

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting
March 16, 2021
9:00AM to 12:00PM
Publicly Accessible Videoconference
(details below)

Meeting will be conducted via WebEx at:
<https://trinityra.webex.com/trinityra/j.php?MTID=m23cc4feb5c3f837a4c62f9eef050b5e3>

Audio only without the ability to participate may be heard at:

408-418-9388; access code 187 457 9935

1. Call to order
2. Welcome new members
3. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting
4. TWDB update and presentation
5. Receive report from Nominating Committee
6. Consider filling Agricultural Interest Category seat
7. Consider resignation for Small Business Interest Category representative
 - a. Appoint Nominating Committee to recommend replacement
8. Appoint liaisons for adjoining coastal basins:
 - a. Region 5 Neches RFPG
 - b. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG
9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor
 - a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
 - b. Discussion of technical consultant procurement process – receipt of proposals
10. Consider selection of Technical Consultant and authorize the Trinity River Authority to enter into a contractual agreement with the selected engineering firm
11. Discuss the addition of non-mandatory non-voting member positions
12. Election of Officers
13. Receive general public comments – limit 3 minutes per person
14. Consider meeting date for April 2021 meeting
15. Consider agenda items for next meeting
16. Adjourn

If you wish to provide oral public comments at the meeting, please email Alexis Long at longas@trinityra.org no later than 9:00AM on March 16, 2021.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to longas@trinityra.org and include “Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting” in the subject line of the email.

If you choose to participate via the WebEx App, you WILL have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting.

If you choose to participate in the meeting using the conference call number below, you will NOT have the opportunity to provide comments during the designated portion of the meeting. The conference call phone number is provided for LISTENING PURPOSES ONLY.

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group will hold a public meeting via WebEx pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.127, as modified by the temporary suspension of various provisions in accordance with the Governor's March 13, 2020 proclamation related to, the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Alexis Long at: (817) 467-4343 or by email at: longas@trinityra.org

Physical location: 5300 South Collins Street, Arlington, TX 76018

Trinity Flood Planning Group

Region 3



March 16, 2021

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Welcome new members
3. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting
4. TWDB update and presentation
5. Receive Report from Nominating Committee
6. Consider appointing applicant to fill Agricultural Interest Category seat
7. Consider resignation for Small Business Interest Category
 1. Appoint Nominating Committee to recommend replacement
8. Appoint liaisons for adjoining coastal basins:
 1. Region 5 Neches RFPG
 2. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG
9. Update from Planning Group Sponsor
 1. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
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10. Consider selection of Technical Consultant and authorize the Trinity River Authority to enter into a contractual arrangement with the selected engineering firm
11. Discuss the addition of non-mandatory, non-voting member positions
12. Election of Officers
13. Receive general public comments – limit 3 minutes per person
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15. Consider agenda items for next meeting
16. Adjourn

1 & 2. Call to Order / Welcome



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Welcome New Members

National Weather Service / River Forecast Center:

Mr. Greg Waller

Federal Emergency Management Agency:

Ms. Diane Howe

US Army Corps of Engineers:

(Multiple)

Region 5 (San Jacinto) Liaison:

Ms. Ellen Buchanan

Region 6 Liaison (Neches) Liaison:

Mr. Todd Burrer



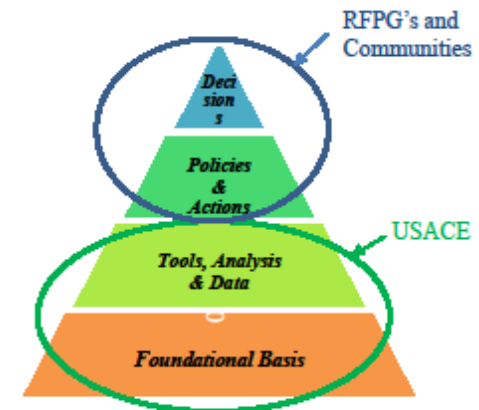
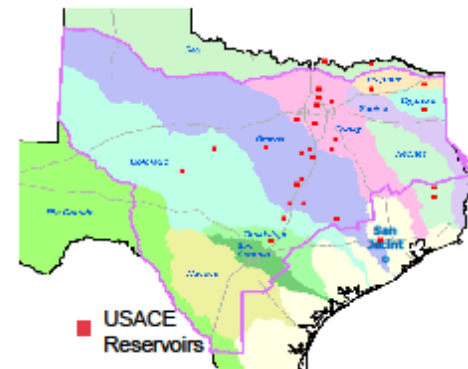
United States Army Corps of Engineers



