

## Meeting Minutes

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

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

10:00 a.m. – Thursday, July 21, 2022

#### Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams

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 | Alt. Tim Finely for Glenn Lord  | P |
| Anthony Beach          | P | Matt Phillips                   | P |
| Sujeeth Drakshram      | P | Alt. Ryan Bayle for Gary Spicer | P |
| Alysha Girard          | P | Mark Vogler                     | P |
| Charlotte Gilpin       | P | Brandon Wade                    | P |
| David Lilly            | P | Claudia Wright                  | P |
| P- Present, A- Absent, |   |                                 |   |

Quorum Present: **Yes**. Quorum is 7 of 12 voting members.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes from the June 23, 2022 meeting

The June 23, 2022 meeting minutes were accepted as presented. Claudia Wright made the motion to accept the minutes and Matt Phillips 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. Steven London asked how the Texas A&M Navasota Study will impact the overall plan. Brandon Wade replied that the RFPG cannot deliberate on this question due to it not being within the agenda. However, some later discussion may be relevant.

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

##### 5.1. Comments on the Draft Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan Report

Matt Phillips discussed the paragraph in Chapter 2 regarding the Navasota River study being performed by Texas A&M. Matt Phillips requested that the wording of the paragraph be corrected to state that the purpose of the study is to investigate the flooding issues along the Navasota River. Brandon Wade expressed concern that those who are conducting the study have not reached out to the entities that rely on water supply provided by the Lake. Alysha Girard stated that it is important to indicate that the RFPG is aware of efforts in this area, and that it is not directly included in the RFP so not to duplicate efforts, as the TWDB instructed.

All RFPG members agreed that it is important to mention the ongoing study; just want to ensure that the wording is rephrased to indicate that it is a more holistic study so that it is interpreted correctly.

##### 5.2. Approve Draft Regional Flood Report for submittal to TWDB by August 1, 2022

The Chair opened the floor for the motion for approval of the Draft Regional Flood Plan for submittal to TWDB by August 1, 2022. Sujeeth Drakshram made the motion to approve the Draft Regional Flood Plan and Susan Alford seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

##### 5.3. Discuss Tasks 11, 12, and 13

Sam Hinojosa provided an overview of Tasks 11, 12, and 13. The Technical Consultant Team will bring recommendation on how to move forward with Task 12 in the September meeting for the RFPG to discuss.

Charlotte Gilpin asked how comments will be received from the public, and how the RFPG will be made aware of these comments. Sam Hinojosa replied that the Technical Consultant Team will be gathering and responding to the comments during the comment period and then bring the resulting information and responses to the RFPG at the end of the comment period. Comments should be provided by the public through the Region 8 website [www.lowerbrazosflood.org](http://www.lowerbrazosflood.org). The RFPG should expect that entities may desire to move FMXs from the non-recommended list to the recommended list by becoming the sponsor. Movement of the FMXs from one category to the other will require RFPG approval, so this will not be done on the Technical Consultant Team's recognizance. The RFPG may consider any additional FMXs in the amendment period starting in January 2023 as part of Task 12.

Alysha Girard asked what the timeline for Tasks 12 & 13 look like. Sam Hinojosa replied that these Tasks will be initiated in January 2023 after submitting the Regional Flood Plan to the TWDB. The results of the Tasks, and the amended plan will then be due in July 2023.

Charlotte Gilpin asked how the public comment period will be advertised and public input will be encouraged. Sam Hinojosa replied that the public comment period will open 8/22/2022. There will be information posted to the website as well as email and social media blasts to the contact lists previously assembled by the BRA and Technical Consultant Team. The documents will be in 3 physical locations as well as accessible through the website and the public can provide comments through the comment portal on the website or leave notes in person at the physical copies. Pam Hannemann added that the information will be advertised through the BRA newsletter as well as to anyone who has previously shown interest in the Regional Flood Planning process. Brandon Wade mentioned that it may be easier for the public to access the documentation if the online PDFs are broken into chapters.

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

Ryke Moore provided the TWDB Report to the RFPG.

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

Pam Hannemann provided the Sponsor report. The IRS has increased the mileage rate to \$0.625/mi.

**8. Report, Approval and Certification of the Finance Report expenditures**

The financial report of expenditures for June 2022 was approved as presented. Sujeeth Drakshram made the motion to approve the finance report and Alysha Girard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Non- voting members did not have any new updates to provide to the RFPG.

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

Liaisons reported on the status of these adjacent regional flood planning groups and regional water planning groups.

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

The Chair did not have a report.

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

No new business was brought forth for the next meeting

**13. Confirmation of the next meeting date**

No meeting will be held in August. The next meeting will be held on September 22, 2022. The Chair also presented the November 15 and December 13 meeting dates.

**14. Adjourn**

Brandon Wade adjourned the meeting at 10:38 AM.

*Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the September 22, 2022 meeting.*

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Matt Phillips, Secretary

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Brandon Wade, Chairman