

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (RGRWPG) (REGION "M")

9:30 A.M. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2015

LRGVDC TRANSPORTATION CENTER BOARD ROOM
510 S. PLEASANTVIEW DR., WESLACO, TX
PRESIDING: GLENN JARVIS, CHAIRMAN

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Jarvis called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. and announced that the meeting had been posted as required by statute and a quorum of at least two-thirds of the voting membership was present. The following voting members were in attendance:

<u>Board Members</u>	<u>Category</u>
Glenn Jarvis, Chairman	Other
Tomas Rodriguez, Vice Chairman	Municipalities
Sonny Hinojosa, Executive Committee	Water Districts
Frank Schuster, Executive Committee	Other
Dennis Goldsberry	Water Utility
Sonia Lambert	Water Districts
Donald McGhee	Industries
Ray Prewett	Agriculture
Carlos Garza	Small Business
Jorge Barrera	Municipalities
Judge Joe Rathmell	Counties
Jaime Flores	Environmental
Armando Vela	Groundwater Management Area
Mayor Jim Darling	River Authorities
Robert Fulbright	Agriculture
Nick Benavides	Small Business
Judge Humberto Gonzalez	Counties

The following members were not in attendance:

Mary Lou Campbell	Public
John Bruciak	Municipalities
Robert Pena, Jr.	Electric Generating Utility

2. Consider Approval RE: Minutes of September 30, 2015 Meeting

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Nick Benavides seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

3. Hear Public Comment

No requests for Public Comment were received.

It was reported that Ms. Kathleen Jackson and Mr. Ruben O'Bell were en route and it was the consensus of the Group to wait to hear item 4 until they arrived.

5. Consider Approval of 2016 Recommended Water Management Strategy (WMS) Prioritization

Ms. Sara Eatman, Black & Veatch, was recognized and stated that one of the things staff hoped to accomplish today is approval of the prioritization of the 2016 WMS. She then went through the Uniform Standards used to rank these projects. Based on the same Uniform Standards that were developed by the Stakeholders in the fall of 2014 the projects are ranked by the following weights: 1) decade of need (40%), project feasibility (10%), project viability (25%), project sustainability (15%), and project cost effectiveness (10%). Staff requests approval of the approach and to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the final prioritization when that becomes available. ***Mr. Frank Schuster made a motion to approve, as presented, the approach by which the 2016 Recommended Water Management Strategies will be prioritized and to authorize the Executive Committee to approve the final 2016 Recommended Water Management Strategy Prioritizations prior to December 1, 2015. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

6. Consider Adoption of the Final 2016 Region M Plan

Ms. Eatman was recognized and summarized the chapters in the Plan. Upon conclusion of the summary ***Mr. Tomas Rodriguez made a motion to adopt the final 2016 Region M Plan as presented. Mr. Jorge Barrera seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

At the conclusion of action on item 6, Chairman Jarvis noted the arrival of Ms. Jackson and Mr. O'Bell. It was the consensus of the Group to next address item 4.

4. Update on Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Activities

Ms. Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member, was recognized and briefed the Group on the status of some of the things TWDB is working on. She then introduced Mr. Ruben O'Bell, Chief of Staff for State Representative Eddie Lucio III.

Mr. O'Bell stated that Representative Lucio regrettably was unable to attend today, and that he [Mr. Lucio] is "the President of [Mr. Jarvis'] fan club". On behalf of Mr. Lucio, Mr. O'Bell presented Mr. Jarvis with a resolution written by the Texas Legislature that recognizes and honors the work Mr. Jarvis has accomplished regarding water rights and water planning.

Ms. Jackson next presented a certificate of appreciation to Mr. Jarvis that reads: "The Texas Water Development Board extends our gratitude to Glenn Jarvis for his years of dedicated leadership as Chairman of the Region M Water Planning Group and his commitment to Texas water". Mr. Jarvis was duly surprised by these honors and thanked Mr. O'Bell and Ms. Jackson.

7. Consider Authorizing Executive Committee to Approve Minor Non-substantive Revisions to Plan Prior to December 1st Submittal Date

Mr. Bob Fulbright made a motion to authorize the Executive Committee to approve minor non-substantive revisions to the Plan prior to the December 1st submittal date. Mr. Carlos Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

8. Consider Approval to Authorize LRGVDC to Submit Adopted 2016 Regional Water Plan to TWDB by December 1st

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez made a motion to authorize LRGVDC to submit the adopted 2016 Regional Water Plan to TWDB by December 1st. Mr. Jorge Barrera seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

9. Consider Approval to Authorize LRGVDC to Submit Approved 2016 Water Management Strategies Project Prioritization List.

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez made a motion to authorize the LRGVDC to submit approved 2016 Water Management Strategies Project Prioritization List. Mayor Jim Darling seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

10. Consider Actions on RGRWPG Voting Membership

It was the consensus of the Group to take the following items out of order.

