

Meeting Minutes

REGION 8 - LOWER BRAZOS REGIONAL FLOOD PLANNING GROUP

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

10:00 a.m. – Thursday, May 25, 2023

Hybrid Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Meeting agenda, materials, and audio recordings are available online at 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 Mark Vogler	P
Charlotte Gilpin	P	Brandon Wade	P
Alysha Girard	P	Claudia Wright	A

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 April 27, 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. Glenn Lord made the motion to approve the consent agenda items and Brandon Wade seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Report, discussion, and possible action on the report from the Technical Committee

Anthony Beach provided an overview of the discussions and conclusions covered by the Technical Committee on May 4th, 2023. Brandon Wade expressed concern on leaving out entities that did not submit potential projects due to the restrictions the Lower Brazos Region enforced on recommendation of FMPs with drainage areas less than 1 square mile. Charlotte Gilpin responded that she believes it is important to allow FMPs into the plan that qualify now. Motion to adopt the guidance set forth by the Technical Committee for exceptions to the 1 square mile rule:
If communities are willing to submit all the necessary data required by the TWDB, then recommend the FMP regardless of contributing area size if it aligns with the goals set forth by the RFPG and meet at least one of the guidance principles as defined by the RFPG:

1. *The FMP provides flood mitigation benefits to a critical facility as defined by the TWDB, FEMA, or the State of Texas.*
2. *The FMP removes an established TxDOT evacuation route from flood risk.*
3. *The FMP removes a low water crossing that is a singular ingress or egress point from flood risk.*
4. *The FMP falls within a high flood risk HUC as defined by the analysis completed under Task 4A.*
5. *The FMP provides benefits to a repetitive loss structure.*

Motion was made by Brandon Wade and seconded by Matt Phillips. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Report, discussion, and possible action on update from Region 8 Technical Consultant

5.1. Approval of FMS, FME, and FMP List

Ryan Londeen and Hector Olmos provided an overview of the FMPs developed under the Regional Watershed Studies, including information on responses received from potential sponsors. Alysha Girard requested that the Technical Consultant Team reach out to TxDOT to see if they have interest in sponsoring FMPs focused on mitigating flooding on roadways.

Sujeeth Draksharam asked what items were considered in the benefit and cost calculations. Ryan Londeen replied that the costs include construction, final design, right-of-way, and mitigation costs. Benefits to structures and roads were considered.

Sam Hinojosa provided an overview of the results and recommendations from the FEWS investigation. Alysha Girard stated that she met with representatives from the USGS and asked for them to correspond with the RFPG on our recommendations and how they relate to their goals. It is most beneficial for the region to incorporate more gauges into the USGS and NWS systems. The RFPG showing interest in the addition of gauges within the region can help the USGS move forward with more implementation. Representatives from the USGS attended the Lower Brazos RFPG meeting to hear about the work being done.

Jeff Janecek asked if all the recommended gauges could be included part of the USGS network. Sam Hinojosa replied that gauges could be installed and maintained on an individual basis by interested entities, but it would be more regionally beneficial for them to be included in the USGS system. They could potentially become forecast points for the NWS to use as well. Jeff Janecek pointed out that coordination with the USGS would need to be included in estimated maintenance costs. Alysha Girard agreed that maintenance costs are the primary constriction in getting gauges implemented. The RFPG should work to help align entities throughout the region on the importance of gauges.

Members of the RFPG inquired about sponsorship for the FEWS investigation potential FMEs and FMSs. Sam Hinojosa replied that no one has provided explicit sponsorship approval, gauges recommendations would likely need partnerships of multiple entities to move forward. The RFPG decided to not recommend any FMXs without explicit sponsorship approval.

Sam Hinojosa provided an overview of the additional FMEs and FMPs received from entities. The RFPG agreed to recommend FMEs and FMPs with sponsorship approval, including FMPs with drainage areas less than 1 square miles that meet the criteria set forth by the Technical Committee.

