

Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting  
Sabine River Authority Main Office, Orange TX  
April 10, 2023  
1:00 PM

NOTE: This meeting will be conducted in person and via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/6418597377?pwd=a2svTVhpbzJML1h3M3Y3SXVHaWV5QT09>

**Location:** Meeting will be held at the Sabine River Authority of Texas, Main Office, Hwy 87 N, Orange, TX 77632.

If you wish to provide written comments prior to or after the meeting, please email your comments to [comments@sabine-rfpg.org](mailto:comments@sabine-rfpg.org) and include "Region 4. Sabine River Flood Planning Group Meeting" in the subject line of the email.

This meeting is a public meeting under Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

If you choose to participate in the meeting using the conference call number below, please be prepared to identify yourself. So, we can record your attendance. Telephone conference call phone number:

<b>Phone Number:</b>	<b>+1 346 248 7799</b>
<b>Meeting Number:</b>	<b>641 859 7377</b>
<b>Access Code:</b>	<b>857302.</b>

Additional information may be obtained from:

Mark Howard  
RMPD Division Manager  
Sabine River Authority of Texas  
12777 Hwy 87 N.  
Orange, Texas 77632  
(409) 746-2192  
[mhoward@sratx.org](mailto:mhoward@sratx.org).

# **Sabine RFPG meeting**

**Sabine River Authority, Orange, TX**

**April 10, 2023 – 1:00 PM AGENDA**

1. Call to Order.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

2. Roll Call.

Presenter: Jeff Rogers, Secretary

3. Receive public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker).

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

4. Discussion and Approval of minutes from the previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meeting held on March 20, 2023:

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

5. Update from Chair.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

6. Update from the Texas Water Development Board

Presenter: Ryke Moore

7. Region 5. Neches RFPG Report.

Presenter: Don Carona

8. Update from Technical Consultant, Freese and Nichols.

Presenter: Mat Leclair

- Review of comments for Sabine Regional Flood Plan (RFP),
- Changes made to Final Sabine RFP,
- Task 12 Updates

9. Consider date and agenda items for next meeting.

Presenter: Travis Williams Chair

10. Adjourn.

Presenter: Travis Williams, Chair

**AGENDA ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

Chair Travis Williams will call the meeting to order.

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

## AGENDA ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

**PRESENTED BY: JEFF ROGERS, SECRETARY**

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/ Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)</u>
James (Bill) Bruce	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	
Johnny Trahan	<i>Counties</i>	
Francis X. Shannon	<i>Electric generating utilities</i>	
Clyde V. "Tad" McKee III	<i>Environmental interests</i>	
Don Carona	<i>Flood districts</i>	
Nikki Davis	<i>Industries</i>	
Alton Bradley	<i>Municipalities</i>	
Michelle Falgout	<i>Public</i>	
Travis Williams	<i>River authorities</i>	
Jeff Rogers	<i>Small business</i>	
Roman D. Griffin	<i>Water districts</i>	
Ross Gordon	<i>Water utilities</i>	

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present (V-Virtual, P-Physical)/ Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Vacant	General Land Office (GLO)	
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)	
Andrea Sanders	Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)	
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB)	
Ryke Moore	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	

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### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Number of voting members or alternates present. \_\_\_\_\_

Seven voting members are required for a quorum.

Quorum is present, Yes, or No?

**AGENDA ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Receive public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

**AGENDA ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Discussion and approval of minutes from the March 20, 2023, Region 4, Sabine RFG meeting.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Discuss and approve minutes from March 20, 2023.

**MOTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **SECOND:** \_\_\_\_\_ **APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PROJECT:** Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group (RFPG)  
**NAME OF MEETING:** Region 4 Sabine RFPG Meeting  
**RECORDED BY:** Mat Leclair, PE, CFM, CPESC  
**DATE:** March 20, 2023; 9:00am  
**LOCATION:** Virtual and In-Person (SRA Office – Orange, TX)

*The following reflects our understanding of the items discussed during the subject meeting. If you do not notify us within five working days, we will assume that you are in agreement with our understanding.*

Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) / Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)
James (Bill) Bruce	Agriculture Interests	
Johnny Trahan	Counties	X
Francis X. Shannon	Electric Generating Utilities	
Clyde V. McKee III	Environmental Interests	
Don Carona	Flood Districts	*
Nikki Davis	Industries	X
Alton Bradley	Municipalities	X
Michelle Falgout	Public	X
Travis Williams	River Authorities	X
Jeff Rogers	Small Business	X
Roman D. Griffin	Water Districts	X
Ross Gordon	Water Utilities	X

Voting Members: 9

Voting Members Present: 12

Quorum: **Yes**

Non-Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) / Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)
*vacant*	General Land Office	
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	
Andrea Sanders	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
Robert (Bob) Baker	Texas Parks and Wildlife	X
Trey Watson	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Ryke Moore	Texas Water Development Board	X



Other Meeting Attendees:

Mat Leclair (FNI)

Allison Hand (FNI)

Doug Manning (OCDD)

Marvin Benoit (City of Orange)

Mark Howard (SRA)

Christine Gartner (SRA)

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order**

- Travis Williams called the meeting called to order at 9:02 am.

**Agenda Item 2: Roll Call**

- Mark Howard confirmed quorum with 8 out of 12 voting members.
- Doug Manning (OCDD) arrived after the roll was called and serves as an alternate for Don Carona, bringing the total voting members to 9.

**Agenda Item 3: Receive public comments (public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)**

- No comments were presented.

**Agenda Item 4: Discussion and Approval of minutes from the previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meeting on January 17, 2023.**

- **Johnny Trahan motions to adopt the minutes as presented and Nikki Davis seconds the motion. Motion passes.**

**Agenda Item 5: Updates from Chair**

- Travis Williams received most invoices and reimbursement from TWDB. Currently waiting on invoice #6.
- Travis Williams thanks Ryke Moore and TWDB for getting invoices being processed
- Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> – TWDB hosted a call with group chairs.
  - o Discussion of timeline for amendment
  - o Discussion of FMX ranking
- SRA forwarded an email regarding the ranking process.
- Webinar on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9am regarding the ranking process, hosted by TWDB

**Agenda Item 6: Updates from Texas Water Development Board**

- Ryke Moore notes the following:
  - o Payment requests are moving through.
  - o Stakeholder meeting on 3/22 and it is highly recommended to go to it. Ryke collecting emails and forwarding on to those at TWDB.

**Agenda Item 7: Updates from Region 5, Neches RFPG Report.**

- OCDD was not present at the meeting at the time of this item in the agenda. Discussion tabled.

**Agenda Item 8: Update from Technical Consultant, Freese and Nichols**

- Mat Leclair provided an update on the following items:
  - o FMX Ranking Process
    - TWDB opened up the process for the FMX rankings in early March.

- TWDB will be hosting a webinar on 3/22 to discuss the ranking process with open time for Q&A.
- Mat outlined an example of the scoring metrics and process for the highest ranking FME in the Sabine region.
- Mat outlined some statistics of the top 10 FMEs per region noting that the Sabine region's FMEs ranked in the top half across the state.
- Mat outlined some statistics of the top 100 FMEs across the entire state noting that the Sabine region was in the top third with 7 projects.
- Mat outlined some initial thoughts on the ranking process and a discussion was had with the RFPG members.
- Task 12 Modeling
  - Mat provided an overview of the streams in Orange County being modeled as well as currently proposed detention ponds under Task 12.
  - Terry Gully Detention Ponds 1 through 4 were outlined showing their modeled benefits
  - Claiborne Park detention pond was outlined with its modeled benefits.
  - Kinard Estates drainage improvements were outlined with modeled benefits.
  - Future detention evaluations (Lawrence Road, Upper Cow Bayou, and Upper Adams Bayou, and Cole Creek) were discussed.
  - An overview of Parker Creek, located in the City of Marshall was provided as well as anticipated areas to be targeted.
- New FMXs to be added to Sabine Amended RFP
  - FMPs are anticipated to be added from Hunt County, Upper Sabine study in Longview/Kilgore, and the Task 12 modeling in Orange County and the City of Marshall.
  - FMEs are anticipated to be added from the City of Marshall, Rains County, and coordination with other studies occurring in the region.
- Timeline leading to Amended Plan
  - Mat noted the deadline for inclusion in the amended plan is March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - April 2023 is expected to outline new FMXs and update the group on Task 12 modeling.
  - May 2023 is expected to have the RFPG vote on the inclusion of new FMXs in the plan as well as changing current FMEs into FMPs.
  - June 2023 is expected to have the amended plan delivered to SRA and the RFPG for final review ahead of adoption/approval of the plan
  - July 2023 will be submitting the Amended RFP to TWDB no later than Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Agenda Item 9: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting.**