US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS ROLE IS FLOOD RISK REDUCTION



- Funding assistance to communities for flood damage reduction projects
 - Continuing Authorities Program (CAP) - Section 205 FRM: structural or non-structural measures; <\$10M federal investment; Section 208 Snagging/Clearing: reduce nuisance flood damages caused by debris and minor shoaling of rivers; <\$500k federal (Both cost shared 50/50 study, then 65/35 design & construction).
 - General Investigation Feasibility studies – larger scale projects or watershed approach to help communities solve a water resource problem (50/50 or 75/25 cost share); study authorization is provided by Congressional resolutions and funding is provided in an appropriations bill.
 - Planning Assistance to States (PAS) – funding for a broad range of studies from flooding to water availability (cost sharing)
 - Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS) – assists communities with floodplain related studies (cost share or reimbursable)
 - Silver Jackets
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Dam Operations
 - Owns and operates 29 multipurpose reservoirs, oversees flood operations for others
 - Reservoirs establish and maintain river conditions in 7 river systems (\$100B+ damages prevented)
 - Funding partner for network of stream and precipitation gages across the state
- Designed and constructed billions \$'s in statewide flood damage reduction projects including coastal
- Technical expertise
 - Regional planners, program managers, scientist and engineers and designers
 - National virtual teams – allows rapid repositioning of resources
 - Industry standard software for flood analysis
 - Real-time flood forecasting and inundation mapping
 - Preparedness and resiliency tools and initiatives
 - Research and education



3. Approval of Minutes

(Action necessary)

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4. TWDB Update and Presentation

(Information Item)



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Texas Water Development Board Flood Planning Presentation

RFPG Responsibilities:
Scope Of Work Overview
(20-25 minutes)

General Document Cross-Reference

Regional Flood Planning Contract Document References			2023 Regional Flood Plan Chapter, Associated TAC Sections, and Content		
TWDB Contract Reimbursement Accounting Number ('CAS')	Exhibit A - Contract SOW Task	Exhibit C - General Guidelines for Regional Flood Plan Development	Regional Flood Plan Chapter Number	Primary TAC Section	General Content
1	1	1	1	§361.30; §361.31; §361.32	Planning Area Description
2	2A	2	2	361.33	Existing Condition Flood Risk Analyses
3	2B			361.34	Future Condition Flood Risk Analyses

Task 1 – Planning Area Description



Llano dam on the Llano river sits on the banks of the county seat.

Image: TWDB

A general description of the region, including:

- social & economic character
- flood-prone areas, types of major flood risks, and key historical flood events
- political subdivisions with flood related authority
- the extent of local regulation and development codes relevant to flooding
- existing or proposed natural flood mitigation features and constructed major flood infrastructure

Task 2A & 2B – Existing & Future Condition Flood Risk Analyses

Perform existing and future condition **flood hazard analyses** to determine the location and magnitude of both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events



Develop existing & future condition **flood exposure analyses** to identify who and what might be harmed for both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events.

Perform existing & future condition **vulnerability analyses** to identify vulnerabilities of communities and critical facilities

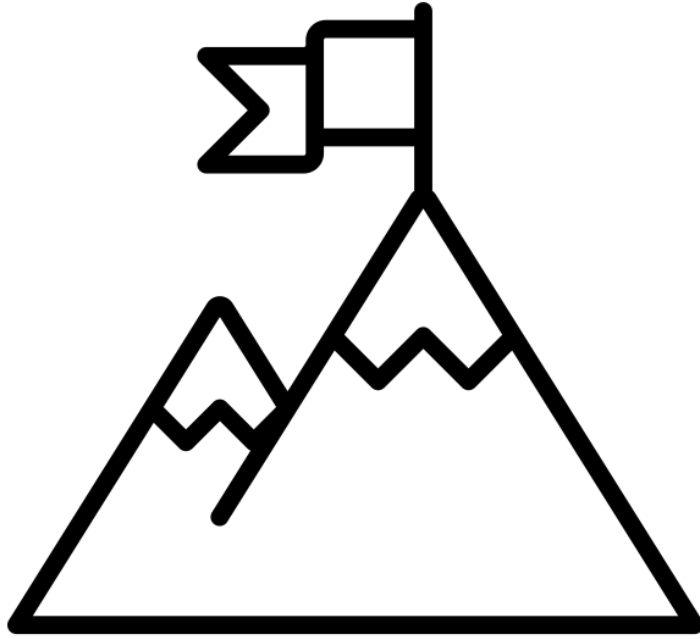
Task 3A – Evaluation & Recommendations on Floodplain Management Practices

