

Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2024
2:00 p.m.

The Region 3 Trinity Flood Planning Group convened a public meeting, in person as well as virtual, on Thursday, July 11, 2024, 2:00 p.m.
Chairman Glenn Clingenpeel opened the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

Voting Members Present:

Chad Ballard, joined after roll call
Sano Blocker, absent
Melissa Bookhout
Glenn Clingenpeel
Rachel Ickert
Craig Ottman, alternate for Rachel Ickert
Scott Harris, absent
Andrew Isbell, absent
Jordan Macha, absent
Galen Roberts
Matt Robinson
Lissa Shepard
Sarah Standifer, absent

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

Ex Officio Members Present:

Susan Alvarez, joined after roll call
Steve Bednarz
Kris Robles for John Blount
Justin Bower, absent
Todd Burrer
Humberto (Bert) Galvan
Diane Howe, absent
Lonnie Hunt, absent
Risa King, absent
Neely Kirkland, joined after roll call
Manuel Martinez
Katie Koslan
Mark LeMense for Andrea Sanders
Andrea Sanders, absent
Matthew Lepinski
Lisa McCracken, absent
Greg Waller
Adam Whisenant
Amanda Young, absent

Approval of the Minutes of the April 4, 2024, Meeting

Motion: Lissa Shepard
Second: Rachel Ickert

Acknowledgement of written public comments received

No written public comments were received.

Receive registered public comments on specific agenda items

No registered public comments were received.

TWDB Update – Katie Koslan, TWDB

Katie Koslan, TWDB Project Manager for Region 3 RFPG, provided an update. Ms. Koslan informed the group that guidance regarding amendments to the flood plan was sent at the end of May. She emphasized that if the group intends to amend the region's plan, they should review this guidance. She also provided an update on the final payment process, mentioning that the timeline for releasing retainage and closing out the contract would likely be in August. Ms. Koslan confirmed that the group could amend the plan up to three times using current funds. She advised the group to wait until they have a significant amount of information or projects to amend the plan to make the process worthwhile. Ms. Koslan was unsure whether the entire plan would need to be resubmitted through the amendment process and will inform the RFPG once guidance has been developed by TWDB. She suggested that the group consider the potential workload and funding implications when deciding whether to amend the plan now or wait for the next cycle.

Ms. Koslan clarified that the next cycle for FIF (Flood Infrastructure Fund) funding would be in 2026. She mentioned that no additional state funding would be available for the current cycle, and the current FIF applications for 2024 had not yet been processed. Ms. Koslan discussed the timeline for submitting the state flood plan, stating that TWDB needs to submit it to the legislature by September 1, 2024. She also confirmed that the official state flood plan should be ready for the next FIF cycle set for 2026.

Update from the Policy Subcommittee – Rachel Ickert, TRWD

Rachel Ickert, TRWD, stated there were no updates.

Updates from liaisons for adjoining coastal regions

- a. Region 5 Neches RFPG: Chad Ballard stated there were no updates.

- b. Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG: Todd Burrer stated that technical consultant request for qualifications have been issued for Region 6.

Update from Planning Group Sponsor – Glenn Clingenpeel, TRA

- a. Status of contracts for second cycle of planning

TRA received one applicant under the request for qualifications and one proposal under the request for proposals. The proposal was reviewed and approved by the RFPG. Half Associates, Inc was selected as the Technical Consultant. The subconsultant team will consist of Freese and Nichols, Nathan D. Maier, Cooksey Communications and Dr. Nicholas Fang. TRA Board of Directors approved the contract. The Engineering Services Agreement (ESA) is being reviewed by TWDB. Once the ESA is approved, TRA and Half Associates will execute the contract.

- b. Overview of amendment process for Regional and Statewide Flood Plans

There was considerable discussion on the amendment process. Ms. Koslan emphasized that amendments to the regional plan could be made by the RFPG and suggested that they consider amending the plan once they have a substantial amount of information to include. Mr. Clingenpeel raised the point that the RFPG should establish a protocol for deciding when to amend the plan, ensuring that it is done when there is a critical mass of FMXs to justify the effort. Mr. Clingenpeel highlighted that projects need to be included in the state plan, not just the regional plan, to qualify for FIF funding. The RFPG needs to be notified when the next round of FIF funding would be available from TWDB in order to have the plan amended before that time.

