

Meeting Minutes

REGION 8 - LOWER BRAZOS REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

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

10:00 a.m. – Thursday, September 22, 2022

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Meeting agenda, materials, and audio recordings are available online at 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 Drakshram	P	Gary Spicer	A
Alysha Girard	P	Jeff Janecek Alt. for 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 July 21, 2022 meeting

The July 21, 2022 meeting minutes were accepted as presented. Susan Alford made the motion to accept the minutes and Sujeeth Drakshram 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 comments received by the group.

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

5.1. Presentation on Draft Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan

Sam Hinojosa provided an overview of the efforts performed to create the Draft Regional Flood Plan and guidance on where to find the full documentation and how to submit public comments. Some comments have been received from the public and will be brought forth to the RFPG for consideration in October.

5.2. Comments on the Draft Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan

No comments were provided by the RFPG.

5.3. Discuss Tasks 11, 12, and 13

Sam Hinojosa provided an overview of Task 11 and how it is being utilized.

Ryan Londeen provided an overview of Tasks 12 and 13. He discussed some potential uses of the Tasks.

Alysha Girard expressed preference for utilizing Task 12 to fill in data gaps and perform high level analysis of areas in need. She explained that developing FMPs too quickly may not be beneficial without a local sponsor. Instead, using the funds to develop a better understanding where flood risk is may be more helpful. Sujeeth Drakshram agreed.

Ryke Moore stated that the intent of Task 12 is to generate FMPs more than to fill in data gaps. Glenn Lord asked if the planning group should emphasize the promotion of FMEs to FMPs over doing regional studies. Sam Hinojosa explained that by performing high level regional FMEs for understudied areas, high-level solutions would also be identified.

Sujeeth Drakshram asked if there are any specific FMEs that have sponsorship that could be easily pushed to FMPs? Could existing models and information be leveraged to develop FMPs? Ryan Londeen explained that there are some models supporting FMEs that could be promoted to FMPs. There would need to be a thorough investigation into the state of the models to see if they are in alignment with the intent and goals of the RFP.

Alysha Girard expressed concern about considering the City of Waco FMEs when they have not been approved by the RFPG. Additionally, they need to be vetted by the same standards the other FMEs were to ensure that they qualify for recommendation. She requested that the FMEs for the Upper Brushy Water Control and Improvement District not be considered for Task 12. Ryan Londeen stated that the City of Waco FMEs had not included in the recommended list initially due to miscommunication with the City of Waco. The City has stated that they wish to include FMEs/FMPs in the plan.

Sam Hinojosa stated that the most direct use of Task 12 would be to take an FME in an understudied and high-risk area and perform an analysis culminating in high-level potential FMP recommendations. Some of the non-recommended FMEs identified as part of Task 4 could be considered by the RFPG for Task 12. Alysha Girard and Brandon Wade reiterated their primary concern on performing non-sponsored FMEs was that no one would carry out the recommended FMPs once the study was complete. Sam Hinojosa replied that the team will focus on sponsored FMEs moving forward. Brandon Wade clarified that an FME could have a sponsor step up to provide support in the future.

6. Public Comments on the Draft Regional Flood Plan. Please limit public comments to 3 minutes each

No comments were provided by the public.

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

Ryke Moore provided the TWDB Report to the RFPG.

8. Report from the Regional Planning Sponsor

The Sponsor did not have a report.

9. Report, Approval and Certification of the Finance Report expenditures

The financial report of expenditures for July 2022 and August 2022 was approved as presented. Sujeeth Drakshram made the motion to approve the finance report and Glenn Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Presentation from Freese and Nichols providing a Project Status Update on the Texas General Land Office Combined River Basins Flood Study

Morgan White with Freese and Nichols provided project updates on the GLO Flood Study.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. Report from Lower Brazos RFPG Chair

The Chair did not have a report.

14. Discussion on new business to be considered at next meeting

No new business was brought forth for the next meeting

15. Confirmation of the next meeting date

The next meeting will be held on October 27, 2022.


16. Adjourn

Brandon Wade adjourned the meeting at 11:34 AM.

Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the October 27, 2022 meeting.


Matt Phillips (Oct 31, 2022 09:24 CDT)

Matt Phillips, Secretary


BrandonWade (Oct 31, 2022 10:14 EDT)

Brandon Wade, Chairman










Minutes September 22 Group Meeting

Final Audit Report

2022-10-31

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