- Consider how current floodplain management practices or regulations increase flood risks.
- Consider how the 1.0% annual chance floodplain and associated flood risks may change over time.
- Consider adopting minimum floodplain management/land use standards that an entity must adopt prior to including any evaluations, projects, or strategies in the regional flood plan.



West Fork San Jacinto River near Humble, Texas after Hurricane Harvey
Image: Steve Fitzgerald, Harris County Flood Control District

Task 3B – Flood Mitigation & Floodplain Management Goals

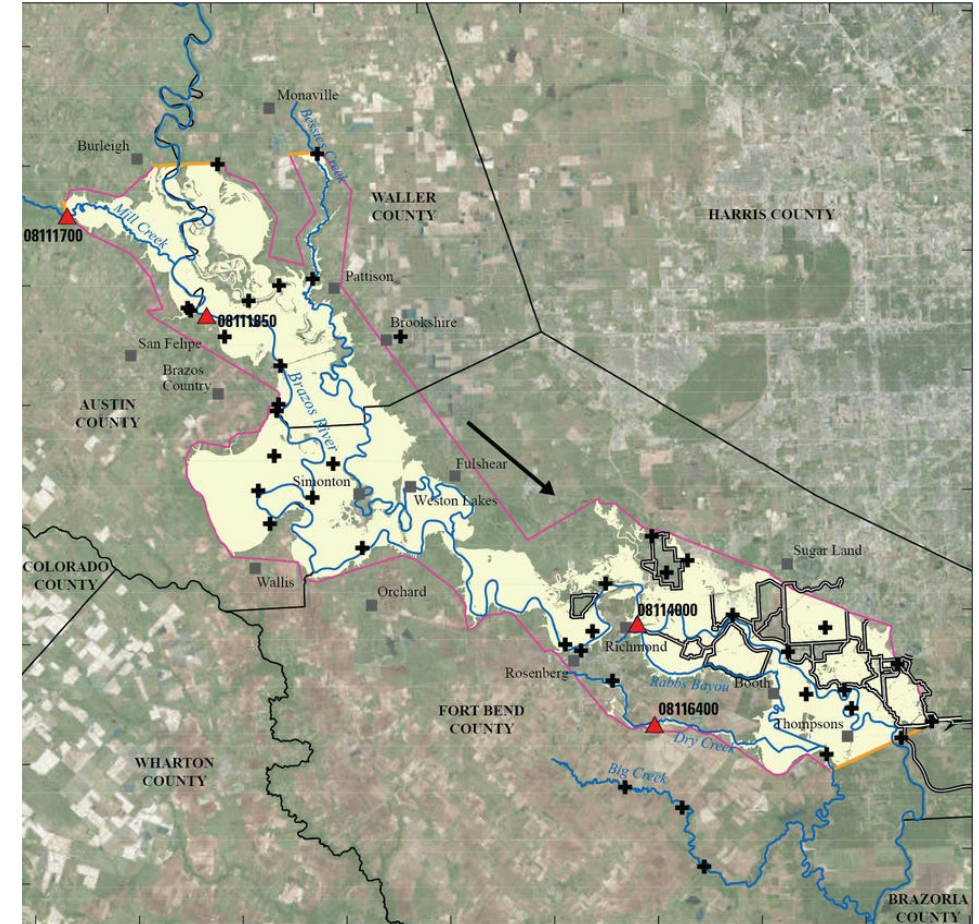


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- Identify specific and achievable flood mitigation and floodplain management goals
 - Short (10 year) & Long-Term (30 year)
- State the levels of residual flood risk after goals are fully met.

