



**REGIONAL
WATER
ALLIANCE**

**Council of Representatives
MEETING MINUTES**

**10:00 a.m. – April 7, 2015
San Antonio River Authority,
Boardroom 100 E. Guenther Street
San Antonio, TX 78204**

Council of Representatives Present:

Alan Cockerell
Lisa Guardiola
Avery Lunsford
Sam Willoughby
Albert Strzelczyk

Schertz-Seguin LGC
San Antonio Water System
City of Universal City
City of Schertz
East Central SUD

**Members, Guests &
Administrative:**

Cole Ruiz
Steve Raabe
Brian Perkins
Gene Camargo

San Antonio River Authority
San Antonio River Authority
HDR Engineering
McCoy Water Supply Corporation

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

A quorum was not established for this meeting.

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

No action was taken to approve the minutes due to lack of quorum.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Region L Administrative Update and Recap of the April 2, 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, April 2, 2015, and gave a recap presentation of what transpired at the meeting.

Mr. Ruiz announced that the Region L Planning Group approved two new voting members to fill previously vacated seats on the planning group. The vacancy for the Agriculture interest area was filled by Adam Yablonski. The vacancy for the Industries interest area was filled by Glenn Lord.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 4, of the April 2, 2015, Region L meeting, Mr. Ruiz reported that Nathan Pence, Executive Director of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP), briefed the Region L Planning Group on the EAHCP's efforts to contract with the National Academy of Sciences for review of select reports within the EAHCP.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 5, Mr. Ruiz reported that the next meeting of the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) will be held on May 22, 2015 at the Victoria Community Center. Mr. Ruiz reported that the BBASC will hear updates from the science teams on the studies they were contracted to conduct. Additionally, Mr. Ruiz noted that the BBASC was currently seeking nomination to fill a vacancy to represent the Chemical Manufacturing position on the BBASC. That decision was to be made at the May 22, 2015 BBASC meeting.

Mr. Ruiz continued with Agenda Item No. 6, the Chair's Report, noting that Chairman Con Mims provided an update on House Bill 1016, concerning the ecologically unique stream segments. The legislation would identify five stream segments, which are currently recognized by Texas Parks and Wildlife as "ecologically significant," as segments of ecological value. The legislation would prevent the building of infrastructure within the identified stream segments; and it would add community pride and value to enhance the general care and health of the stream segments. The House Bill passed out of committee, while its companion Senate Bill was waiting to be heard by committee.

Mr. Ruiz reported that David Meeseey, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), reminded the Planning Group of the importance of approving an Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) prior to the May 1, 2015 deadline during Agenda Item No. 7 (on TWDB Communications).

Noting that Brian Perkins, HDR Engineering, would brief the group on Agenda Item 8, Mr. Ruiz moved on to Agenda Item No. 9, where the Region L Planning Group took action to authorize the San Antonio River Authority to submit a request to TWDB to conduct a socioeconomic impact analysis of not meeting certain needs in the 2016 Region L Regional Water Plan.

Regarding Agenda Item No. 10, Mr. Ruiz briefed the RWA members on TWDB's requirement to complete a chapter of the Regional Water Plan on policy recommendations. Mr. Ruiz informed the RWA members of the process by which the planning group developed the language of the Chapter 8 Policy Recommendations, noting that a work group was created to develop the policy recommendations language. The work group's recommended language was approved at the April 2, 2015, Region L meeting.

Agenda Item No. 11 and 12 will be discussed by Brian Perkins during the next agenda item.

Mr. Ruiz reported that, regarding items 13 and 14 on the April 2, 2015 Region L meeting agenda, the planning group approved the Region L IPP, and authorized the technical consultant, HDR Engineering to submit it to TWDB on or before the deadline of May 1, 2015.

Mr. Ruiz added, concerning Agenda Item 15, that TWDB requires a public participation element to the Regional Water Plan adoption process. Accordingly, Mr. Ruiz noted that the planning group was planning on holding three public hearings to hear verbal comments on the IPP, and would be accepting public comments through August 14, 2015 per TWDB rules.

Mr. Ruiz briefed the planning group on an action by the Region L Planning Group to adopt an amendment to the 2011 Region L Regional Water Plan during agenda item 16 of the April Region L meeting. The adopted amendment included a the substitution of 500 acre site GBRA Lower Basin Project, for the smaller 100 acre site GBRA Lower Basin Project. Once the amendment has been submitted, TWDB will amend the 2012 State Water Plan to reflect those changes.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4: Region L Technical Presentation from HDR Engineering

Brian Perkins, with HDR Engineering, reported on the schedule looking forward for the Region L Planning Group, and gave an update on the status of the development of each chapter of the 2016 Regional Water Plan for Region L. Mr. Perkins added that, upon the submission of the IPP, copies will be available at public libraries and county courthouses throughout the region. Additionally they will be available online. Mr. Perkins reviewed the public comment period and process, and noted that HDR will be conducting the Infrastructure Financing Reports.

Mr. Perkins gave a quick update on the status of the IPP and the individual chapters. He presented a table that outlined the status of each chapter, general description, and section of the rule guiding those chapters. He noted that the IPP is draft plan.

Humberto Ramos asked whether an IPP has ever been materially changed before the adoption of the final Regional Water Plan. Mr. Perkins said minor adjustments have been made here in there. Alan Cockerell added that the planning group failed to adopt a final plan in 2006.

Mr. Perkins briefed the RWA on several potentially feasible water management strategies, which were presented at the April 2, 2015, Region L Planning Group meeting including the Victoria Groundwater-Surface Water Exchange, the Victoria Aquifer Storage & Recovery (ASR), and the Balancing Storage water management strategies.

Mr. Perkins also presented updates to the Direct Recycled Water Programs for the cities of San Marcos, New Braunfels, and Kyle. The updates were primarily based on the cities' goals to achieve zero discharge of waste water by the year 2070.

Mr. Perkins continued his presentation of Direct Recycled Water Programs, which included the additions of SARA, SAWS, and CCMA (Cibolo Creek Municipal Authority, noting that SAWS

was doubling their direct reuse by 2070 and information about a pipeline from Dos Rios to the CPS lakes. CCMA is increasing their reuse to 90% by 2070

Brian Perkins briefed the RWA on Chapter 6, The Cumulative Effects of the 2016 Regional Water Plan. The presentation included an evaluation of stream flows and estuary inflows under two scenarios: a baseline evaluation of surface water supply throughout the regional water planning area; and an evaluation under full implementation of the 2016 Regional Water Plan for Region L. He also presented information focused on assessing environmental impacts of the 2016 IPP relative to past state water plans.

Brian Perkins presented the 2016 Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies master list table, which included a list of water management strategies in categories of “recommended,” “alternative,” and “other.” The proposed list included minor changes from the list presented at the February 2015 Region L meeting, which was adopted by consensus. Mr. Perkins recapped the adoption of the list in February, and briefed the RWA on a few minor changes to the list that had come about since, noting that the planning group ultimately approved the list.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5: Legislative Update

Cole Ruiz gave a brief update on the Eighty Fourth Texas Legislature, and provided a list of bills that may pertain to the members of the RWA.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6: Regional Water Alliance Budget Update

Cole Ruiz briefed the RWA members on status of the RWA budget. There were some questions and discussion regarding the total funds available. Alan Cockerell requested that a budget update be a standing item on RWA meeting agendas in the future. Others agreed, recognizing the need to be fiscally responsible.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7: Other Business/ New Business

No other or new business was mentioned.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.

Avery Lunsford, Secretary