

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting
Thursday, June 29, 2023
10:30 a.m.

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group will hold a public meeting in-person pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 551.127.
This meeting will be conducted in a hybrid format.

In-person:
John Bunker Sands Wetland Center
655 Martin Ln.
Combine, TX 75159

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group convened a public comment meeting, in person as well as virtual, on Thursday, June 29, 2023, at 10:30 AM. Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel opened the meeting at 10:31 AM.

Voting Members Present:

Chad Ballard
Sano Blocker
Melissa Bookhout
Glenn Clingenpeel
Rachel Ickert (absent)
Scott Harris
Andrew Isbell (absent)
Jordan Macha
Craig Ottman for Rachel Ickert
Galen Roberts
Matt Robinson (absent)
Lissa Shepard
Sarah Standifer

10 voting members were present at the time of roll call, constituting a quorum.

Ex Officio Members Present:

James Bronikowski for Richard Bagans
Manuel Martinez
Steve Bednarz
Steve Johnston for Justin Bower
Ellen Buchanan (absent)
Todd Burrer
Jerry Cotter
Brittany Frazier
Humberto (Bert) Galvan
Diane Howe (absent)
Lonnie Hunt (absent)
Kate Zielke for Edith Marvin

Lisa McCracken (absent)
Zoie Venable for Andrea Sanders
Greg Waller
Adam Whisenant (absent)

*Approval of the Minutes of the April 6, 2023 Meeting

Motion: Galen Roberts moved to approve the minutes as presented;
Second: Lissa Shepard; Action: Minutes were unanimously approved.

Acknowledgement of written public comments received

Public comments were received and acknowledged. They will be addressed at the next Region 3 RFPG Meeting.

Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items

No registered public comments were received.

TWDB Update

James Bronikowski with TWDB provided an update. Richard Bagans, the previous Project Manager, left the agency in June. James Bronikowski is currently the project manager for Region 3. The TWDB May Newsletter was referenced. Items noted included a solicitation for flood planning sponsors for the second flood planning cycle, a question-and-answer section on the state flood plan, and information on TWDB's Flood Research Projects. Amended Plan submission guidance and additional guidance on Flood Management Strategies were also included. The RFPG was encouraged to revisit the newsletter for further details.

The flood planning sponsors' selection is managed at the discretion of RFPG. However, during the selection process the RFPG must adhere to and perform TWDB administrative actions. One condition includes the selection of a sponsor for the upcoming cycle. There are no TWDB solicitation requirements. The RFPG may choose TRA or select an alternate sponsor. The sponsor must be selected or confirmed for the second flood planning cycle before October 2023. This information will be provided in the TWDB September newsletter.

In addition, TWDB will be presenting two board items to the TWDB Board on October 5th. One item details the funding allocation for all 15 flood planning regions. The second item will be authorization to negotiate and execute grant agreements. Both items will be posted on TWDB's website between five and ten business days before October 5th. The scope of work for the second flood planning cycle and all requests for applications, and application requirements necessary for the grant agreements will also be posted. Updated rules will also be presented to the TWDB Board on October 5th. TWDB sent out proposed rule changes in March 2023. Many

comments and feedback were received on the proposed rule changes. TWDB made minor adjustments and changes to the proposed rule changes in response to the comments received. The official proposed rule changes will be taken to the TWDB Board for adoption on October 5th.

In order to meet the TWDB milestone date, all RFPGs must select their sponsors before October 5, 2023. As a result, the sponsor can submit all grant application information for the second cycle in a timely manner.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel requested clarification on the TWDB Board item for authorization to negotiate and execute grant agreements. TWDB responded that this is boilerplate terminology and TWDB will set the terms for funding allocations to each RFPG. After October 5th, TWDB will request applications from the RFPG sponsors related to the grant agreement. Grant agreements are expected to be executed in December 2023 but will be based on response time.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel reminded the RFPG that the current grant term expires in December. Funding will terminate once all tasks have been approved and submitted and all comments have been addressed in the Amended Regional Flood Plan. However, there is an opportunity to continue work if a critical component has not been completed. He asked TWDB what funding mechanisms were available between the expiration of the current grant agreement and the beginning of the second flood planning cycle grant agreement.

