

Meeting Minutes
Region 15 Lower Rio Grande Flood Planning
Group Meeting October 31, 2023
9:00 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
Saul Garcia for David L. Fuentes	<i>Flood Districts</i>	X
Plinio Joey Trevino	<i>Industries</i>	X
Joe A. Califa	<i>Public</i>	X
Jose Luis Caso (Laura Haley)	<i>Small business</i>	X
Sonia Lambert	<i>Water districts</i>	
Raul Pena Jr (M. Adame)	<i>Counties</i>	
Alan Moore	<i>Flood districts</i>	
Ernie Garcia	<i>Counties</i>	
Ernesto Rosalez	<i>Water Utilities</i>	
Rene Estrada	<i>City of Combes</i>	X

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Willy Cupit	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Judy Lucio	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
Adrian Perez	Tx State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Elijah Casas	General Land Office	X
David Ramirez	Tx Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Kara Smith		
Jami McCool		
Ramon Macias	USIBWC	
Nick Gallegos	Middle Rio Grande Development Council	
Michelle Garcia	Middle Rio Grande Development Council	

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: 9

Number required for quorum per current voting positions of 9: 12

Other Meeting Attendees:

Kristina Leal, Halff & Associates
Joseph Quilantan
Shonda Mace

Cynthia Nolasco

Krystle Haney

Jose Flores

Laura Cruz, HCDD1

Jaime Salazar, HCDD1

Nora D Cavazos, HCDD1

Enriqueta Zambrano, HCDD1

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

David Garza called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

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 Comments were received.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Discussion and action as appropriate - consider approval of minutes from previous meeting on June 28, 2023.

A motion was made by Laura Haley to approve minutes. The motion was seconded by Jose Hinojosa. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion and update from the Texas Water Development Board

Megan Ingram reported no major updates and informed them that they are finalizing their review of amended plan, and any additional comments will be shared with Jaime Salazar (HCDD1) and Kristina Leal.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6. Approval and certification of administrative expenses incurred by the Planning Group Sponsor (HCDD1) for the development of the Regional Flood Plan.

No discussion about this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Discussion and possible action to select a Planning Group Sponsor for the second planning cycle.

Megan Ingram shared that there aren't any specific requirements for sponsor selection. It is recommended that the planning group has a discussion and formal vote on who the sponsors for the 1st and 2nd cycles will be. Procurement steps in for selection of *technical consultant* and not for sponsor selection.

A motion was made to acknowledge by Jose Hinojosa. The motion was seconded by Dan Lucio. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Discussion and possible action to authorize the Planning Group Sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter a contract with the TWDB, on behalf of the RFPG, for the second planning cycle.

Megan Ingram explained that KWDB will be publishing the application for grant funding for the 2nd cycle and planning group sponsors will be filling it out to submit to TXWDB to kick out contract negotiations. KWDB will be executing the contract with TXWDB with the planning sponsor, HCDD1.

A motion was made to acknowledge by Laura Haley. The motion was seconded by Jose Hinojosa.

Motion passes by unanimous consent.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Discussion and possible action to determine what, if any, additional public notice the RFPG determines is necessary to ensure adequate public notice in its own flood planning region, including in print form if desirable.

Jaime Salazar inquires about the requirement of unique public notice to be mandatory or not. Megan Ingram confirms and expands on the planning group wanting to establish additional requirements to the planning group's bylaws which are optional. Members are encouraged to suggest options to get more involvement from the public (ex. Print media, press releases, outreach, in person meetings, etc.). Megan Ingram confirms that grants can be used to allocate any print media and outreach events. She also recommends including this item in the bylaws formally.

Laura Haley makes a motion to consider the increased notification of the requirements under the bylaws. David Garza seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion and update by Technical Consultant:

- a. Approval of final FME, FMS, and FMPs**
- b. Review of Amended Plan, as submitted**

Motion was made by Jose Hinojosa to submit the Amended Regional Flood Plan. The motion was seconded by Rene Estrada. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

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

No Comments were received.

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

Will be scheduled until further notice.

AGENDA ITEM NO 13. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned. A motion was made by Saul Garcia to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jose Hinojosa. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Approved by the Region 15 Lower Rio Grande RFPG at a meeting held on October 31, 2023.

SONIA LAMBERT, SECRETARY

DAVID A. GARZA, CHAIR