

Meeting Minutes
Region 15 Lower Rio Grande Flood Planning
Group Meeting February 24, 2021
8:30 AM Virtual Meeting

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Jose "Joe" Angel Hinojosa	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	X
David A. Garza	<i>Counties</i>	X
Daniel Lucio, Jr.	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	X
Hudson DeYoe	<i>Environmental interests</i>	X
David L. Fuentes	<i>Flood districts</i>	X
Plinio Joey Trevino	<i>Industries</i>	X
Vanessa Rosales-Herrera	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Joe A. Califa	<i>Public</i>	X
Jose Luis Caso	<i>Small business</i>	X
Sonia Lambert	<i>Water districts</i>	X
Riazul I. Mia	<i>Water utilities</i>	X
Eduardo Gonzalez	<i>Counties</i>	X
Raul Pena Jr	<i>Counties</i>	X
Alan Moore	<i>Flood Districts</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Willy Cupit	Tx Parks and Wildlife Department	
Tim Frere	Tx Division of Emergency Management	
Nelda Barrera	Tx Department of Agriculture	X
Adrian Perez	Tx State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Shonda Mace	General Land Office	X
David Ramirez	Tx Commission on Environmental Quality	
Megan Ingram	Tx Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Manuel Cruz	Tx Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Ramon Mancias	Tx Commission on Environmental Quality	X

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **14**

Number required for quorum per current voting positions of 11: **6.**

Other Meeting Attendees: **

Director Brooke Paup	Anna Maria Clardy
Derek Katznelson	Andrew Smith
Rick Carrera	Patrick Looez
Ana Laurel	Kelly Dillard
TW Mountz	Raul E Sestin, PE, CFM
Saul Garcia	Miles Bullion
Derek Katznelson	Tiffany Cartwright
Robert Saenz	Kristina Leal
Mike Ramirez Kanto	Jaime Salazar
Nora D Cavazos	

****Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the Zoom meeting.**

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp>.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order and welcoming remarks

David Garza called the meeting to order at 8:32AM.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Roll Call and establish quorum:

A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established prior to calling the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Review of written public comments received:

No written public comments were received.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Discussion and action as appropriate - consider approval of minutes from previous meeting on January 13, 2021

A motion was made by Eduardo Gonzalez to approve minutes from previous meeting January 13, 2021. The motion was seconded by Jose Califa. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Introduction of Region 15 new voting and non-voting members

Jaime Salazar introduced the new voting members; Eduardo Gonzalez, Raul Pena, Jr and Alan Moore and non-voting members; Ramon Macias and Manuel Cruz.

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

Megan Ingram presented Director Brooke Paup.

Megan Ingram provided an update on the Flood Planning Grant Application. Application was submitted on time and will receive a response by March 31, 2021.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Discussion and action as appropriate – additional non-voting entity members

Pre-registered public comment and public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) No points or comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

Update from Planning Group Sponsor:

- i. Non-voting member assigned by South Texas Development Council
- ii. Non-voting member assigned by Middle Rio Grande Development Council
- iii. Non-voting member assigned by Oklahoma/Texas U.S. Geological Survey

As per Jaime Salazar, he had not received any responses from the above entities with the exception of Oklahoma/Texas US Geological Survey who requested a copy of the signed by laws.

Chairman Garza assigned Manuel Cruz to make contact with South Texas Development Council and Middle Rio Grande Development Council.

AGENDA ITEM NO 8: Presentation and Discussion of scoring grid of Engineering firms who submitted Statement of Qualifications for RFQ No. HCDD1-21-003-02-10 - Professional Engineering Services for Regional Flood Planning – Region 15 Lower Rio Grande for the purpose of ranking by Region 15 Flood Planning Committee

- **Riazul Mia abstained from this item.**

As per Jaime Salazar, there were two (2) advertisements and openings were February 10, 2021. Seven (7) RFQ packets were requested and three (3) were received. RFQ was ranked and scored by the HCDD1 Engineers. Halff & Associates score was 93.33, Black & Veatch Corporation score was 92 and SWG Engineering, LLC score was 84. Halff & Associates was selected for the provision of Professional Engineering Services for Region 15 Flood Planning.

A motion was made by Jose Caso to approve nominations. The motion was second by David Fuentes. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO 9: Pursuant to the Committees approval, requesting authority for the Hidalgo County Drainage District No.1 to negotiate a Professional Services Agreement with the number (1) ranked firm of Halff & Associates for the provisions of Professional Engineering Services for Region 15 Flood Planning.

Pre-registered public comment and public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) No points or comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

Hudson DeYoe had comments regarding the Scope of Work. He stated there was nothing that benefits Environmental.

As per Megan Ingram, Scope of Work is being reviewed by Texas Water Development Board.

Jaime Salazar requested that Mr. DeYoe submit any of his concerns in writing so it can be incorporated into the Scope of Work.

A motion was made by Jose Casos to approve. The motion was second by Joe Califa. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO 10: Discussion and action as appropriate – development of public website

Pre-registered public comment and public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker) No points or comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

Jaime Salazar made a presentation on vendors and recommended EZ Task for the Web Services.

A motion was made by Riazul Mia to approve. The motion was second by Sonial Lambert. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO 11: Receive general public comment (Public comments will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

No points or comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NO 12: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

Next meeting will be held on April 1, 2021 at 8:30 am

AGENDA ITEM NO 13. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned by David Garza.

Approved by the Region 15 Lower Rio Grande RFGP at a meeting held on April 1, 2021.

SONIA LAMBERT, SECRETARY

DAVID A. GARZA, CHAIR