Task 4A – Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis

- Identify locations within the region that have the greatest flood mitigation and flood risk study needs.
- Based on the analyses and goals developed by the RFPG under Tasks 2A through 3B



Map of inundated areas (yellow areas) on the lower Brazos River after Hurricane Harvey
Image: USGS

Key Terms for Tasks 4 & 5: FME, FMP, FMS

Flood Management Evaluation (FME)

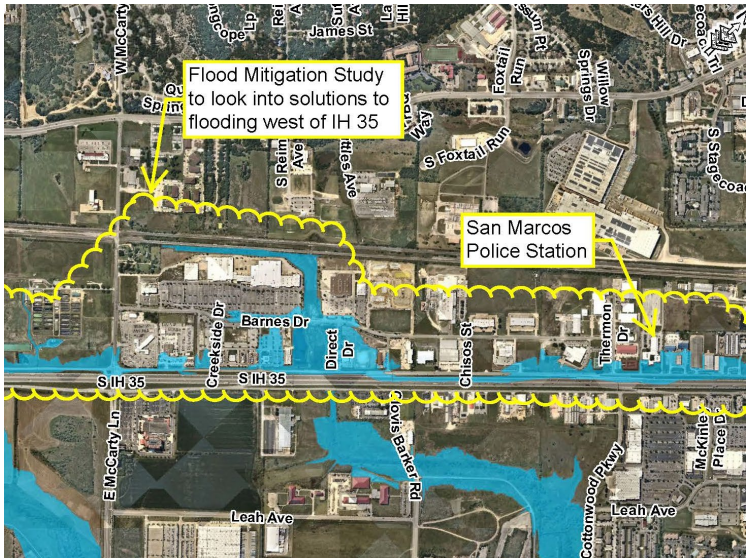
- A proposed flood study of a specific, flood-prone area that is needed in order to assess flood risk and/or determine whether there are potentially feasible FMSs or FMPs.

Flood Management Strategy (FMS)

- A proposed plan to reduce flood risk or mitigate flood hazards to life or property (may or may not require associated FMPs to be implemented).

Flood Mitigation Project (FMP)

- A proposed project (structural and non-structural) that when implemented will reduce flood risk, mitigate flood hazards to life or property.



Cottonwood Creek Flood Study, San Marcos, TX.
Image: City of San Marcos



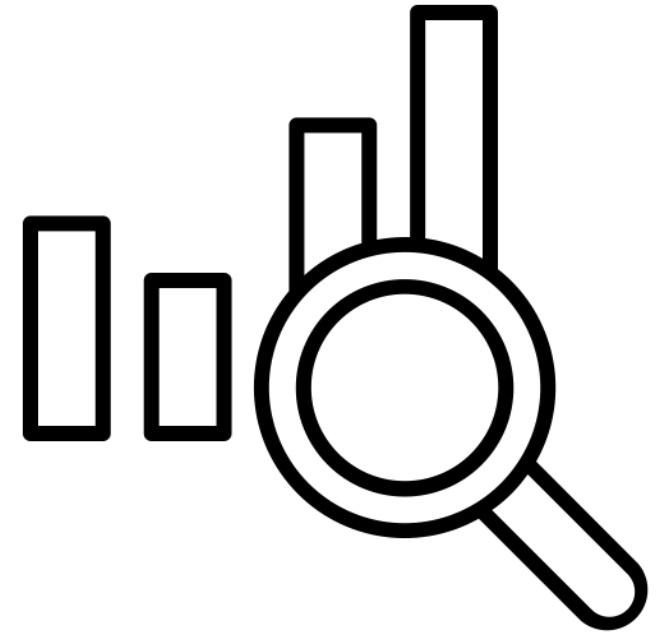
Exploration Green project, Clear Lake City, TX
Image: Texas Water Resources Institute



El Paso storm water project, El Paso, TX
Image: El Paso Water

Task 4B – Identification and Evaluation of Potential FMEs & Potentially Feasible FMSs and FMPs