- Travis Williams proposes the next meeting to be held on **Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.**

**Agenda Item 10: Adjourn**

- **Johnny Trahan motions to adjourn the meeting and Doug Manning seconds the motion. Travis Williams ended the meeting at 11:02 am.**

**AGENDA ITEM 5: UPDATE FROM CHAIR.**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

On March 20, 2023, Don Corona submitted a letter stating that he would be stepping down from the Sabine RFPG as a voting member. Mr. Corona recommended Doug Manning as his replacement representing Flood Districts. Notice for nominations to the Sabine RGPG was posted on the Sabine-RFPG website and emailed to all county Clerks in the Basin on March 22, 2023, in accordance with the Sabine RFPG Bylaws Section 4.1, filling vacancies. The deadline for submitting nominations is May 1, 2023.

**Accounting:**

Invoice Date	Description	Amount	Balance
4/13/2021	Initial Grant Balance		\$ 947,600.00
9/21/2021	Meeting Room Rental Center Tx	\$ (325.00)	\$ 947,275.00
12/2/2021	FNI Invoice #1 (May 2021-Oct 2021)	\$ (189,476.02)	\$ 757,798.98
2/17/2021	FNI Invoice #2 (Sep 2021-Dec 2021)	\$ (168,886.58)	\$ 588,912.40
2/27/2022	Contract Amendment	\$ 569,600.00	\$ 1,158,512.40
3/28/2022	FNI Invoice #3 (Jan 2022-Feb 2022)	\$ (89,830.95)	\$ 1,068,681.45
9/9/2021	FNI Invoice #4 (Mar 2022-Apr 2022)	\$ (94,528.50)	\$ 974,152.95
10/17/2022	FNI Invoice #5 (May 2022-Jun 2022)	\$ (92,202.20)	\$ 881,950.75
10/17/2022	FNI Invoice #6 (Jul 2022-Aug 2022)	\$ (117,152.46)	\$ 765,123.29
1/3/2023	FNI Invoice #7 (Sep 2022-Nov 2022) *	\$ (159,587.91)	
	Balance		\$ 605,535.38

\* Waiting for reimbursement of Invoice #6 from TWDB, to pay Invoice #7.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

**AGENDA ITEM 6: UPDATE FROM THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD.**

**PRESENTED BY: RYKE MOORE, TWDB**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

**AGENDA ITEM 7: REGION 5. NECHES RFPG REPORT.**

**PRESENTED BY: DON CARONA**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

**AGENDA ITEM 8: UPDATE FROM TECHNICAL  
CONSULTANT, FREESE AND NICHOLS.**

**PRESENTED BY: MAT LECLAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- Discussion of TWDB State Flood Plan Ranking Criteria
- Task 12 update,
- Timeline leading up to the submittal of the amended plan in July.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

No action required.

