the budget.

If, for some reason, funding is leftover, the Rangia clam study was fourth in priority, with the UT bay and bayou modeling ranked fifth.

This recommendation gives the Texas Water Development Board and the GSA BBASC appointed liaison, Gregg Eckhardt, the ability to negotiate the contracts in a timely manner based upon Study Review Workgroup's discussions.

A "YES" vote means you approve the BBASC Study Review Workgroup's recommended prioritized list of studies to receive funding, and the process by which contracts will be negotiated.

A "NO" vote means you disapprove of the BBASC Study and Review Workgroup's recommended prioritized list of studies, and/or the process by which contracts will be negotiated.

This vote will be recorded electronically at <http://doodle.com/poll/cmyxfzz2h5ft3nrm>. Please click on the aforesaid link to cast your vote. **The deadline to vote is the close of business on Monday, November 2, 2015.**

Best Regards,

Jade Rutledge
Natural Resources Specialist
Resource Protection Team
Water Availability Division
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
Phone: 512-239-4559