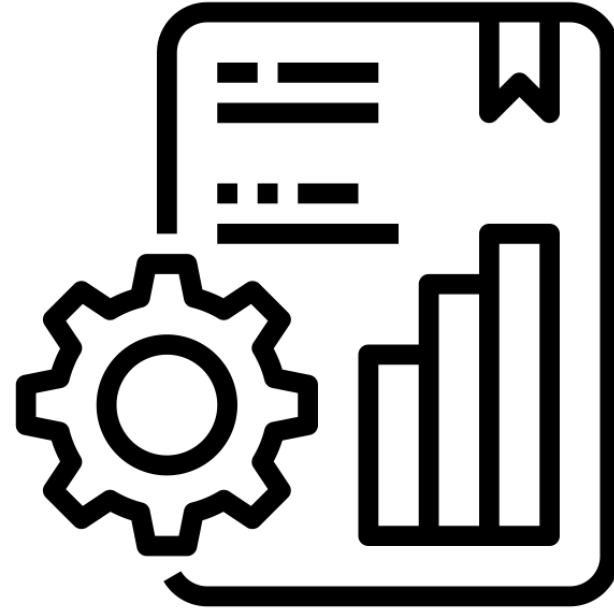
- Identify potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on process developed with public input
- Evaluate potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on a variety of factors described in rules and guidance.
- The FMPs should be permittable, constructible and implementable



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Task 4C – Prepare and Submit Technical Memorandum

- Include all deliverables from Tasks 1 to 4B detailed in the Scope of Work
- TWDB Guidance Document will provide more information.
- Tentative Due Date: January 2022



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Task 5 – Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs & FMPs

- Recommend FMEs that are most likely to identify potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on evaluations under Task 4B
- Recommend FMSs and FMPs to reduce the impacts of flood based on evaluations under Task 4B
- Recommendations should be based on comparison of alternatives



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Regional & State Flood Planning Long-Range Planning Process



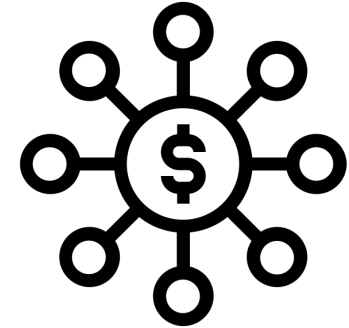
Created by Andrejs Kirma
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Regional Flood Plans will identify flood risk and recommend FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs within regions.



Created by Creative Stall
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State Flood Plan will rank recommended FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs statewide.



Created by Alice Design
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Future state financial assistance may be allocated using a to-be-determined prioritization criteria.*

*Funding to implement projects can also come from local, federal, or other sources.

Task 6A – Impacts of Regional Flood Plan

- Summarize the relative reduction in flood risk that implementation of the plan would achieve.
- Describe impacts of recommended FMSs and FMPs on environment, agriculture, recreation, water quality, erosion, sedimentation, and navigation.
- State that FMPs will not negatively affect neighboring areas.



Crops in the lower Rio Grande Valley
Image: TWDB



Recreational boating.
Image: TWDB



Dolan Falls

Image: TWDB

Task 6B – Impacts on Water Supply

- Summarize how Regional Flood Plan will affect water supply.
- How would FMSs and FMPs contribute to water supply?
- How would FMSs and FMPs impact water supply, availability, or projects in the State Water Plan?



© Texas Water Development Board

Task 7 – Flood Response Information and Activities

- Summarize existing flood response preparations.
- Coordinate with entities in the region to gather information
- RFPGs do not perform analyses or other activities related to disaster response or recovery.



Texas State Guard Hurricane Harvey emergency response.

Image: Texas State Guard

Task 8 – Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations

- Develop policy recommendations to implement and achieve the RFPG's stated goals and plans.
- Consider potential new revenue-raising opportunities to fund flood activities in the region.



Image: TWDB

Task 9 – Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis

- Survey and report on how sponsors propose to finance recommended FMEs and FMPs
- Include recommendations on the proposed role of the State in financing FMEs and FMPs



Dam on the Llano River under Hwy 16 in Llano, Texas.

Image: TWDB

Task 10 – Public Participation & Plan Adoption

Administrative activities not included in other tasks, including:

- Meeting preparations, notices, agendas, materials, minutes, presentations, public meetings, and public comments
- Website creation and maintenance
- Intraregional and interregional coordination and communication to develop the regional flood plan.