# Regional Flood Plan Updates (April 2022)



- Task 12 Update
- FMXs to be added
- TWDB Ranking Process
- Timeline to Amended Plan



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## Task 12 Update

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## Task 12 Effort



FME	Cost	BCR	Status
Kinard Estates Study	\$87 M	0.2	Complete
Terry Gully Detention 1	\$46 M	0.4	Complete
Terry Gully Detention 2	\$14 M	0.3	Complete
Terry Gully Detention 3	\$92 M	0.1	Complete
Terry Gully Detention 4	\$60 M	0.1	Complete
Claiborne Park Detention	\$121 M	0.2	Complete

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## Task 12 Effort



FME	Cost	BCR	Status
Upper Adams Bayou Detention			Detention evaluated, BCR and cost estimate in progress
Cole Creek Detention			Detention evaluated, BCR and cost estimate in progress
Upper Cow Bayou Detention			Detention evaluated, BCR and cost estimate in progress
Lawrence Road Detention Pond			Detention evaluated, BCR and cost estimate in progress
Elevation of Feeder Road Bridge Along IH-10 at Cole Creek Study	\$1.3 M		Modeling complete, BCA in progress
Parker Creek Corridor Study			Alternatives analyses in progress

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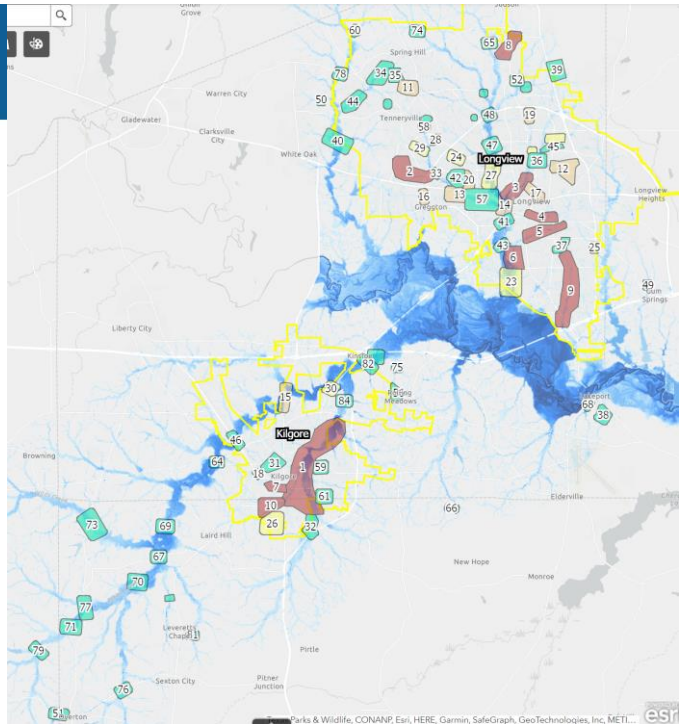


## Sabine RFP – New FMXs

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### New FMEs

- Upper Sabine FIF Study (Longview/Kilgore)
  - 84 Study Areas
  - Neighborhood Flooding Studies
  - Bridge/Transportation Flooding
- City of Marshall
  - Drainage Improvements
  - Detention Ponds
- Hunt County Phase 2
- Upper Sabine Phase 2



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## New FMSs

REGION 4  
**SABINE**  
REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

1. Hunt County
  - Hunt County Flood Warning & Public Safety
2. Collin County
  - City of Nevada NFIP Ordinance development
3. Rockwall County
  - Rockwall County Warning Signs
  - Rockwall County Flood Prevention Ordinance
4. Van Zandt County
  - Wills Point Structure Permitting
5. Kaufman County
  - Kaufman County Regulation Standards
  - Kaufman County High Hazard Dams Monitoring
  - Kaufman County Flood Education Program
6. General Area
  - Upper Sabine Gages



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## New FMPs

REGION 4  
**SABINE**  
REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

- Orange County
  - Terry Gully Detention Ponds
  - Claiborne Park Detention
  - Kinard Estates Improvements
  - Lawrence Road Detention
  - Upper Cow Detention
  - Upper Adams Detention
  - Cole Creek Detention
  - Elevation of I-10 Feeder Road
  - Parker Creek Improvements
- Hunt County
  - CR 2400 Improvements
  - CR 2706 Improvements
  - CR 3101 Improvements
  - CR 4105 Improvements
  - CR 4106 Improvements
- Property Acquisition/Buyout
  - Recommending a change from FMS to FMP

**FNI will provide a final list – anticipating late April to early May – for FMXs to the Sabine RFPG for review ahead of voting in May 2023.**

