

**Minutes of the South Central Texas Regional Water Planning Group
February 20, 2025**

Chair Campbell called the hybrid meeting to order at 9:31 a.m., held both in person and through WebEx online platform.

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

Voting Members Present:

Tim Andruss	Donovon Burton for Robert Puente
Curt Campbell	Humberto Ramos
Debbie Farmer	Weldon Riggs
Marisa Bruno for Charlie Flatten	Roland Ruiz
Steve Metzler	Darrell Brownlow
Michelle Shelton for Terrell Graham	Mitchell Sowards
Vic Hilderbran	Jonathan Stinson
Thomas Jungman	Paul Kite
Aarin Teague	Ryan Kelso
Jason Ammerman	Dianne Wassenich
Scooter Mangold	Adam Yablonski
Travis Pruski	

Voting Members Absent:

Ryan Bayle
John Byrum
Andra Wisian
Andrew McBride
Daniel Meyer
Gary Middleton
Vanessa Puig-Williams
Darren Simmons
Dan Yoxall

Non-Voting Members Present:

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

Non-Voting Members Absent:

Tony Franklin, Texas Soil & Water Cons. Board
Iliana Delgado, TCEQ
Don McGhee, Region M Liaison
Charles Wiedenfeld, Region J Liaison
Carl Crull, Region N 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. Riggs 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 Campbell stated that this is a standing agenda item and there are currently no vacancies on the RWPG to or terms to address at this time.

AGENDA ITEM NO.5: STATUS REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS BY TWDB

Ms. Foss provided an update from TWDB on SWIFT funding and the 2026 Regional Water Plan process. Her presentation covered the status of 2025 SWIFT funding applications (28 submitted statewide with 3 in Region L), upcoming deadlines for additional information due February 21, and eligibility requirements for 2026 SWIFT funding. She also outlined the Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) process and timeline, including requirements for public hearings, notice procedures, comment periods, and document availability. Key deadlines include IPP submission to TWDB by March 3, 2025, and final Regional Water Plan submission by October 20, 2025. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6: 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

Chair Campbell provided an update from GMA 9 stating that there were no updates.

Mr. Brownlow reported that GMA 13 will meet on April 11th in Pleasanton. Today is the final day for comments on the 2024 revised GAM as requested by TWDB.

Mr. Hilderbran provided an update from GMA 7, which met yesterday. They are working on a new GAM model for the Edwards Trinity aquifer. There was discussion on whether the new model will be ready in time, and they will probably use the old model instead.

AGENDA ITEM NO.7: CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING PRESENTATION BY TECHNICAL CONSULTANT REGARDING SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS UPDATES

Ms. Gonzalez provided an update from Black & Veatch regarding schedule progress, updates on completed and ongoing efforts, and updates on draft chapters for the 2026 Regional Water Plan. Her presentation covered the project timeline leading to the March 3, 2025 IPP deadline and October 20, 2025 final plan deadline, progress on water management strategy evaluations, cumulative effects analysis results, unmet needs justifications, implementation survey findings, and interregional coordination efforts. The presentation also included updates on Chapters 4, 5, 6, 9, and 10, with details on water needs analysis, strategy revisions, environmental impact assessments, and public participation activities. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

Discussion ensued as Mr. Brownlow reported that GMA 13 is evaluating a new GAM that will generate MAGs affecting the regional planning process. He noted that the Carrizo aquifer GAM used in GMA 13 was created in 2004 and has been used for four planning cycles. The 2024 GAM is under major scrutiny and GMA 13 likely will not have a new approved GAM, meaning they will continue using 20-year-old water availability data. He cautioned the group against placing too much faith in these water availability models.

Mr. Metzler asked about the percentage difference in the models. Mr. Ramos suggested this issue could be addressed through a future subcommittee since they are near the end of the current planning cycle. Mr. Burton noted that SAWS also has concerns about the model.

Mr. Ramos noted seeing private entities in the process and asked about their participation requirements. Ms. Lauren explained that everyone is allowed but not required to coordinate with the RWP process. Private utilities are typically smaller and harder to locate, often falling under the county-other threshold. They are contacted but not treated differently. Mr. Ramos suggested Region L should require certain sized private utilities to participate in the plan.

AGENDA ITEM NO.8: CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL REGARDING THE INITIALLY PREPARED PLAN (IPP) FOR THE 2026 SOUTH CENTRAL TEXAS (REGION L) REGIONAL WATER PLAN

Ms. Gonzalez presented the next steps for the Initially Prepared Plan, including adoption of the IPP, completion of DB27 data entry and updates, preparation of deliverables for TWDB, and submittal by the March 3, 2025 deadline. She outlined the public hearing requirements and options, noting the minimum requirement of one in-person public hearing with recording and materials available online. The presentation covered possible additional outreach efforts including virtual webinars and informal meetings. She requested direction from the planning

group on how to proceed with public hearings and outreach, and presented the three action items for consideration: adopting the IPP with authorization for technical consultant updates, authorizing submittal to TWDB, and authorizing SARA to post public notices and hold public hearings. Her presentation is available online at www.regionltexas.org.

- a. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ADOPT THE IPP AND AUTHORIZE THE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT TO ADDRESS DB27 UPDATES, NON-SUBSTANTIVE REVISIONS, AND PLANNING GROUP CHANGES PRIOR TO IPP SUBMITTAL**

- b. CONSIDERATION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TECHNICAL CONSULTANT TO SUBMIT THE IPP PACKAGE TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD ON BEHALF OF THE SOUTH-CENTRAL TEXAS (REGION L) REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP BY MARCH 3, 2025**

- c. DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY TO POST PUBLIC NOTICE(S) AND HOLD PUBLIC HEARING(S) ON THE IPP**

Mr. Siebert offered SAWS as a potential venue if Region L chooses to hold the required meeting there. Mr. Ramos asked about budget considerations. Ms. Gonzalez stated there are budgetary constraints. Ms. Wassenich, as a public representative, noted that given the cost of holding in-person meetings and historically slim attendance, it makes sense to hold one public meeting with liberal virtual opportunities to learn about the plan. Mr. Travis suggested one in-person hybrid meeting in the evening and one virtual meeting, plus virtual webinars.

Mr. Stinson motioned to approve all sub-points (a, b, and c) with the clarification that Region L will hold one hybrid IPP hearing in the evening in San Antonio, one virtual informal meeting, and make a recording available online. Mr. Ruiz seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

AGENDA ITEM NO.9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES

No additional subcommittees were established.

AGENDA ITEM NO.10: SCHEDULE AND POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SCTRWPG

The next SCTRWPG meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

AGENDA ITEM NO.11: PUBLIC COMMENT (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES)

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEM NO.12: ADJOURN

Mr. Stinson motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Riggs seconded the motion. The motion passed by consensus.

The meeting adjourned at 11:29am.