TWDB responded that after the submission of the Amended Regional Flood Plan on July 14th, TWDB does not anticipate any other activities other than responding to requests for information on the Amended Regional Flood Plans. There are no further tasks TWDB asks consultants or RFPGs to perform. Between July and December, there may be some requests for information. However, that is dependent on the Amended Regional Flood Plan and potential questions, but they expect minimal questions. There is language in the TWDB newsletter that may assist RFPGs during the gap in funding between the expiration of the current grant and the execution of the upcoming grant. The TWDB will be flexible in administrative costs. TWDB understands that the RFPG may need to meet to discuss future items and complete administrative tasks. For example, the Technical Consultant selection. However, TWDB emphasized that the RFPG limits interaction strictly to administrative-type tasks until the second flood planning cycle grant agreement is executed. Work that falls within the scope of work should not be undertaken. Any expenses associated with administrative-type tasks will be eligible for reimbursement once the upcoming grant is executed.

James Bronikowski will continue to be Region 3 RFPG TWDB Project Manager until further notice.

* Establish term limits for voting members

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel reviewed the Region 3 RFPG Bylaws ARTICLE V. Voting Membership. Section 2. Terms of Office:

"The terms of all initial voting members shall expire on July 10, 2023. Upon the expiration of the initial terms, all voting members shall draw lots for additional terms of five years or two years, such that half of the voting members' terms will expire in two additional years and the other half in five additional years. If there is an odd number of voting members at the time that lots are drawn, one more than half shall draw lots for the two-year terms."

The RFPG members will have staggered terms during the next flood planning cycle. Each member will receive either a two-year or five-year term. The new term limits will then be certified. This will not interfere with the recent officer elections.

Stephanie Griffin, a Halff representative, explained how the term selection process worked. An Excel spreadsheet was used to present all voting members in randomized order. An online [Number Picker Wheel](#), with the numbers 2 and 5, was used to randomly select the terms for the voting members. There are 12 voting members and 6 will receive 5-year terms, and 6 will receive 2-year terms.

RFPG Member and Term Selected:

Jordan Macha, 5-year
Lissa Shepard, 2-year
Scott Harris, 5-year
Chad Ballard, 5-year
Melissa Bookhout, 2-year
Glenn Clingenpeel, 2-year
Matt Robinson, 5-year
Sarah Standifer, 5-year
Rachel Ickert, 5-year
Galen Roberts, 2-year
Sano Blocker, 2-year
Andrew Isbell, 2-year

* Consider certification of voting member terms as identified

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion that the terms of each voting member be set as determined in the course of this meeting, and that each member be elected to serve on the Region 3 RFPG for the respective terms with an initial date of July 10, 2023, and to continue in their current roles as officers or members, until such time as the terms of

those offices would have expired absent the assignment of the staggered terms herein approved and certified.

Motion: Glenn Clingenpeel moved to certify the voting member terms as identified;

Second: Sarah Standifer; Action: Motion passed unanimously.

* Consider selection of Region 3 Trinity RFPG Sponsor for the second cycle of regional flood planning

There was considerable discussion about the Region 3 RFPG Sponsor. TRA is willing to continue in this role. Previously, NCTCOG had an interest. Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel provided an overview of the Region 3 RFPG Sponsors' role in regional flood planning. TWDB noted that the RFPG can designate a different RFPG Sponsor at any time.

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to reappoint the Trinity River Authority as the Region 3 RFPG Sponsoring Agency for the second cycle of regional flood planning.

Motion: Sarah Standifer motioned for the reappointment of Trinity River Authority as the Region 3 RFPG Sponsoring Agency for the second cycle of regional flood planning;

Second: Lissa Shepard;

Abstention: Glenn Clingenpeel

Action: Motion passed unanimously.

Update from Region 3 Technical Consultant –

Stephanie Griffin with Halff gave an overview of the meeting. An update on the Draft Amended Plan will be provided. Caroline Jones with Freese and Nichols provided an update on Task 12. The RFPG was asked to consider two action items regarding the approval of the recommended FMXs and the approval of the Amended Plan to be submitted to TWDB.

a. Update on Draft Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan

I. Task 12 updates – Caroline Jones with FNI

An update was provided on the work order plan progress, the Amended Plan FMXs and Recommended FMXs. The updates were broken down into three components to align with the RFPG action items.