TWDB flood outreach meeting in Bastrop, TX.

Image: TWDB



Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.

Questions? Comments?

5. Report from Nominating Committee

(Information Item)



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6. Consider Vote to Fill Agricultural Interest Seat

(Action necessary)



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7. Resignation of Small Business Interest Category / Appoint Nominating Committee

(Action necessary)



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January 20, 2021
Hughes Springs, TX

Texas Water Development Board
P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, FAX (512) 475-2053

Re: Trinity Regional Flood Planning Group – Resignation

To Whom It May Concern:

My employer, O'Brien Engineering, is a subcontractor on Halff Associates' application to Region 3's RFQ. Since I am a member of the Trinity River Regional Flood Planning Group and my employer is seeking work within the same region, this presents a conflict of interest. Therefore, it is with regret that I present to you this WRITTEN NOTICE of resignation as a member of the group. I would like to thank you for the honor and opportunity granted me to serve as a voting member of the regional flood planning group. I wish you nothing but the best and a wholly successful outcome.

Sincerely,

Gerardo Ocanas

Gerardo Ocanas, PhD, PE
Water Practice Leader
O'Brien Engineering, Inc.

8. Appoint Liaisons for Regions 5 and 6

(Action necessary)

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9. Update from Planning Sponsor

(Information Item)



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10. Consider Selection of Technical Consultant

(Action necessary)



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11. Discuss Addition of Non-Mandatory Non-Voting Members

(Discussion Item)



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Potential New Members – Non-Voting Interest Categories

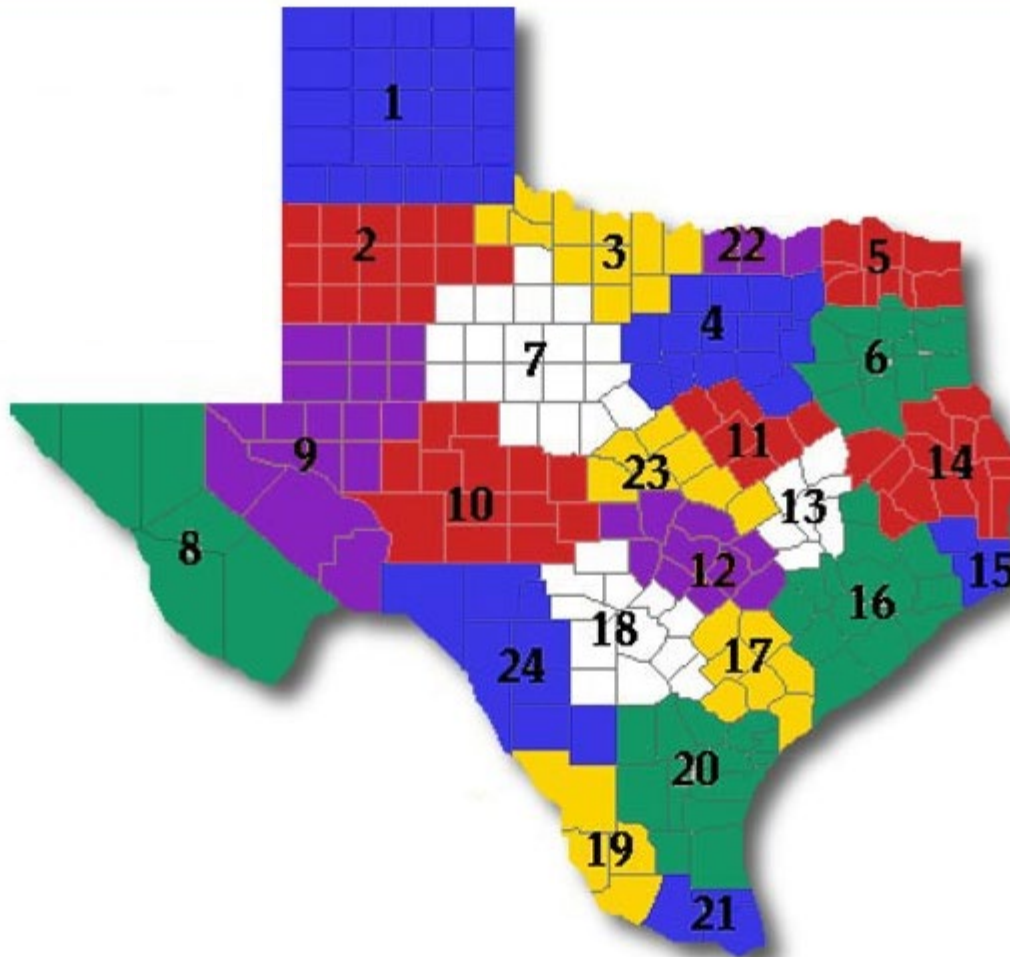
“In addition to creating new non-voting positions for specific entities, the RFPG may, at any time, create non-voting positions for specific interest categories...by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present. The RFPG must use the selection process set forth in Article V, Section 4.”

