



**REGIONAL  
WATER  
ALLIANCE**

**Council of Representatives  
MEETING MINUTES**

**12:30 a.m. – November 16, 2017  
San Antonio River Authority**

**Council of Representatives Present:**

Darren Thompson	San Antonio Water System
Humberto Ramos	Canyon Regional Water Authority
Megan Neumann	City of Marion
Avery Lunsford	City of Universal City
Allan Cockerell	Schertz-Seguin LGC
Brandon Rohan	East Central SUD
Steve Liparoto	City of Cibolo
Mike Taylor	Crystal Clear SUD
Jeanne Schnuriger	Springs Hill WSC
Cole Ruiz for John Chisolm	San Antonio River Authority

**Guests & Administrative:**

Cole Ruiz	San Antonio River Authority
David Davenport	Canyon Regional Water Authority
Steven Siebert	San Antonio Water System
Monica McGarrity	Texas Parks and Wildlife

**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 the November 17, 2016, March 1, 2016, May 26, 2016, August 25, 2016, December 7, 2016, March 1, 2017, August 24, 2017 Meetings**

This item was postponed due to lack of quorum.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Region L Administrative Update and Recap of the November 3, 2016 Meeting**

Mr. Ruiz, reported to the Regional Water Alliance (RWA) that the most recent Region L meeting was held on Thursday, November 2, 2017, and reviewed what transpired at the meeting.

Mr. Ruiz informed the RWA that the Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) recently developed a recommendation list of five studies, which were delivered to the Texas Water

Development Board (TWDB), to advance the SB3 validation of environmental flows standards. The TWDB had not responded with any affirmation as to which studies were moving forward. However, that information would be for forthcoming at a future meeting.

Mr. Ruiz briefed the RWA members on communications from the TWDB regarding new rules requiring planning groups to be subject to the Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act.

Mr. Ruiz notified the RWA members that the Planning Group adopted a schedule for Calendar Year 2018. Meetings would be held on the third Thursday of February, and the first Thursday of May, August, and November in 2018.

Next, Mr. Ruiz provided a summary of the Planning Group's authorization to move forward with a minor amendment to the 2016 Regional Water Plan, which was initially requested by the San Antonio Water System (SAWS). Mr. Ruiz provided some background information on the amendment process.

Mr. Ruiz briefly gave an update on the status of revision requests, the deadline for which was scheduled for a date in mid-January. The Planning Group approved hydrologic assumptions for the 2021 Regional Water Plan. Those assumptions were provided in the RWA agenda packet. Additionally, the Planning Group approved a process by which water management strategies would be considered and adopted.

Mr. Ruiz updated the RWA on the Planning Group's efforts to improve the planning process through the 2021 Plan Enhancement Process. The Planning Group has developed the idea of preparing a Guiding Principles document, which will serve as a tool through the fifth cycle of planning. The process was implemented to address comments received from the public during the 2016 planning process, and was officially completed with the adoption of the final guiding principle on November 3, 2017.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.4: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Regional Water Alliance Budget**

Mr. Ruiz provided information on the Regional Water Alliance's account and anticipated funds, providing context with recent expenditures and savings. This led to a discussion about the recent workshop, which was held in May 2017. It was noted that the difficulty in achieving a quorum encumbered the RWA's ability to approve use of the funds. No action was taken.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.5: Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Purpose and Future of the Regional Water Alliance, Including Meeting Times and Location**

Humberto Ramos asked what could be done to make the RWA more functional and beneficial for its members. Mr. Ramos then briefly summarized previous discussions about potential changes to the Bylaws, which would enable a less cumbersome decision making process. Those changes would include creating a decision-making Executive Board (as opposed to an Executive Committee). The Board would consist of five members. Decisions would require a simple majority, with a quorum of three. The non-Board members would still meet and discuss items, and could recommend action to the Executive Board.

A brainstorming discussion ensued about how to bolster RWA meetings beyond a mere regurgitation of the Region L meetings. Some suggested that the meetings should be set up ahead of time, and should be located at a location outside San Antonio. Some suggested that the members should be holding each other accountable, and should call each other before meetings to make sure a quorum can be met.

The RWA generally agreed that the second Friday following the Region L meeting would be a good time to meet, since board meetings usually take place Tuesday through Thursday. Meetings would be held throughout the region on a rotating basis.

The RWA asked Cole Ruiz to draft changes to the RWA Bylaws reflecting the discussion on the Executive Board (see above). Mr. Ruiz agreed, and informed the group that he would send out a current RWA membership list with contact information, the revised RWA Bylaws, and calendar notices for the calendar year 2018.

Additionally, the group discussed reaching out to the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) to see if they were interested in joining. Mr. Ruiz confirmed that he would reach out to GBRA to gauge their interest at the next meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.6: Texas Parks and Wildlife Presentation on Zebra Mussels**

Monica McGarrity, Texas Parks and Wildlife gave a presentation on the impacts and threats caused by invasive zebra mussels.

**AGENDA ITEM NO.7: Presentation of the San Antonio Water System (SAWS) Water Management Plan**

Adam Connor, San Antonio Water System gave a presentation on the SAWS 2017 Water Management Plan.

Adjourned.

MINUTES RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE SECRETARY.

  
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Avery Lunsford, Secretary