

Meeting Minutes
Region 11 Guadalupe Regional Flood Planning Group Meeting
April 5, 2023 at 2:00 PM

Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority River Annex (905 Nolan Street, Seguin, TX 78155)

Roll Call:

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (x) / Absent () / Alternate Present (*)</u>
Doug Miller Melissa Reynolds*	<i>Agricultural</i>	
John Johnston	<i>Counties</i>	X
Lon Shell	<i>Counties</i>	X
Bobby Christmas	<i>Electric Generating Utilities</i>	
Annalisa Peace Bill Barker*	<i>Environmental</i>	X
Doug Sethness Jennifer Urban*	<i>Flood districts</i>	X
Kevin Stone	<i>Industries</i>	
Joseph Pantalion John Espinoza*	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Ken Gill	<i>Municipalities</i>	X
Dr. Kimberly Meitzen	<i>Public</i>	X
R. Brian Perkins Charlie Hickman*	<i>River Authorities</i>	X
Tara Bushnoe	<i>River Authorities</i>	
Gian Villarreal Tami Norton*	<i>Small Business</i>	X (arrived at 2:01pm)
Ronald (Ron) Fieseler Ben Eldridge*	<i>Water Districts</i>	* (arrived at 2:17pm)
Steven Fonville	<i>Water Utilities</i>	X (arrived at 2:01pm)

<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent()/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
Sue Reilly Beth Bendik*	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	
Hollie Hischer Bierbauer	Texas Division of Emergency Management	
Jami McCool Kristin Lambrecht*	Texas Department of Agriculture	*
Allen Nash	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	
Kris Robles Teresa Williams*	General Land Office	
Ryke Moore	Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)	X
Joel Klumpp	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Don Durden	Public	X
Doris Cooksey	Region 12 Liaison	X
Patrick Brzozowski Scott Hartl*	Region 10 Liaison	

Quorum:

Quorum: **Yes**

Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **11**

Number required for quorum per current voting positions of 15: **8**

Other Meeting Attendees:

Lauren Willis, GBRA (Facilitator)

Ram Mendoza, GBRA (IT)

Jay Scanlon, Freese & Nichols, Inc.

Adam Conner, Freese & Nichols, Inc.

Morgan White, Freese & Nichols, Inc.

Velma Danielson, Blanton & Associates

Joyce Yannuzzi, Senator Campbell's Office

Dennis Engelke, Caldwell County

Bill Barker, Great Springs Project

Doug Letbetter, City of Schertz

Marlene Flores, Bastrop County

Claudia Mora, AACOG

Carly Farmer, City of New Braunfels

Melissa Reynolds, City of Seguin

All meeting materials are available for the public at: <http://www.guadalupeRFPG.org>

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Johnston called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Lauren Willis called roll of the planning group members to record attendance and a quorum was established.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome

Vice-Chairman Johnston welcomed members to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Approval of minutes from the January 4, 2023 Region 11 RFPG Meeting.

Vice-Chairman Johnston opened discussion on approving the minutes from the December 7, 2022 Region 11 RFPG Meeting.

A motion was made Joe Pantalione to approve the January 4, 2023 Region 11 RFPG Meeting minutes. Brian Perkins seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were approved by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Region 11 Guadalupe RFPG Chair Updates

Vice-Chairman Johnston did not have any updates for the RFPG.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Updates

Ryke Moore reviewed the following items: (1) according to the by-laws the terms of office expire in July of 2023, and (2) TWDB is soliciting stakeholder feedback on ranking of FMXs.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Guadalupe Region 11 RFPG Sponsor Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) Updates

Lauren Willis reviewed that Amendment No. 2 between FNI and GBRA is being processed to move funds from GBRA to FNI.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Presentations: Texas General Land Office (GLO) Funding and Ongoing Studies Update

This presentation did not occur as GLO staff was unable to attend. The presentation is being rescheduled for a future date.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Discussion and potential action regarding Region 11 RFPG Technical Consultants work and schedule.

Jay Scanlon with Freese & Nichols overviewed the agenda, topics being covered by the technical consultant team and reviewed Public Comments submitted from January 5, 2023 – April 4, 2023.

a. Discussion and potential action approving additional recommendations to Chapter 8: Legislative, Administrative, and Regulatory Recommendations.