Mr. Clingenpeel proposed that the group revisit the process used previously to include additional projects in the plan, ensuring that the process is formal and that any projects included are adequately prepared and meet the necessary criteria. Mr. Clingenpeel suggested that the RFPG consider whether to focus on amending the current plan or working towards a new plan for 2028. Mr. Clingenpeel emphasized the importance of making this decision to avoid continuously amending the current plan without building towards a more comprehensive future plan. Mr. Clingenpeel asked Ms. Koslan for clarification on whether the entire plan would need to be resubmitted for amendments and emphasized the importance of keeping the amendment process as simple as possible. Mr. Clingenpeel also discussed the need for an assessment and prioritization of projects when considering amendments.

It was also suggested that in the next flood planning cycle, a more proactive and targeted approach is needed to identify high-risk areas and engage with entities that might lack the resources to bring projects forward. It was proposed that a more structured and targeted call for projects be put in place, potentially focusing on areas with significant flood risk and insufficient

resources.

Receive registered public comments – limit 3 minutes per person

No registered public comments were received.

Announcements

Rachel Ickert and Craig Ottman, TRWD, discussed the levels of all TRWD reservoirs.

Lissa Shepard, Dallas County, discussed their current FIF study called the Dallas County Inland Port Flood Planning Study. Communication has been adequate with the TWDB. The project will be completed soon and will be submitted to the RFPG for inclusion in the regional flood plan.

Matthew Lepinski, USACE, provided an update. USACE has been working collaboratively with their InFRM partners and state and local partners on training videos that are directly related to the InFRM viewers available online, such as the flood decision support toolbox, the BLE viewer and the new watershed hydrology assessment viewer. The videos are relevant to the RFPG and USACE would appreciate any feedback.

Greg Waller, NWS, provided an update. The NWS is expecting an above normal hurricane/tropical storm year. The impacts of these weather events can be felt significantly far inland. The number one killer in these events is the inland flood effect. The NWS has dealt with three storms so far this year that have affected the Texas area.

Sue Alvarez, NCTCOG, provided an update. NCTCOG is working on the Regional Climate Pollution Reduction Project and developing a comprehensive Climate Action Plan for the region. The NCTCOG has issued a call for projects that are not currently listed in the existing plan. They will be conducting benefit cost analysis. They are also running models for air quality on priority pollutants and greenhouse gas reductions.

Glenn Clingenpeel, TRA, provided an update on the Trinity River Mid-Basin Watershed Study funded by FIF. The study developed baseline hydraulic modeling for approximately 100 stream miles of the Main Stem of the Trinity River from Freestone County to the headwaters of Lake Livingston in Polk and San Jacinto counties. At least three Trinity Tributaries spanning approximately 155 stream miles were studied. The study incorporated existing models and model development produced under the regional flood plan. Alternatives for potential flood risk reduction were proposed. Multiple alternatives were analyzed, but only one, a Flood Warning System, will be recommended to the RFPG for inclusion in the regional flood plan. The study was finalized and approved by the

TWDB in May 2024. Mr. Clingenpeel also provided an update on Lake Livingston.

Confirm meeting date for next meeting

Friday, October 4th at 9:00 am.

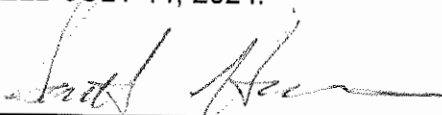
Consider agenda for next meeting

Recommendation for filling the Small Business Interest Category and Region 5 alternate

Adjourn

3:18 pm p.m. adjourned

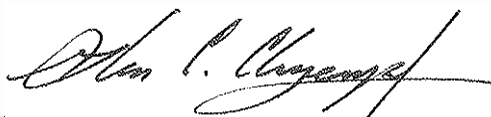
THE ABOVE AND FOREGOING ARE CERTIFIED TO BE TRUE AND CORRECT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP HELD JULY 11, 2024.



SCOTT HARRIS, Secretary
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/4/24

Date



GLENN CLINGENPEEL, Chair
REGION 3 TRINITY FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

12/4/2024

Date