

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING OF THE
SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL
WATER PLANNING GROUP

TAKE NOTICE that a meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (SCTRWPG) as established by the Texas Water Development Board will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 9:30 AM both in person and virtually. The in person meeting will be held at the San Antonio Water System's Customer Service Building, Room CR-145, 2800 US Hwy 281 North, San Antonio, TX 78212. You can attend virtually on WebEx at <https://saws.webex.com/saws/j.php?MTID=mb83704b70545fdce50bd90fc7f8968bd> . You may also dial into the meeting on your phone at +1 (469) 210-7159, access code: 24968748928. The planning group members will consider and may take action regarding:

1. (9:30 AM) Roll-Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (SCTRWPG)
4. Status Reports and Communications by Texas Water Development Board
5. 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
6. Discussion and Nomination of one Planning Group Member and one alternate to serve on the next Interregional Planning Council
7. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Recommendation by the Executive Committee on Vacancies of SCTRWPG Voting Members. Vacancies include: Electric Generating Utilities and Counties
8. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Establishment of an Environmental Subcommittee
9. Review and Discussion of the SCTRWPG's Guiding Principles
10. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Nomination of John Byrum to serve as Region J Liaison
11. Discussion and Selection of the SCTRWPG's 2022 Meeting Dates
12. Schedule and potential Agenda Items for the Next Meeting of the SCTRWPG
13. Public Comment
14. Adjourn

Comments and submissions may be submitted through email to khayes@sariverauthority.org. Any written documentation can be sent to Tim Andruss, Chair, South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group, c/o San Antonio River Authority, Attn: Kendall Hayes, 201 W. Sheridan Street, San Antonio, TX 78204. Please direct any questions to Kendall Hayes at (210) 302-3641.

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (SCTRWPG)

Minutes of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group September 21, 2021

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

23 of the 30 voting members, or their alternates, were present.

Voting Members Present:

Tim Andruss	Vanessa Puig-Williams
Amber Beard	Humberto Ramos
John Byrum	Weldon Riggs
Curt Campbell	Roland Ruiz
Debbie Farmer	Darren Simmons
Charlie Flatten	Jonathan Stinson
Melissa Bryant for Steve Graham	Heather Sumpter
Tom Jungman	Thomas Taggart
Russell Labus	Ian Taylor
Glenn Lord	Adam Yablonski
Daniel Meyer	
Gary Middleton	
Robert Puente	

Voting Members Absent:

Rey Chavez	Dianne Savage
Will Conley	Mitchell Sowards
Vic Hilderbran	Dianne Wassenich
Steve Ramsey	

Non-Voting Members Present:

Marty Kelly, TX Department of Parks and Wildlife
Elizabeth McCoy, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Iliana Delgado, TCEQ
Ronald Fieseler, Region K Liaison
Jami McCool, TX Dept. of Agriculture
Don McGhee, Region M Liaison
Charles Wiedenfeld, Region J Liaison
Carl Crull, Region N Liaison
Rusty Ray, Texas Soil & Water Cons. Board

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: (9:30 AM) ROLL CALL

Ms. Kendall Hayes, San Antonio River Authority, called the role, and confirmed a quorum.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MAY 06, 2021, MEETING OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP (SCTRWPG)

Ms. Bryant motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Jungman seconded the motion, motion passed.

AGENDA ITEM 4: PRESENTATION 1

Black & Veatch presented and answered questions from the planning group.

AGENDA ITEM 5: PRESENTATION 2

Plummer presented and answered questions from the planning group.

AGENDA ITEM 6: IF NECESSARY, ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FROM PLANNING GROUP

The Planning Group did not have additional questions for Black & Veatch.

AGENDA ITEM 7: PROCUREMENT PROCESS PRESENTATION

Ms. Karen Smith, San Antonio River Authority, presented on the details and timeline of SARA's procurement process.

AGENDA ITEM 8: SCORING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Byrum presented his experience on the scoring committee along with a summary of the committee's findings. Ms. Erin Cavazos, San Antonio River Authority, provided additional information on her experience on the scoring committee. The Planning Group asked questions regarding the scoring document and Mr. Byrum answered the questions.