“If a new voting position is created, the existing voting members shall select a nominee to fill the new position by 2/3rds affirmative vote of the voting members present **and shall determine** by consensus, but not less than agreement of a 2/3rds affirmative vote of the voting members present, **the exact applicability of the membership term provisions and restrictions to the new member at the time of the new members selection.**”

- I. Discuss Interest Categories and number of seats
 - I. GOCs – Could be added as either mandatory (named entity) or non-mandatory (interest category)
 - I. Academia
 - II. Other
- II. Terms of office, provisions and restrictions desired

Councils of Government

Regions



3 – Nortex Regional Planning
Commission

4 – NCTCOG

6 – East Texas COG

11 – Heart of Texas COG

13 – Brazos Valley COG

14 – Deep East Texas COG

**16 – Houston-Galveston
Area Council**

22 – Texoma COG

12. Elect Officers

(Action necessary)



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Elect Officers

- I. Chair
- II. Vice Chair
- III. Secretary
- IV. Member at Large #1
- V. Member at Large #2

Serve 2-year terms

Election requires 2/3rds affirmative vote of members present

13. Public Comment

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14 & 15. Date for Next Meeting and Items for Agenda

(Discussion Item)



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Agenda Items for April Meeting

- I. Clan-up Bylaws
- II. Fill Small Business Interest Category member slot
- III. Vote on creation of new positions
 - I. Appoint nominating committee
- IV. Guest presentations
 - I. GLO
 - II. USACE

16. Adjourn

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Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2020
10:00AM to 12:00PM
Publicly Accessible Videoconference

Meeting was conducted via WebEx and telephonically

Agenda:

1. Call to order – Mr. Clingenpeel called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees.
2. Welcome
3. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting – Gerardo Ocanas made mention that the minutes from the last meeting stated that the next meeting would be in January but was held on Dec. 17th instead. Howard Slobodin agreed that change would be made subject to the committee approval. Motion: Scott Harris motioned that the meeting minutes be approved as amended. Second: Lissa Shepard. Action: unanimously approved.
4. TWDB update and presentation - Megan Ingram of TWDB provided a two-part background presentation concerning “Flooding 101” and the “Request for Applications Process & Contract Details.” There was some discussion regarding flooding that comes from inundation of easements around reservoirs with controlled release structures. A copy of the presentation is available from the TFPG administrator. Ms. Ingram stated that there would be a more in-depth presentation on the tasks for the Scope of Work included in the application.
5. Consider additional mandatory non-voting member positions – Glenn Clingenpeel stated that positions for FEMA, NWS, and USACE were added to the bylaws during the October 27 meeting but required ratification during the current meeting which followed two-weeks posted notice.
 - a. Public Comments - no public comment was received.
 - b. Discussion and consider adding addition members – Scott Harris asked for clarification on how the process of filling the positions would be accomplished. Mr. Clingenpeel said that the respective entity would be notified of the position and asked to make an appointment to fill it. The entity appoints their own representative. Mr. Clingenpeel asked for a motion to ratify the addition of the mandatory, non-voting interest categories for FEMA, NWS/RFC and the USCOE. Motion: Scott Harris. Second: Andrew Isbell. Action: unanimously approved
6. Appoint Nominating Committee to fill the Agricultural mandatory, voting position – Mr. Clingenpeel appointed Rachel Ickert, Matt Robinson, Jordan Macha, Andrew Isbell, and Scott Harris to serve on the committee. Scott Harris was appointed as chair of the committee. Mr. Clingenpeel described the timeline for filling the vacant agricultural interest position as follows: Solicitation are to be posted on TWDB webpage, with a window of 30-45 days for responses. Following the close of the response window, the committee must deliberate for a minimum of 10 days. This results in a minimum of 40-55 days before the group can act to fill the position.