Work Order Plan progress:

Tier 1 and Tier 2 FMPs were displayed on a map and reviewed. Three FMPs were categorized as Tier 1 and all were recommended. 32 FMPs were Tier 2. 31 FMPs were recommended

and one was reclassified and recommended as an FME. 35 FMPS were submitted and classified as Tier 3. Only 17 of the 35 FMPs could be analyzed. The work order plan was established to ensure the Technical Consultants could methodically work through the FMPs in a fair and equitable way. This was done impartially. At least one project from each sponsor was recommended. Kaufman County was an exception due to FMPs previously analyzed under a FIF contract. All of Kaufman County was recommended. 15 were recommended as FMPs. One project was reclassified and recommended as an FME. One project was not recommended due to a lack of alignment with RFPG established goals. The project did not have flood management benefits.

Amended Plan FMP Summary:

The Final Regional Flood Plan included seven (7) FMPs. The Amended Regional Flood Plan will include 56 FMPs. 49 newly created FMPs were reviewed and recommended for inclusion. The distribution of FMP types was reviewed. For example, 27 FMPs consisted of new infrastructure and 11 consisted of storm drain improvements. 20 new FMPs were reclassified and recommended as new FMEs.

The Final Regional Flood Plan FMP impacts were contrasted with the Amended Regional Flood Plan FMP Impacts. The Amended Regional Flood Plan FMP impact significantly increased property, structure, and life flood exposure reduction from FMPs. For example, if all FMPs were implemented under the Final Regional Flood Plan, 11,516 people would potentially benefit and be removed from flood risk. If all FMPs were implemented under the Amended Regional Flood Plan, 19,811 people would potentially benefit and be removed from flood risk.

Amended Plan FME Summary:

165 new FMEs were recommended for inclusion in the Amended Regional Flood Plan. In addition, 18 new Sponsors were identified.

Amended Plan FMS Summary:

Two newly developed FMSs were recommended for inclusion in the Amended Regional Flood Plan. One was a Property Acquisition and the other was a region-wide Nature-Based Solutions Project Planning and Analysis.

Sarah Standifer requested guidance on future communication with communities or sponsors that had submitted projects but were not recommended for inclusion in the Regional Flood Plan. Once the Amended Regional Flood Plan is adopted, the Technical

Consultants will reach out to those communities or sponsors and provide an explanation for exclusion. Communities or sponsors will have an opportunity to provide additional materials and resubmit.

An amendment process will be established to submit new FMXs. Glenn Clingenpeel asked TWDB for clarification on project funding eligibility. Upon adoption of the State Flood Plan by the TWDB Board, all related flood funding must be used for projects in the State Flood Plan, according to the enabling legislation that created the FIF program. All projects must be in the State Flood Plan to receive funding. A budget approved by the House and Senate of the Texas State Legislature has been sent to the Texas Governor. This budget includes additional funding, over 600 million dollars, for flood-related projects. This will be intended for FIF or a similar program. Preliminary meetings have been held to determine the next steps. TWDB clarified that the flood planning process is a bottom-up approach and would require regional approval or recommendation for projects as a prerequisite to funding them. If the Governor signs the budget, FIF funding could be available early next year before the State Flood Plan adoption. Internal discussions on funding are underway. Once the State Flood Plan is adopted in September 2024, any projects funded will have to be in the State Flood Plan. If Regional Flood Plans are amended to accommodate additional FMXs before FIF application deadlines, the TWDB anticipates working with the RFPGs to amend the State Flood Plan. Amendments will most likely be driven by FIF funding availability and deadlines.

Scott Harris commented on the lack of recommended FMXs in the mid to lower Trinity Basin. He noted that there is still work to be done in the lower basin to ensure that all entities receive the support they need to bring forward FMXs.