AGENDA ITEM 9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING A MOTION RECOMMENDING THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY INITIATE CONTRACTING WITH ONE OF THE RESPONDENT FIRMS FOR THE POSITION OF REGION L TECHNICAL CONSULTANT

Discussion of the merits and drawbacks of each of the two consultant firms ensued.

Mr. Ramos motioned to select Black & Veatch to be engaged in contract through the San Antonio River Authority. Ms. Bryant seconded the motion. Mr. Taylor voiced his support for the motion during time for comments. Mr. Taggart requested to take the motion to a vote.

The motion passed 13 to 9.

AGENDA ITEM 10: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM 11: ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM.

4. Status Reports and communications by Texas Water Development Board, Elizabeth McCoy

5. 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

6. Discussion and Nomination of one Planning Group Member and one alternate to serve on the next Interregional Planning Council

Texas Water Development Board

P.O. Box 13231, 1700 N. Congress Ave.
Austin, TX 78711-3231, www.twdb.texas.gov
Phone (512) 463-7847, Fax (512) 475-2053

September 14, 2021

Dear Regional Water Planning Group Chairs:

As you are likely aware, House Bill 807 from the 86th Texas Legislature directed the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to appoint an Interregional Planning Council (Council). The inaugural Council dissolved upon adoption of the 2022 State Water Plan on July 7, 2021. Therefore, the TWDB is now soliciting nominations for the next Council, whose appointment will continue until adoption of the 2027 State Water Plan.

The Council will consist of one member from each Regional Water Planning Group and its sole responsibility will be to provide a report to the TWDB which will be due in March 2024. As a reference, the Council's first report included recommendations on the topics of enhancing interregional coordination, planning water resources for the state, best practices for the future of planning, and addressing interregional conflict. The Council provided specific recommendations to the Legislature, the TWDB, regional water planning groups, and future Councils.

Each planning group should submit nominations consisting of at least one member to serve on the Council, and one alternate for each member nominated. **Nominations should be submitted no later than February 28, 2022.** The Board anticipates Council appointments to occur in April 2022. It is important to note that due funding and staffing limitations, TWDB anticipates providing the Council with a limited level of facilitation assistance for this planning cycle.

Nominations should be submitted to Sarah Backhouse, Regional Water Planning Manager. For each nominee, please include the interest category the individual represents, committee membership (if applicable), a brief background statement including time served on the planning group, contact information (email, phone number, and mailing address), and any other supporting information deemed relevant by the planning group.

Thank you for your participation in the regional water planning process. For additional information, contact Sarah Backhouse at Sarah.Backhouse@twdb.texas.gov or at (512) 936-2387.

Sincerely,

Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator

cc: Designated Political Subdivisions for RWPGs

Our Mission

Leading the state's efforts in ensuring a secure water future for Texas and its citizens

Board Members

Brooke T. Paup, Chairwoman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member

Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

7. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Recommendation by the Executive committee on Vacancies of SCTRWPG Voting Members

SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

GROUP Nomination for Interest Group (check one):

☒ Counties ☐ Electric Generating Utilities

Pursuant to official Bylaws and Guiding Principles adopted by the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group (SCTRWPG), nominators shall provide information regarding the nominee's current employer, and provide a description of the nominee's experience that qualifies him/her for the position in the interest group being sought to represent. Please refer to section 357.11 (e) (see addendum) of the Texas Administrative Code for the definitions of the interest categories represented on the SCTRWP.

