

## Meeting Minutes

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

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

10:00 a.m. – Thursday, April 27, 2023

### 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 and Attendance

Alysha Girard presided over the meeting in Waco, TX. Ms. Girard called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Susan Alford	A	David Lilly	P
Anthony Beach	P	Glenn Lord	P
Carl Burch	P	Matt Phillips	P
Sujeeth Draksharam	P	Jeff Janecek alternate for <del>Mark Vogler</del>	P
Charlotte Gilpin	P	Brandon Wade	A
Alysha Girard	P	Claudia Wright	P

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

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

Alysha Girard opened the floor for public comments. No comments were received by the group.

#### 3. Consent Agenda

##### 3.1. Approval of Minutes from the March 23, 2023 meeting

##### 3.2. Report, Approval and Certification of the Finance Report Expenditures

Alysha Girard opened the floor for approval of the consent Agenda Items. The consent agenda items were approved as presented. Sujeeth Draksharam made the motion to approve the consent agenda items and Anthony Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 4. Report and discussion on update from Region 8 Technical Consultant

The Technical Consultant Team provided an overview of comments received from the TWDB on the Final Lower Brazos Regional Flood Plan.

The Technical Consultant Team provided an overview of the scope of work and progress to date on the Flood Early Warning System Investigation for the Lower Brazos Region. The RFPG discussed the benefits and drawbacks of local and regional systems. It was determined that gauges are crucial for improving the regional systems as well as developing local systems. The Technical Consultant Team will make general recommendations for gauge placements based on their analysis of flood risk, current gauge coverage, and other key metrics. These recommendations will be brought to the RFPG in the May meeting for their consideration.

The Technical Consultant Team provided an update on the Regional Watershed Studies. Potential stakeholders have been contacted to request their feedback on the existing conditions modeling and proposed projects. The RFPG confirmed that the projects should focus on benefiting structures or major roadways. If major roadway projects are being proposed, then coordination with TxDOT should be considered.

The Technical Consultant Team provided an update on the FME to FMP. The City of Bryan is onboard with the proposed project. There is also a need for coordination with TxDOT.

The Technical Consultant Team provided an overview of the Amendment Tasks budget and how it is broken down.

The TWDB has posted the draft changes to the Regional Flood Planning rules and guidelines. Comments are due May 22<sup>nd</sup> and can be provided to [rulescomments@twdb.texas.com](mailto:rulescomments@twdb.texas.com).

**5. Consider appointment of a Technical Committee**

The Chair proposed the formation of a Technical Committee for an in-depth evaluation of the criteria that recommended projects (FMPs) have a contributing drainage area of at least a 1 square mile. The committee's focus would be limited to determining exceptions to the 1 square mile drainage area criteria to report back to the full group at the May meeting. A motion was made by Sujeeth Draksharam on the formation of a Technical Committee to address the 1 square mile rule and the motion was seconded by Anthony Beach. The motion passed unanimously. Technical Committee members: Anthony Beach (Chair), Charlotte Gilpin, Sujeeth Draksharam.

**6. Report from:**

**6.1. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) staff**

Ryke Moore provided the TWDB Report to the RFPG.

**6.2. Regional Planning Sponsor**

Pamela Hannemann provided the Sponsor Report to the RFPG.

**6.3. Lower Brazos RFPG Liaisons and Chair**

No report from Liaisons, Chair gave a brief report.

**7. Confirm next meeting date and discuss new business to be considered at next meeting**

Next meeting will be on Thursday, May 25, 2023. Will receive a report from the Technical Committee.

**8. Adjourn**

Alysha Girard adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.

*Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the meeting held on May 25, 2023.*

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Matt Phillips, Secretary

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Alysha Girard, Chair