II. Chapter updates – Stephanie Griffin with Halff

The Amended Regional Flood Plan is a revision of the Final Regional Flood Plan, which was submitted to the TWDB in January. It also includes additional FMXs, and updated chapters, tables, figures, and appendices. The Amended Regional Flood Plan is a reissue of the Final Regional Plan. The sections updated are the Executive Summary, Chapter 1, Chapter 4, Chapter 5, Chapter 6, Chapter 9, and Chapter 10. Appendices were also revised. Appendix A, B, E, F, and G. A new Appendix, L, was added to summarize changes from the Final Regional Plan to the Amended Regional Flood Plan.

The next steps included the revision of the Draft Amended Regional Flood Plan that included comments received, results of the sponsor funding survey (Chapter 9), and editorial, map, table, and other minor edits. The Amended Regional Flood Plan will be sent to print on July 6,

2023, and sent to TWDB by July 14, 2023. All updated documents are available on the Region 3 Trinity RFPG [website](#).

- b. * Consider approval of recommended FMEs, FMPs and FMSs for inclusion in the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to approve the recommended FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs as presented for inclusion in the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan.

Motion: Scott Harris moved to approve the recommended FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs as presented for inclusion in the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan;

Second: Sarah Standifer;

Action: Motion passed unanimously

- c. * Consider approval of revising and submitting the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan to TWDB by July 14, 2023

Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel called for a motion to approve the revision and submittal of the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan to TWDB by July 14, 2023 as presented with discretion to make minor changes.

Motion: Sarah Standifer motioned to approve the revision and submittal of the Amended Region 3 Trinity Regional Flood Plan to TWDB by July 14, 2023 as presented with discretion to make minor changes;

Second: Galen Roberts;

Action: Motion passed unanimously

Updates from liaisons for adjoining coastal regions

- a. Region 5 Neches RFPG: No update was provided.
- b. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG: Scott Harris had no update to provide. Glenn Clingenpeel noted that Region 6 did adopt their Plan. Todd Burrer complemented Glenn Clingenpeel on his presentation in Corpus Christi.

Update from Planning Group Sponsor

The TWDB acknowledged receipt of the TRA Budget Memorandum email. TWDB will meet with internal staff to check the status and see if any further action is needed from TRA.

*Review administrative costs requiring certification

There were no administrative costs requiring certification.

* Discuss Planning Group activities post submittal of the amended plan.

including the potential formation of subcommittees –

Glenn Clingenpeel informed the RFPG that this is a standing item on the agenda. This is if the RFPG decides there is any interest in forming a subcommittee. There is no funding available, but TRA is available to facilitate a subcommittee or working group to review specific aspects related to flood planning or flood risk reduction in the Trinity basin. In addition, a subcommittee will need to be formed to work through the solicitation process for consultant procurement for the next flood planning cycle. Galen Roberts supported the decision to establish a consultant procurement subcommittee. The formation of the subcommittee will be added to the next agenda item for the RFPG meeting on October 5, 2023.

Receive registered public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

Mr. Clingenpeel opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received and the public comment section was closed.

Announcements

Greg Waller with the National Weather Service provided an update. On October 1, 2023, the NWS will publish flood inundation maps. It is currently a GIS data layer shapefile but will become web-based in 2024. Flood inundation maps will include the Trinity River Basin east of I-35 to the Louisiana border. Within the next two years, the entire state will be mapped. Targeted training from the weather forecast office and river forecast center will be available in the near future. The National Water Model and the River Forecast Center will forecast through this.

Jerry Cotter with the United States Army Corps of Engineers provided an update. The USACE will be reviewing all reservoir dam gate operating procedures for the 8 reservoirs within the Trinity River Basin.

Confirm meeting date for next meeting

October 5, 2023 at 10 am, Location and Tour TBD.

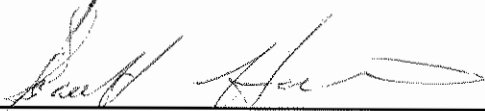
Consider agenda for next meeting

Adjourn

11:57 AM adjourned

* Denotes Action Item

THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ARE CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP
HELD JUNE 29, 2023.



SCOTT HARRIS, Secretary
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/4/23

Date



GLENN CLINGENPEEL, Chair
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/5/2023

Date