NOMINATOR

NAME: Richard L Jackson
ADDRESS: 1420 3rd St. Suite 101 Floresville, Tx. 78114
PHONE: 830-393-7303 FAX: 830-393-7327 EMAIL: judge@wilsoncountytx.gov
OCCUPATION: Wilson County Judge

NOMINEE

NAME: Travis Pruski
ADDRESS: 967 CR 208 Floresville, TX. 78114
PHONE: 210-710-0617 FAX: _____ EMAIL: tpruski@nueces-ra.org
INTEREST AREA: Municipalities
COUNTY: Wilson
OCCUPATION: Senior Planner - Nueces River Authority

PLEASE GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE NOMINEE'S EXPERIENCE THAT WOULD QUALIFY HIM/HER FOR THE POSITION (please use additional pages if needed):

See attachment Travis Pruski

PLEASE LIST ANY PERTINENT AFFILIATIONS (please use additional pages if needed):

DATE SUBMITTED: October 14, 2021

PLEASE ATTACH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IF DESIRED

Nominations must be received by **5:00 p.m., Friday, October 29, 2021** addressed to Tim Andruss, Chair, South Central Texas RWPG, c/o San Antonio River Authority, Attn: Kendall Hayes, 201 W. Sheridan St., San Antonio, Texas 78204 or email to khayes@sariverauthority.org

Travis Pruski

Senior Planner Nueces River Authority – Sept 2020 – to current

Political Sponsor for Region N – Coastal Bend Regional Water Planning Group

Political Sponsor for region 12 – Nueces Regional Flooding Planning Group

Governor Abbott Appointment Nueces River Authority – April 2017 to Sept 2020

Mayor of Poth – May 2010 to Oct 2013

Received Star Award from Texas Governor Rick Perry

First City to finish a grant from the state under budget and 6 months early

Councilmember of Poth – May 2005 to May 2010

Mayor Pro Temp during that time

City of Poth Chief Financial Officer – May 2005 to Dec 2018

13 straight year budget surplus with a tax DECREASE

Oversaw the City of Poth Infrastructure Replacement Plan

20 years plan of replace all water lines, sewer lines and street was completed 12 years

Chairman Ride to Remember of Poth – Sept 2007 to current

Raise funds to pay for City of Poth Parks free of Tax Prayer funding

8. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Establishment of an Environmental Subcommittee

9. Review and Discussion of the SCTRWPG's Guiding Principles

SCTRWPG GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE I APPROPRIATENESS AND ADEQUACY OF HOW DEMAND AND NEED ARE DETERMINED

Adopted: August 4, 2016

The SCTRWPg generally defers to the TWDB on matters related to population and water demand projections. However, the SCTRWPg retains the duty to review TWDB projections on a case by case basis. Where the SCTRWPg finds a discrepancy in TWDB's projections, and can adequately justify its findings by verifying one or more of the "criteria for adjustment," TWDB – in consultation with TDA, TCEQ, and TPWD – may adjust population and/or water demand projections accordingly (see generally *General Guidelines for Fifth Cycle of Regional Water Plan Development*, Article 2. *Population and Water Demand Projections*). Consistent with Chapter 8 of the 2016 Regional Water Plan for Region L, the SCTRWPg supports greater TWDB flexibility through relaxation of current methodological assumptions holding regional and state population projection totals fixed (see Chapter 8.9.3 *Population and Water Demand Projections*). Water demand projections used in developing the Regional Water Plan should be consensus figures arrived at by using TWDB data along with local input from the cities, counties, and groundwater districts.

PRINCIPLE II ROLE OF REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUPS IN INFLUENCING POPULATION GROWTH AND LAND USE

Adopted August 4, 2016

Where the concepts of population growth and land use necessarily interrelate with the Regional Water Plan, the SCTRWPg shall, to the greatest extent possible, develop strategies to meet future projected demands. However, it is neither the role, nor the responsibility of the SCTRWPg to

influence population growth or land use. While the SCTRWPG has a duty to remain cognizant of the sensitive relationship between the Regional Water Plan, population growth and land use, decisions concerning permitting and influencing population growth are inherently local, and remain wholly independent from the regional water planning process.

PRINCIPLE III CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS WITH RESPECT TO PLANNING GROUP MEMBERS

Adopted August 4, 2016

a) Active Planning Group Members

All disclosures pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the SCTRWPG Bylaws, are the responsibility of the planning group member or designated alternate who has the potential conflict of interest. Therefore, disclosures are the responsibility of the planning group member or designated alternate. If the voting member chooses to abstain from participation in deliberations, decisions, or voting, pursuant to Article V, Section 6 of the SCTRWPG Bylaws, the reason for abstention shall be noted in the minutes.

