

**Minutes of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group
May 2, 2024**

Chair Andruss called the hybrid meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., held both in person and through WebEx online platform.

24 of the 32 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

Voting Members Present:

Tim Andruss	Travis Pruski
Curt Campbell	Robert Puente
Andra Wisian	Humberto Ramos
Debbie Farmer	Weldon Riggs
Steve Metzler	Roland Ruiz
Thomas Jungman	Darrell Brownlow
Aarin Teague	Mitchell Sowards
Jason Ammerman	Jonathan Stinson
Scooter Mangold	Thomas Taggart
Andrew McBride	Ryan Kelso
Daniel Meyer	Adam Yablonski
Gary Middleton	Dan Yoxall

Voting Members Absent:

Ryan Bayle
John Byrum
Vanessa Puig-Williams
Charlie Flatten
Terrell Graham
Vic Hilderbran
Darren Simmons
Dianne Wassenich

Non-Voting Members Present:

Carly Rotzler, TX Department of Parks and Wildlife
Michele Foss, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)
Jami McCool, TX Dept. of Agriculture

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Iliana Delgado, TCEQ
Don McGhee, Region M Liaison
Charles Wiedenfeld, Region J Liaison
Carl Crull, Region N Liaison
Rusty Ray, Texas Soil & Water Cons. Board
Tom Hegemier, Region K Liaison

Beginning with the February 11, 2016, meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group, all recordings are available for the public at www.regionltexas.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO.1: ROLL CALL

Ms. Castillo took roll call.

AGENDA ITEM NO.2: PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES)

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (SCTRWPG)

Mr. Middleton motioned to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Mangold seconded, the motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.4: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING FILLING EXISTING VACANCIES AND VACANCIES TO RESULT FROM FUTURE TERM EXPIRATIONS OR RESIGNATIONS

Chair Andruss provided background on the solicitation of the River Authorities vacancy that was sent out after the February 14, 2024 Region L meeting. Chair Andruss stated that Mr. Steve Metzler applied for the River Authorities vacancy from the San Antonio River Authorities. Additionally, to address a future term expiration, Mr. John Byrum with the Nueces River Authority submitted a nomination form to renew his current River Authorities term which expires in 2024.

Mr. Stinson motioned to approve the recommendation to nominate Mr. Metzler for the River Authorities vacancy and approve Mr. Byrum's term renewal, there was a second by Mr. Pruski. The motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5: ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE 2024 SCTRWPG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair Andruss provided an overview of the by-laws regarding the Executive Committee election, background on the committee, as well as who is currently on the committee and will no longer be serving. Discussion ensued on if there was any current interest by planning group members to be elected for Chair, Vice-Chair, or At-Large positions.

Chair Andruss provided a slate of nominees for each position as his recommendation to the planning group for consideration. The recommended slate of nominees by position is below as follows:

- Chair: Curt Campbell
- Vice Chair: Humberto Ramos

- Secretary: Gary Middleton
- At-Large Members: Jason Ammerman & Steve Metzler

Mr. Puente requested that all newly nominated members to be considered for the Executive Committee have an opportunity to provide the Planning Group with their background and interest in being elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

Mr. Campbell, Mr. Ammerman, and Mr. Metzler provided the planning group with a self-background and what they hope to contribute to Region L moving forward.

Mr. Middleton motioned to elect proposed slate of nominees, second by Mr. Andruss, motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6: STATUS REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY TWDB

Ms. Foss provided an update from TWDB including the Prop 6/Texas Water Fund public input opportunity that closed April 30, 2024, SWIFT full application due in May, and the 2025 State Revolving Fund Solicitations being open as well. Ms. Foss also included new planning resources for the SCTRWPG.

Ms. Foss also included a presentation on the Conservation Resources Guide for Development of the 2026 Regional Water Plans. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7: STATUS REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO REGIONAL WATER PLANNING INCLUDING REPORTS BY THE CHAIR, REGIONAL LIAISONS, GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AREA REPRESENTATIVES AND MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING GROUP

Mr. Andruss provided an update on GMA 15 stating that they learned that the new golf coast aquifer model will not be able to be used at this time.