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## TWDB Ranking Process

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### FMX Ranking Process

- TWDB must create a ranked list
  - Part of the RFP Process & within statutes
- Email from TWDB on March 2<sup>nd</sup> soliciting input on FMX Ranking Criteria
  - <http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/sfp/index.asp>
  - Sabine RFPG granted an extension to 4/14
  - Deadline for response was then extended to April 14<sup>th</sup> for all regions

**Texas Water Development Board**

Home Board Financial Assistance Water Planning Groundwater Surface Water Flood Drought

### State Flood Planning

In 2019, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 8 directing the creation of the first-ever state flood plan for Texas. Statute requires that all recommended flood mitigation projects be ranked in the state flood plan. The 15 Regional Flood Planning Groups (RFPG), designated by the TWDB in 2020, will submit their amended regional flood plans to TWDB by July 10, 2023. The TWDB will combine the approved regional flood plans into a single state flood plan to be delivered to the Legislature by September 1, 2024.

### Soliciting Stakeholder Feedback on Proposed Methods for Ranking Recommended Flood Mitigation Projects

**Submission Deadline: Extended to April 14, 2023**

[ONLINE FEEDBACK FORM](#)

The Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) is soliciting public feedback on proposed methods for ranking recommended Flood Management Evaluations (FME), Flood Mitigation Projects (FMP), Flood Management Strategies (FMS) in the 2024 State Flood Plan. The intent of the TWDB ranking methods for the state flood plan is to provide a consistent approach to be used across all Texas regions to systematically address, in general, the flood hazard with most population, properties and critical facilities at risk first in the state during a 1% annual chance flood. The proposed

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## FMX Ranking Process

- In conference call on 3/22, TWDB requested for recommended changes to implement.
  - **Comments need to be productive**
  - **Comments need to be specific and actionable.**
- We do recognize the effort that went into the creation of the ranked lists and commends TWDB on that undertaking, the effort to compile FMXs across the state, and for being open with the process and being receptive to feedback.

**Texas Water Development Board**

Home Board Financial Assistance Water Planning Groundwater Surface Water Flood Drought

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## FMX Ranking Process



- Supporting Information for stakeholders
  - [https://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/sfp/doc/Supporting\\_StakeholderFeedbackSolicitation.pdf](https://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/sfp/doc/Supporting_StakeholderFeedbackSolicitation.pdf)
- Ranking is generally intended:
  - to identify areas with the worst existing risk of flooding in the 1% annual chance floodplain
  - to identify flood risk mitigation solutions that may result in greater overall reduction in flood risk
  - to primarily focus on projects with the greater potential to mitigate the risk to life and property
- Ranking is **NOT** intended:
  - **as a method for allocating state funding.** Future funding decisions will occur through a separate TWDB process if and when funds are appropriated by the Texas Legislature.
- “provide a consistent and even-handed approach to be used across all Texas regions to systematically address, in general, the flood hazard with most population, properties and critical facilities at risk first in the state during a 1% annual chance flood.”
- “The proposed process aims to result in a ranking with a focus on (a) severity of flood risk and (b) reduction of flood risk and impact to life and property as required by 86th Texas Legislature Senate Bill 8.”

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## Timeline to Amended Plan

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- May 2023
  - RFPG to vote on inclusion of new FMXs
  - RFPG to vote on changing some FMEs to FMPs
- June 2023
  - Early June: FNI submits final Amended RFP documents to SRA/RFPG for final review
  - Late June: **Adoption of Amended Plan by RFPG**
- July 2023
  - FNI compiles Amended Plan hard copies and prepares for submittal to TWDB.
  - **Submittal of Amended Plan to TWDB by Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>**

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# Questions/Comments/Concerns?

**AGENDA ITEM 9: CONSIDER DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS  
FOR NEXT MEETING.**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Suggested dates for next meeting:

May 16 Tuesday

May 17 Wednesday

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**AGENDA ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT**

**PRESENTED BY: TRAVIS WILLIAMS, CHAIR**

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

There being no other business, Chair Williams will entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting.

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

**MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_**