Anthony Beach made the motion to add the three (3) FMEs provided by sponsors, the four (4) Regional Watershed Study FMPs with sponsorship approval, all the additionally received nineteen (19) FMPs, and the two (2) FMPs from the non-recommended list that meet the Technical Committee guidelines, to their respective recommended lists, and all other FMXs to their respective non-recommended lists:

FMX Category	FMX Name	Recommendation Status
FME	Big Sandy – New Year Creek DMP	Recommended FME
FME	Nolanville Drainage Master Plan	Recommended FME
FME	Cedar Park Drainage Master Plan	Recommended FME
FME	Brazos River Flood Protection Plan Update	Non-Recommended FME
FME	City of Killeen FEWS	Non-Recommended FME
FME	City of Cleburne FEWS	Non-Recommended FME
FME	City of Stephenville FEWS	Non-Recommended FME
FME	City of Waco FEWS	Non-Recommended FME
FME	City of Georgetown FEWS	Non-Recommended FME
FMS	Lower Brazos Additional Gauges	Non-Recommended FMS
FMS	Lower Brazos Flood Warning Portal	Non-Recommended FMS
FMP	Comanche Detention	Recommended FMP
FMP	Cemetery Creek Channel and Crossing Improvements	Recommended FMP
FMP	Tributary to Sulphur Creek Benching	Recommended FMP
FMP	Diversion Improvements for South Rising Star	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	FM 219 and North Bosque River Crossing Improvement	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	Jim Neal Branch Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	Jim Neal Branch Tributary 1 Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	Jim Neal Branch Tributary 2 Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	US 180 Rock Creek Overbank Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	US 180 Rock Creek Tributary 1 Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	Bryan Boonville and Briarcrest Bridges	Recommended FMP
FMP	826 & 827 Vine St Property Flooding	Recommended FMP
FMP	Hazelwood Crossing	Recommended FMP
FMP	Panther Bridge Crossing	Non-Recommended FMP
FMP	Prairie Wind Alt 2	Recommended FMP
FMP	Lingleville Alt 2	Recommended FMP
FMP	County Road 256 Alt 1	Recommended FMP
FMP	Morgan Mill Alt 1	Recommended FMP
FMP	Long Street Alt 1	Recommended FMP
FMP	Mallard	Recommended FMP
FMP	TH Johnson Area	Recommended FMP
FMP	Davis Project Area	Recommended FMP
FMP	Bel-Air	Recommended FMP
FMP	Annie Project Area	Recommended FMP
FMP	Weaver Creek & Main St Culverts	Recommended FMP
FMP	Trib 3 and Railroad Culverts	Recommended FMP
FMP	Lake Eastland CIP 3.5	Recommended FMP
FMP	Sun Valley Levee	Recommended FMP
FMP	Straws Mill Road LWC	Recommended FMP
FMP	Leon WWTP Parapet Wall	Recommended FMP
FMP	Arrowwood Lane Culvert	Recommended FMP
FMP	SH 36 Culvert	Recommended FMP
FMP	FM 929 Culverts	Recommended FMP

Brandon Wade seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A total of three (3) FMEs and twenty-five (25) FMPs were added to the respective recommended FMX lists in the regional flood plan pending all the necessary information is provided by the sponsoring entity.

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

No Sponsor Report.

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, June 22, 2023.

8. Adjourn

Alysha Girard adjourned the meeting at 11:40 AM.

Approved by the Region 8 Lower Brazos RFPG at the meeting held on June 22, 2023.



[Matt Phillips \(Jul 18, 2023 09:02 CDT\)](#)

Matt Phillips, Secretary



Alysha Girard, Chair


Minutes May 25 Group Meeting

Final Audit Report


2023-07-20

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By:	Pamela Hannemann (pamela.hannemann@Brazos.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAjsxt39Bw8ZnC6Wp-yG9Zs7Dzwlp151St

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