

**PROJECT:** Sabine Regional Flood Planning Group (RFPG)  
**NAME OF MEETING:** Region 4 Sabine RFPG Meeting  
**RECORDED BY:** Mat Leclair, PE, CFM, CPESC  
**DATE:** August 30, 2022; 1:00pm  
**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	X
Johnny Trahan	Counties	X
Francis X. Shannon	Electric Generating Utilities	X
Clyde V. McKee III	Environmental Interests	X
Don Carona	Flood Districts	X
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: 12

Voting Members Present: 12

Quorum: **Yes**

Non-Voting Member	Interest Category	Present (x) / Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)
Colleen Jones	General Land Office	
Kathy Saucedo	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Manuel Martinez	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
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)

Susana Cabrera (FNI)

Mike Reedy (FNI)

Doug Manning (OCDD)

Jamie East (SRA)

James Bronikowski (TWDB)

Reem Zoun (TWDB)

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order**

- Travis Williams called the meeting called to order at 1:30 pm.

**Agenda Item 2: Roll Call**

- Mark Howard confirmed quorum with 10 out of 12 voting members.
  - o Nikki Davis and Clyde (Tad) McKee joined the meeting after the roll was called, bringing the total RFPG members to 12.

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

- No members of the public online.
- No comments from the public.

**Agenda Item 4: Discussion and Approval of minutes from the two previous Region 4 Sabine RFPG meetings, July 27, 2022 and August 10, 2022.**

- **James (Bill) Bruce motions to adjourn the meeting and Johnny Trahan seconds the motion. Motion passes.**

**Agenda Item 5: Updates from Chair**

- Travis Williams mentions the public meetings' dates, times, and locations.
- Johnny Trahan notes that West Orange Stark Elementary could be used for the public meeting. Travis Williams will follow up with Mark Howard.
- Michelle Falgout asks about going in person to the public meetings. Travis Williams notes that it needs to be less than quorum. Travis Williams asks that people let SRA know if they will be attending the meeting.
- Notices were posted on August 25<sup>th</sup> and adjacent regions were notified.
- Accounting to date. Waiting on reimbursement from TWDB.

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

- Ryke Moore notes that the next big RFPG item will be voting on the FMEs for Task 12
- Ryke Moore also notes that TWDB is working through the draft flood plans.

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

- Doug Manning (OCDD) attended the latest meeting and noted that there was discussion of criteria to prioritize the list of FMEs for Task 12 funding.
- FNI will return with criteria to analyze FMEs eligible for Task 12 funding.

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

- Mat Leclair provided an update on the following items:
  - o Sabine Region Draft Flood Plan
    - Delivered to TWDB on August 1
    - TWDB deemed it to be administratively complete on August 12.
    - Submittal also included the GIS data/geodatabases
  - o Public Comments
    - Public comment period is open and will be through late October 2022.
    - Public can provide comments in 3 ways: via the in-person public meetings, via email, or by mail to SRA.
  - o Schedule leading up to January 2023 deliverable
    - Anticipating mid-December meeting to approve the final plan
    - Final plan requires a 14-day posting which puts that posting date the last week of November.
    - Accounting for Thanksgiving week, FNI anticipates finalizing plan the week before Thanksgiving.
    - FNI requires time to implement changes as needed, thus, the end of the public comment period will be Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.
    - Public meetings will be held in Longview on September 26<sup>th</sup> and in Orange on September 27<sup>th</sup>.
    - The 3 hard copies of the report were delivered in Longview (Aug. 17<sup>th</sup>), Lake Tawakoni (Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>) and Orange (Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup>) meaning they were in place the required 30 days prior to the public meetings satisfying the RFP requirements.
    - James Bronikowski (TWDB) notes that the submittals for the amended plan in July 2023 will be the cutoff for TWDB for all of the data to roll up into the State's first flood plan in 2024.
  - o Tasks 11 through 13
    - Task 11 is collecting additional information related to additional stakeholder outreach.
    - Task 12 is for performing FME studies to either better identify flood risk or elevate FMEs to FMPs.
    - Task 13 is for amending Chapters 1 through 10 based on the information generated from stakeholder outreach and performing the FME studies.
  - o Task 12
    - Discussion of 3 OCDD FMEs which will be included and a 4<sup>th</sup> FME in the City of Marshall for the Parker Creek corridor. Correspondence between FNI and TWDB indicated that new FMEs could be voted upon to be included in the plan and then voted as part of Task 12 funding in the same meeting.
      - Mat notes that this was an oversight by FNI after review of previous emails between FNI and OCDD, but FNI is correcting things ASAP.
    - Scoring metrics are being developed to create an objective ranking process.
    - Floodplain mapping and drainage master plans are likely too extensive to perform and likely will not fit well with the available funding; thus, FNI has been anticipating the additional funding will go towards project planning activities.
    - The 4A Needs Analysis is also a driver of the scoring. The higher the previously determined need, the higher the score and rank a project will receive.
    - The scoring metrics were discussed, and an additional metric was added to the process regarding a community's desire and ability to construct a project, which was based on a recommendation from Ross Gordon.

- Mentimeter exercise was conducted to gather input from the RFPG members to allow them to provide weighting and priority to the scoring metrics.
- FNI will provide a memo by the end of the week to the RFPG members to outline the scoring and recommendations for the Task 12 funding so group members can review ahead of the next meeting to vote on the items.

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

- Travis Williams proposes the next meeting to be held on **September 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.**
  - Mat Leclair notes the next meeting will be on the following items:
    - Approving the 4 FMEs so they're in the plan
    - Voting on the FMEs to study with the Task 12 funding
    - Discussion of Chapter 8 recommendations and a comparison of the Sabine region compared to other regions.

**Agenda Item 10: Adjourn**

- **Clyde (Tad) McKee motions to adjourn the meeting and Jeff Rogers seconds the motion. Travis Williams ended the meeting at 2:24 pm.**