A. - Second Consecutive Term for Eligible Members (Article 5, Sec 2)

Mr. Carlos Garza made a motion to approve a second consecutive term for Mr. Jorge Barrera and Mr. Dennis Goldsberry. Mr. Armando Vela seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.

C. - Adding Member to "Public" Category of Voting Membership

Mr. Tomas Rodriguez recently retired from the City of Laredo Utility Department but would like to continue serving the Region M Group. A vacancy opened in the Public category when Ms. Mary Lou Campbell resigned/retired from the Group. ***Mayor Jim Darling made a motion to move Mr. Tomas Rodriguez from the Municipal Category to the Public Category. Mr. Nick Benavides seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.*** Chairman Jarvis noted that Mr. Rodriguez' term is up in 2018 and that same term limit will apply while he serves in the Public category.

D. - Advertisement for Vacancy in "Municipal" Category of Voting Membership

Chairman Jarvis stated that the resignation of Ms. Campbell in the Public category, the resignation of Mr. Ray Prewett in the Agriculture category, and moving Mr. Rodriguez from the Municipal to the Public category leaves vacancies in the Municipal and the Agriculture categories. According to the bylaws voting member vacancies must be advertised in the local newspapers in all counties throughout the region. ***Mr. Dennis Goldsberry made a motion to place advertisements according to the bylaws for the vacancies in the Municipal and the Agriculture Categories. Mr. Carlos Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

B. - Election of Officers & Executive Committee

- Mr. Nick Benavides nominated Mr. Tomas Rodriguez as Chair. Mr. Rodriguez was nominated by acclamation. ***Mayor Jim Darling made a motion to elect Mr. Tomas Rodriguez as Chair. Mr. Carlos Garza seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***
- Ms. Sonia Lambert nominated Mr. Sonny Hinojosa as Vice Chair. Mr. Hinojosa was nominated by acclamation. ***Mr. Dennis Goldsberry made a motion to elect Mr. Sonny Hinojosa as Vice Chair. Mr. Don McGhee seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***
- Mr. Tomas Rodriguez nominated Ms. Sonia Lambert as Secretary. Ms. Lambert was nominated by acclamation. ***Mr. Nick Benavides made a motion to elect Ms. Sonia Lambert as Secretary. Mr. Bob Fulbright seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***
- Mayor Jim Darling nominated Mr. Frank Schuster as an Executive Committee Member-at-Large. Mr. Schuster was nominated by acclamation. ***Mayor Jim Darling made a motion to elect Mr. Frank Schuster as an Executive Committee Member-at-Large. Mr. Ray Prewett seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***
- Mr. Nick Benavides volunteered to fill the position as an Executive Committee Member-at-Large. Mr. Benavides was nominated by acclamation. ***Mr. Tomas Rodriguez made a motion to elect Mr. Nick Benavides as an Executive Committee Member-at-Large. Mayor Jim Darling seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

Upon conclusion of the election of officers Chairman Jarvis was presented with a plaque from the Region M Group honoring and acknowledging his 17 years of service as Chairman.

11. Consider Authorizing Staff to Review Bylaws and Consider Action on Updating Bylaws Committee Membership

Mr. Ken Jones, LRGVDC Executive Director, was recognized and stated that there are statutory changes in the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) that need to be updated in the bylaws, and staff recommends the group consider revising Article IX. Making Decisions, Section 4. Final Adoption of Regional Water Plan; Amendments that states: "The voting members of the RGRWPG shall finally adopt the regional water plan for the RGRWPG and any amendments thereto by consensus, but not less than agreement of two-thirds of the voting membership". ***Mr. Jorge Barrera made a motion to authorize LRGVDC staff and the Executive Committee to review the bylaws. Mr. Tomas Rodriguez seconded the motion, and upon a vote the motion carried unanimously.***

12. Report from TWDB

Ms. Connie Townsend was recognized and reminded the Group that the Public Meetings to take public input on issues that should be addressed or provisions that should be included in the Regional or State Water Plan for the 5th Cycle "Pre-planning" meeting for the development of the 2021 Regional Water Plan need to be scheduled far enough in advance to allow for a 30-day notice as required by the Texas Administrative Code (TAC). Ms. Townsend announced that Mr. Kevin Kluge, TWDB Projections Manager, plans to travel to all the Planning Groups and give a presentation on the new utility-based methodology that will be used to calculate the municipal and population projections and asked if the Group would be interested in such a presentation..

13. Discussion and Possible Action RE: Meeting Schedule

It was the consensus of the Group to schedule the next Business meeting on February 3, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. and combine it with the required Public Meeting to take public input on items that should be considered for inclusion in the Regional and State Water Plans for the 5th Cycle "Pre-planning" development of the Plan.

14. Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Group the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 p.m.

Glenn Jarvis, Chairman