Mr. Brownlow provided an update on GMA 13 stating that they don't meet until later in the year (June 2024) and suspects similar complications as GMA 15.

Mr. Meyer provided an update on GMA 10 stating that they had a meeting on April 15th, and they have selected a technical consultant. He included that the model they will be using for DFC development covers the southern portion of the Trinity which is still being revised by the TWDB.

Mr. Pruski provided an update on the Region L Rural Community Outreach Workgroup meetings that have recently occurred.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8: CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING BRIEFINGS ON WORKGROUP ACTIVITIES

Ms. Gonzalez provided workgroup briefing overviews for the following workgroups: Groundwater Availabilities Workgroup, Chapter 8 Policy and Legislative Recommendations Workgroup, and the Rural Community Outreach Workgroup. Ms. Gonzalez stated that the Groundwater Availabilities Workgroup considered the RWPG estimates included in the Region L Technical Memorandum (Tech Memo or TM) and recommended revisions to two of the 18 RWPG estimates to address the public comments received by the Leona Gravel Aquifer in Medina County at the February 14th RWPG meeting.

Mr. Andruss motioned to approve incorporation of availability recommendations from the Groundwater Availabilities Workgroup into the 2026 Region L Regional Water Plan., Mr. Metzler seconded the motion, the motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9: PRESENTATION BY TECHNICAL CONSULTANT REGARDING SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS UPDATE

Ms. Gonzales provided a conceptual schedule for Region L plan development. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

Ms. Gonzales also provided a presentation to review the Regional Water Planning process and the Region L Guiding Principles. Additionally, she included details on the Drought Contingency Plans and updates on Water Management Strategies in the 2026 Plan (WMS).

AGENDA ITEM NO.10: CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION FOR THE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT TO EVALUATE THE MEDINA COUNTY REGIONAL ASR PROJECT AS A NEW WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Discussion ensued on costs and the deadline for analysis, with Gonzales stating the last opportunity would be the August 2024 meeting.

Mr. Puente noted that with there being no water in the in the Medina Lake, the evaluation process and costs are not necessary.

Mr. Brownlow motioned to approve the Technical Consultant to use Scope 5B funds to evaluate the Medina County Regional ASR Project as New Water Management Strategy, Mr. Ruiz seconded. Mr. Puente provided an objection to the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11: CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE 2021 SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS (REGION L) REGIONAL WATER PLAN TO UPDATE THE GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY LOWER BASIN STORAGE PROJECT

Ms. Gonzales provides a presentation on the proposed minor amendment to the 2021 SCTRWP to update the GBRA Lower Basin Storage Project. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

A. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

No public comment was provided.

B. REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC, TWDB, AND OTHER STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCIES

No public comment was provided.

C. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

Mr. Stinson motioned to adopt the Proposed Minor Amendment No. 1 to the 2021 Region L Regional Water Plan to Update the GBRA Lower Basin Storage Project, Mr. Pruski seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

D. CONSIDERATION OF AUTHORIZING THE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT TO SUBMIT PROOF OF ADOPTION AND ANY COMMENTS TO TWDB AND TO ADDRESS ANY REQUESTS FROM TWDB ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED MINOR AMENDMENT NO. 1 ON BEHALF OF THE RWPG

Mr. Stinson motioned to authorize the Technical Consultant to submit proof of adoption and any comments to TWDB and to address any requests from TWDB associated with the Proposed Minor Amendment No. 1 on behalf of the SCTRWPG, Mr. Pruski seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES

No additional subcommittees were established.

AGENDA ITEM NO.13: SCHEDULE AND POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SCTRWPG

The next SCTRWPG meeting is scheduled for August 1, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

AGENDA ITEM NO.14: PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES)

No public comment.

AGENDA ITEM NO.15: ADJOURN

Mr. Ramos motioned to adjourn. Mr. Riggs seconded the motion, motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:09am.