

## Meeting Minutes

### REGION 8 - LOWER BRAZOS REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

Brazos River Authority, 4600 Cobbs Dr. Waco, TX 76710

10:00am – Thursday, October 28, 2021

Meeting agenda, materials and audio recordings are available online at [www.lowerbrazosflood.org](http://www.lowerbrazosflood.org)

#### 1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Brandon Wade presided over the meeting in Waco, TX. Mr. Wade called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

#### 2. Attendance and Announcements

Susan Alford	P	Glenn Lord	P
Anthony Beach	P	Matt Phillips	P
Sujeeth Draksharam	P	Gary Spicer	P
Andrew Earles	A	Mark Vogler	P
Alysha Girard	P	Brandon Wade	P
David Lilly	P	Claudia Wright	P
P- Present, A- Absent,			

Quorum Present: **Yes**. Quorum is 3 of 5 committee members.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes from the September 23, 2021 Meeting

The September 23, 2021 meeting minutes were accepted as presented. Anthony Beach made the motion to accept the minutes and Sujeeth Draksharam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. Public Input - Public questions and comments on agenda items or flood planning issues (*limited to 3 minutes each*)

Brandon Wade opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

#### 5. Report and possible discussion on update from Region 8 Technical Consultant and possible action from the RFPG as it relates to:

##### 5.1. Floodplain Management Standards and Goals

Initial motion was made by Alysha Girard to approve the recommended Goals for adoption with the following amendments:

- Clarify the meaning of "latest rainfall data"
- Remove the term "repetitive loss" from goal, include any flooded structures
- Amend the baseline for the rainfall gauges to reference gauge types other than USGS gauges

Matt Phillips seconded the motion. The Chair opened floor to discussion, one objection to the motion was made by Sujeeth Draksharam concerning the Rainfall Data Standard, as presented. Alysha Girard clarifies that communities do not have to use the latest rainfall data to obtain funding. Sujeeth Draksharam withdraws his objection. The motion passes unanimously.

Matt Phillips made the motion for the RFPG to approve the Recommended Region-Wide Standards. Alysha Girard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The motion was made by Sujeeth Draksharam to amend the Recommended Zone Standard for Use of Best Available Rainfall Data by removing the last sentence "As of 2021, Atlas 14 (Volume 11) revised rainfall is the current best available data for rainfall estimated." Glenn Lord seconded the motion. The Recommended Zone Standard for Use of Best Available Rainfall Data approved by the RFPG states "Utilize the latest rainfall data as the more conservative rainfall estimates (for regions where applicable) as part of new analysis and design standards and flood prevention regulations." The motion passed unanimously.

##### 5.2. Process for Identifying Potentially Feasible FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs

No action was taken on Agenda Item 5.2.

##### 5.3. Updates on regional flood plan

Sam Hinojosa provided updates on the progress and next steps for the project to the RFPG.

#### 6. Discussion and possible action on formation of Technical Committees for Region 8

No discussion or action was taken on this item.

**7. Report from Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff.**

Ryke Moore, TWDB Planner provided the report from TWDB, the TWDB provided the draft contract amendments to the Regional Flood Planning Groups and has requested feedback by November 15th. The TWDB will host a webinar on this contract amendment on November 2nd.

**8. Report from the Regional Planning Sponsor**

Pam Hannemann provided the report from the Sponsor.

**8.1. Finance Report**

The finance will be a standing agenda item for future meetings. The RFPG must certify and approve the planning group Sponsor's expenditures for those expenses to be reimbursed by the TWDB.

**8.2. Other updates**

The Planning Group Sponsor has a new email: LBFlood@brazos.org

**9. Approval and certification of the finance report expenditures**

The financial report of expenditures through August 31, 2021 was approved as presented. Alysha Girard made the motion to approve the finance report and Sujeeth Draksharam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**10. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Planning Group Sponsor to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB, to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget.**

The RFPG authorized "the Planning Group Sponsor to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB, to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget". Sujeeth Draksharam made the motion for the planning group to approve this action item as read and Glenn Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**11. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Planning Group Sponsor to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant subcontract with the technical consultant, Halff Associates, to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget.**

The RFPG authorized "the Planning Group Sponsor to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Regional Flood Planning Grant subcontract with the technical consultant, Halff Associates, to incorporate additional funding for the first cycle of regional flood planning, including necessary revisions to the contract scope of work and budget." Sujeeth Draksharam made the motion for the planning group to approve this action item as read and Susan Alford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**12. Report from Non-voting Member Agencies (TPWD, TDEM, TDA, TSSWCB, GLO, TCEQ, USACE, FEMA, Fort Bend Subsidence District and Brazoria County)**

No updates were provided by non-voting member agencies.

**13. Report from Liaisons (Region 6, Coastal, Region 7, Brazos G and Region H)**

Liaisons did not have any new updates to provide to the RFPG.

**14. Report from Lower Brazos RFPG Chair**

Brandon Wade reported that he was invited to participate in a panel discussion on Regional flood Planning by TWDB Director, Kathleen Jackson at the Water for Texas Conference. The Chair sends his regrets to the RFPG for missing the previous meeting, as he was in Baltimore, MD as he serves on the Board of Directors of the National Waterways Conference. On November 17<sup>th</sup> the Chair will sit on a panel discussion about Regional Flood Planning along with Region 6 in Houston at the Texas Public Works Association.

**15. Discussion on new business to be considered at next meeting**

No new business presented for the next meeting.

**16. Confirmation of next meeting date**

Tuesday, November 16, 2021- 10AM

Tuesday, December 14, 2021- 10AM

**17. Adjourn**

Brandon Wade adjourned the meeting at 12:48pm.

*Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the November 16, 2021 meeting.*

*MP*

[Matt Phillips \(Dec 14, 2021 08:12 CST\)](#)

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Matt Phillips, Secretary

*BrandonWade*

[BrandonWade \(Dec 13, 2021 13:40 CST\)](#)

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Brandon Wade, Chairman


# Minutes October 28 Group Meeting correctionv2


Final Audit Report


2021-12-14


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