SCTRWPG Bylaw Excerpt

Potential conflicts of interest shall be clearly stated by the voting member or designated alternate prior to any deliberation or action on an agenda item with which the joint member or designated alternate may be in conflict. Where the potential conflict is restricted to a divisible portion of an agenda item, the Chair may divide the agenda item into parts for deliberation and voting purpose. An abstention from participation in deliberations, decisions or voting and the reason therefore shall be noted in the minutes. (see SCTRWPG Bylaws, Article V, Section 6, (b))

b) Nomination Process

Where the SCTRWPG is soliciting nominations to fill vacancies on

the planning group, nominators shall provide information regarding the nominee's current employer, and provide a description of the nominee's experience that qualifies him/her for the position in the interest group being sought to represent.

Additionally, nominees shall agree to abide by the Code of Conduct, which is incorporated in the SCTRWPG Bylaws (see *SCTRWPG Bylaws*, Article V, Section 6). As per the Bylaws, the Executive Committee will conduct an interview process whereby nominees will be evaluated. Prior to the interview, nominees will be provided a copy of the Bylaws. During the interview process, nominees will be asked if they are willing to agree to the Bylaws, and specifically, if they are willing to comply with the Code of Conduct.

**PRINCIPLE IV THE ROLE OF THE PLANNING
GROUP IN INFLUENCING WATER
DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF
WATER SUPPLIERS**

Adopted: November 3, 2016

The role of the SCTRWPG is to ensure water needs are met with identified potentially feasible water management strategies. It is not the role of the SCTRWPG to influence or interfere with local water planning decisions. In the absence of a planning group recommended potentially feasible water management strategy to meet an identified need, the SCTRWPG may evaluate and report, as required, the social, environmental and economic impacts of not meeting the identified need.

**PRINCIPLE V THE ROLE OF THE PLANNING
GROUP IN INFLUENCING
PERMITTING ENTITIES**

Adopted: November 3, 2016

Decisions made at the planning group level are non-regulatory, and are intended for planning purposes only. While some decisions made by the SCTRWPG could inevitably affect some decisions made by the governing boards of permitting entities, it is neither the responsibility, nor the role of the SCTRWPG to

influence or interfere with the regulatory decisions made by the governing boards of permitting entities.

**PRINCIPLE VI THE ADEQUACY OF
EVALUATING THE PLAN'S
EFFECTS ON FRESHWATER
INFLOWS TO SAN ANTONIO BAY,
AND THE ADEQUACY OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENTS OF INDIVIDUAL
WATER MANAGEMENT
STRATEGIES**

Adopted: November 2, 2017

The SCTRWPG's evaluation of the Plan's effect on instream flows and freshwater inflows to the San Antonio Bay, and Plan's environmental assessments of individual water management strategies are currently meeting the regulations and statutes for regional water planning. The SCTRWPG believes a structural reorganization of the data presented will benefit the understanding of the Plan's environmental assessments. The SCTRWPG will:

- a)** Initiate environmental assessments earlier into the regional planning process;
- b)** Eliminate environmental assessment comparisons of current plan to past plans;
- c)** Consolidate threatened and endangered species information into the appendix rather than repeating in each water management strategy write-up;
- d)** Update baseline year data to most current for potential impacts to vegetation and terrestrial habitat;
- e)** Adjust distances for cultural resource sites;
- f)** Include current conditions and streamflow protected by environmental flow standards in updated tabular form improving the way in which the data is presented;
- g)** Include target flow regimes based on environmental freshwater inflow standards in updated tabular form improving the way in which the data is presented; and
- h)** Include high level narrative of climate variability.

The SCTRWPG believes this environmental assessment structural reorganization will reflect realistic environmental impacts of the recommended water management strategies for both the public and planning group members.