Jay Scanlon led the discussion reviewing Chapter 8 additional recommendations for the following items.

1. Regulatory RFPG or TWDB: Hydraulic Modeling: Require the use of Manning's n-values and channel conditions that would be likely if a channel or project is not maintained.
2. Regulatory RFPG or TWDB: Hydrologic Modeling: Require the use of ultimate development land use conditions in the development of future flows for regulation of floodplains and development of FMPs.
3. Administrative TWDB: Encourage the use of storm shifting to validate 100-yr (1% AEP) storm estimates and to provide a broader understanding of flood risk.
4. Administrative TWDB: Increase funding for Nature Based Solutions and reduce hurdles to their incorporation into the Regional Flood Plans by: Increased training on accurate BCAs; Improving modeling methods; Expanding “negative impacts” to include environmental resources; Incentivize collaboration/prioritization of NBS
5. Administrative TWDB: Ensure TWDB’s BCR tool includes Social and environmental benefits; Reduced negative environmental impacts; as well as damage reduction
6. Administrative TWDB: Recognize impacts of land development codes and development have on flooding: Educate counties on floodplain management authority (8.1.11); Promote and fund NBS; consider policy changes to allow Counties or Groundwater Conservation Districts to protect aquifer storage and recovery features (karst, fracture zones, sinkholes); Partner with other agencies to incorporate flood considerations (e.g. TxDOT)
7. Legislative: Fund a Texas Water Initiative similar to Louisiana's with a robust program on use and adoption of NBS
8. Administrative TWDB: Fund training and technical resources to advance understanding and adoption of NBS and best practices for maintaining floodplains and other natural mitigation features* (very similar w/#4)

9. Administrative TWDB: Utilize all available state and federal programs to prioritize the preservation and restoration of natural flood mitigation features.
10. Administrative RFPG or TWDB: Review submitted FMEs, FMPs, and FMSs to determine feasibility to augment with NBS aspects.
11. Administrative RFPG or TWDB: Refine “future conditions analysis” to better incorporate climate change*
12. Regulatory RFPG: Incorporate additional/higher floodplain management standards* (8.1.2)
13. Administrative RFPG or TWDB: Refine assessment and identification of flood mitigation needs to include additional “critical facilities” such as industrial facilities, superfund sites, or other similar facilities that may pose a high risk to surrounding communities. *
14. Administrative RFPG: RFPG should consider means to increase participation by using a combination of in-person and virtual activities/meetings.
15. Administrative RFPG or TWDB: Refine “no negative impact” to include no impact to natural infrastructure. *

No action was taken.

b. Discussion on proposed methods for ranking recommended flood projects in the state flood plan.

Morgan White with Freese & Nichols led the discussion on the State Flood Plan Ranking for Flood Mitigation Evaluations (FMEs), Flood Management Projects (FMPs), and Flood Management Strategies (FMSs). The RFPG decided to provide comments directly to the TWDB and not as a group.

c. Discussion on use of funds in Task 12 and/or Task 13 to enhance Flood Management Evaluations (FMEs) and Flood Mitigation Projects (FMPs) in the Final plan.

Morgan White suggested the following; 1. To review all final plan FMEs and adjust, as necessary, to ensure each polygon is representative of the study area vs. project area, and 2. To review all FMPs and add in missing data, where possible.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 2pm at the GBRA River Annex – 905 Nolan Street, Seguin, TX 78155. The last meeting for this first cycle will held on Tuesday, June 27th at 2pm at the GBRA River Annex.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Public General comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

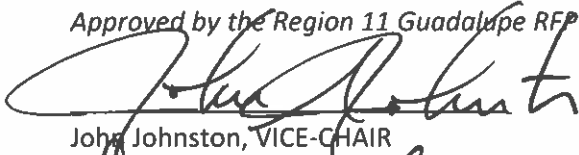
No public comments given.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Adjourn

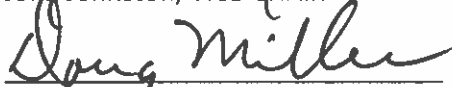
Brian Perkins made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Joe Pantalion. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM by Vice-Chairman Johnston.

Approved by the Region 11 Guadalupe RFPG at a meeting held on May 3, 2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Johnston", written over a horizontal line.

John Johnston, VICE-CHAIR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Miller", written over a horizontal line.

Doug Miller, CHAIR