7. Update from Planning Group Sponsor regarding status of Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB – Mr. Slobodin gave an update on this process.
 - a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds – Howard Slobodin and Alexis Long have been putting together the application worth approximately 2.5 million dollars for the Trinity Basin. They have incorporated the draft scope of work that the TWDB prepared. Mr. Slobodin included a link for that scope in the chat session for the meeting.
 - b. Discussion of technical consultant procurement process – Mr. Clingenpeel stated that this process must receive approval from the group in order to move forward. Mr. Slobodin explained the process as follows: TWDB requires TRA, as the sponsor of this group, to procure the consulting services. This is done by sending out a Request for Proposal (RFP) to be sent to qualified firms. Once the proposals have been received back, each will be scored according to a matrix system and then brought to the committee for selection. Mr. Slobodin explained what items were most important for the scoring process that coincides with the scope of work. Mr. Isbell asked that they include the firms' GIS capabilities in the scoring. Mr. Robinson asked that there not be too many categories so that it will not become too cumbersome. Mr. Isbell also stated that he did not believe any firm should be eliminated because they have not had previous experience with TWDB, and that while there are similarities between the water and flood planning processes, they are significant differences.
 - c. Discussion on Scope of Work posted with TWDB – There was no separate discussion on this item as it had been covered during the discussion of item 7a.
8. Consider authorizing the TRFPG Political Subdivision to prepare and disseminate a Request for Proposals to identify technical consultants for the 2026 Regional Flood Plan – Mr. Clingenpeel asked for a motion to grant TRA the authority to move forward with the solicitation, to include a scoring matrix. Motion: Sarah Standifer. Second: Lissa Shepard. Action: unanimously approved.
9. Discussion of the means by which the RFPG will develop and host a public website (required per §361.21(b)) – Mr. Clingenpeel explained that this will be something that the consulting firm will do but until that time TWDB will serve in that capacity. Mr. Slobodin added that the draft scope would include the development of a group-hosted website. This task will be covered under money allocated for this process through the TWDB grant and subsequent technical services agreement.
10. Consider a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c)) – Mr. Clingenpeel stated that this item did not require action. Mr. Slobodin explained that as sponsor of the group TRA would be happy to accept any written public comments prior to and after meetings. Anything received would be disseminated to the group.
11. Discussion of the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e)) – Mr. Clingenpeel stated that as part of the flood planning process, TRA will develop a list of individuals that have interest in receiving anything that is required to be sent out for formal notice by the TWDB's rules. Initially solicitation will be done through TWDB's website.

12. Receive general public comments – limit 3 minutes per person. Mr. Clingenpeel opened the floor for public comments. Danielle Goshen provided comments. Ms. Goshen, Water Policy Outreach Specialist at Galveston Bay Foundation, encouraged consideration of additional voting members to include: Land Trusts, Academic Flood Experts involved with an institute of higher education, and low income housing advocate for those impacted by flooding.
13. Consider and adopt calendar of meetings for 2021 – A draft agenda was presented for consideration with a meeting scheduled in January. Due to timing requirements for filling the vacant agricultural position, and the solicitation process for a technical consultant, Mr. Clingenpeel asked that the January meeting be dropped and the next meeting be held in February. After that Mr. Clingenpeel proposed that meetings would be held every other month, at least for the first year. Mr. Clingenpeel called for a motion to adopt the calendar with the modification noted (i.e. moving the January meeting to February). Motion: Sano Blocker. Second: Matt Robinson. Action: unanimously approved.
14. Consider agenda items for next meeting – The following items were suggested for the next Region 3 meeting: report from nominating committee and action to fill the agricultural interest category spot, elect officers, select consulting firm, consider the addition of non-mandatory non-voting members including: councils of governments and those proposed by Ms. Danielle Goshen; add nominating liaisons for adjacent regions, and receive TWDB presentation on the work plan and scope of work.
15. Adjourn. Mr. Clingenpeel adjourned the meeting.