PRINCIPLE VII MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Adopted: November 2, 2017

For a proposed strategy to be designated by the SCTRWPG as a water management strategy in the regional water plan, the proposed strategy must:

- a) supply water, reduce water demands, or otherwise satisfy one or more identified needs;
- b) include an evaluation and description consistent with standards used by the SCTRWPG and its technical consultants as required by TWDB Rules;
- c) satisfy all relevant requirements established by the TWDB, including environmental flow standards;
- d) identify one or more entities, with sufficient ability and willingness to implement the strategy, as being the strategy's sponsor(s);
- e) identify all entities, as reasonably possible, who own any existing or planned infrastructure or existing permit that could be affected by the proposed strategy as being strategy participants; and
- f) identify groundwater conservation districts or TCEQ with jurisdiction over the proposed strategy.

PRINCIPLE VIII RECOMMENDED WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Adopted: November 2, 2017

The SCTRWPG strives to develop a regional water plan that recommends water management strategies sufficient to supply

water to all identified needs projected in the planning horizon for the region.

The SCTRWPG prefers designating water management strategies as recommended or alternative using a consensus approach while respecting the strategy sponsor(s)' wishes.

Prior to designating any water management strategies as recommended, the SCTRWPG will review the water management strategies to evaluate costs and environmental sensitivity of each water management strategy per TWDB Rules.

PRINCIPLE IX MANAGEMENT SUPPLY

Adopted: November 2, 2017

The cumulative supply of the recommended water management strategies may include an amount of supply in excess of the amount needed to meet regional needs as considered necessary by the SCTRWPG to allow for such things as uncertainty associated with long-term planning, problems with project implementation, changing weather conditions, flexibility of sponsors in choosing projects to implement, and changes in project viability.

Identified Needs without a Recommended Water Management Strategy

For water needs that are not satisfied by recommended water management strategies, the SCTRWPG will provide a narrative explaining why the need is not satisfied.

Alternative Strategies in the Regional Water Plan

The SCTRWPG will include alternative water management strategies that sponsors wish to have identified as alternatives to one or more of their recommended water management strategies.

Conceptual Approaches (Water Management Strategies Needing Further Study) in the Regional Water Plan

The SCTRWPG will acknowledge conceptual and innovative approaches to developing water supplies, reducing water

demand, and increasing efficiency of supplying water as may be proposed by others, but need further study.

**PRINCIPLE X THE ROLE OF REUSE WITHIN
THE REGIONAL WATER PLAN**

Adopted: November 2, 2017

The SCTRWPG generally defers to the TWDB rules for regional water planning as contained in the TAC on matters related to surface water supply analysis. For surface water supply analysis, the SCTRWPG will use the most current Water Availability Models from the TCEQ to evaluate supplies, as required by section 357.32 (c) of the TAC. As per section 357.32 of the TAC, the SCTRWPG will assume full utilization of existing water rights and no return flows when using Water Availability Models.

The SCTRWPG agrees that effluent will be depicted in the Regional Water Plan only in cases of direct and/ or indirect reuse water management strategies, or where a preexisting contract for the supply of reuse is in place. Additionally, the SCTRWPG will not use effluent in the estimates of cumulative effects absent a direct and/or indirect reuse water management strategy or a preexisting contract

**PRINCIPLE XI IDENTIFYING SPECIAL STUDIES
OR EVALUATIONS DEEMED
IMPORTANT TO ENHANCE THE
2021 PLAN, THE IDENTIFICATION
OF OUTSIDE FUNDING SOURCES,
AND THE EXTENT TO WHICH
INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES
SHOULD BE USED**

Adopted: November 2, 2017

The SCTRWPG recognizes that there are no identifiable outside funding sources for special studies or evaluations. However, the SCTRWPG remains willing to consider evaluating any proposed water management strategies and special studies allowable under section 357.34 of the TAC.

10. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding the Nomination of John Byrum to
serve as Region J Liaison

11. Discussion and Selection of the SCTRWPG's 2022 Meeting Dates

Quarter 1 – February 3

Quarter 2 – May 5

Quarter 3 – August 4

Quarter 4 – November 3

12. Schedule and Potential Agenda Items for Next Meeting of the SCTRWPG

13. Public Comment