

AGENDA  
 REGION 14. UPPER RIO GRANDE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP  
 GENERAL MEETING  
 Wednesday, February 2, 2022  
 9:00 A.M. (MDT)  
 8037 Lockheed, Suite 100 TX 79925

<u>Voting Member</u>	<u>Interest Category</u>	<u>Present (✓)/Absent ( X ) / Alternate Present ( * )</u>
Omar L. Martinez, Chair	<i>Water districts</i>	✓
Vacant	<i>Agricultural interests</i>	
Gilberto Saldaña Jr.	<i>Counties</i>	✓
Jeff Bennett	<i>Environmental interests</i>	✓
Sal Masoud	<i>Industries</i>	✓
Javier Acosta	<i>Municipalities</i>	✓
David "Dave" Hall	<i>Public</i>	✓, physically present-served as Chair
Rene Rodriguez	<i>Small business</i>	X
Marvin Gomez for Gisela Dagnino	<i>Water Utilities</i>	✓
Vacant	<i>Flood districts</i>	X
Levi Bryand	<i>Water Utilities</i>	✓
Rick Tate	<i>River authorities</i>	X
Carlos Velarde	<i>Public</i>	✓
<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent(✓ )/ Alternate Present ( * )</u>
James Weaver	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	✓
Sarah Douglas	General Land Office/Region 14 Liaison	✓
Richard Bagans	Texas Water Development Board	✓
Anita Keese	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	✓
Vanessa Rosales-Herrera	Region 15 Liaison	X
Delbert Humberson	International Boundary Water Commission	✓
Judy Lucio	Texas Division of Emergency Management	✓
Larissa Place	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Judy Albus for Ben Wilde	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	✓
Others Present:		
Annette Gutierrez, RGCOG	Jeff Irvin - AECOM, PIC	
Gilbert Andujo, AECOM	Lily Cartwright, AECOM	
Bryan Blaisdell, AECOM	Susan Roth, PE, Susan Roth Consulting	
Chris Wright, AECOM	Patricia Garcia-Barracuda PR	
Alejandra Marco, AECOM	James Bronikowski	

1. Welcome and call to order

Dave Hall served as Chair for Omar Martinez. He welcomed the group and received confirmation that a quorum was present. The meeting started at 9:02 am.

2. Recognition of guests

Dave Hall asked if there were any guests who would like to be recognized at this time. There were none.

3. Member updates

Dave Hall asked if there were any updates from the members. There were none.

4. Public Comments

Dave Hall asked if there were any public comments from the public. There were none.

5. Review and approve the minutes for the meeting held on December 16, 2021.

Levi Bryand made a motion to accept the Minutes from December 16, 2021. Gilbert Saldaña seconded the motion. Dave Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved.

6. Update from Sarah Douglas, Liaison for Region 15 Upper Rio Grande Regional Flood Planning Group.

Sarah Douglas informed the group there was no update at this time.

7. Discussion on membership from subcommittees as it relates to a potential quorum of the flood planning group.

Annette Gutierrez, Rio Grande Council of Governments (RGCOG) asked for Richard Bagans, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), to provide an update on behalf of the agency before the group discussed the membership of subcommittees. He mentioned AECOM submitted their tech memo to TWDB prior to the deadline. TWDB has deemed it administratively complete and has allowed AECOM to move forward with Task 5. He also reminded the group the next deadline is March 7<sup>th</sup> where extension deliverables are due pertaining to geo-database files. He mentioned the contract amendment for additional funds is being processed by the Board. The Officers election will happen at the second meeting, part of bylaws. Last, he mentioned there will be a Chairs Conference Call in March. The Legal Division will provide an Open Meetings Act overview to the group.

Richard Bagans next discussed the membership from subcommittees as they relate to a potential quorum of the flood planning group. Richard stated, after receiving guidance from TWDB, during subcommittee meetings, the number of planning group members participating may be so many that a quorum of the flood planning group may be established. He noted our region has a large number of members participating but they are being posted as subcommittees. He offered two options. First, if the group wants to continue having subcommittees, they may do so but limit the number of participants so that a quorum of the full membership does not exist. Secondly, the group may forego the subcommittees, have a flood planning group meeting and limit the agenda to specific items related to the topics identified from the subcommittees. Annette Gutierrez asked if the group if they would be open

to having their March meeting be a General Flood Planning Meeting rather than a Subcommittee 2 meeting. The group conferred with AECOM and they agreed it would be appropriate to move forward in this manner.

Next they discussed Subcommittee 1,3, & 4. AECOM stated there would no longer be meetings for Subcommittee 1 since the goals were met. AECOM stated they anticipated having a meeting for Subcommittee 3 in late February and Subcommittee 2 in the middle of March. Their focus over the next several months will be for those two subcommittees. He also mentioned the thought for Subcommittee 4 was to do away with it and treat the process as a workgroup where AECOM will reach out to individuals separately to gather the information and then present it to the group.

Annette summarized to the group that the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting will focus on subcommittee 3 primarily and the next general meeting will be between March 14-18 to focus on Subcommittee 2.

Dave Hall asked for AECOM to consider forming a small group for Subcommittee 4 if they are in need of gathering more responses, then convening a small group may be beneficial.

8. Discussion and potential action regarding administrative expenses to be submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for reimbursement.

Jeff Bennett made a motion to approve the expenses as presented. The total amount requested from AECOM was \$154,247.71, for the period of October 1, 2021-December 31, 2021. Omar Martinez seconded the motion. Dave Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved.

9. AECOM General RFP Updates

- Upcoming Open House Meetings in Pecos and Presidio
- Update on Region 14 Fathom 3m Flood Risk Data
- 2022 RFP Road Map/upcoming meeting schedule

Bryan presented agenda items 9 through 11 to the planning group.

12. Discussion and action to vote for approval of recommendations from Subcommittee 3 (FMEs/FMSs)

Sal Masoud made a motion to approve any refinements to the list of FMEs and FMSs included in the 1/7/22 Tech Memo resulting from discussions in this subcommittee meeting to recommend to the URG Regional Flood Planning Group. Omar Martinez seconded the motion. Dave Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved.

13. Discussion and action to vote for approval of recommendations from Subcommittee 2 (FMPs)

Omar Martinez made a motion for the following:

- Approval of the creation of tiers according to 5 projects in each category
- Approval of refined prioritization tables and overall method for prioritization of potentially feasible FMP evaluations (as shown in Alt 3) discussed during this meeting for recommendation to RFPG.

- Approval of applying additional funding of \$58,000 toward Task 4, as needed for recommendation to RFPG.

Levi Bryand seconded the motion. Dave Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved.

14. Chair Set next meeting date

The group agreed to set the next flood planning meeting for February 28, 2022, at 9:00 am., MST. March 14-18 poll.

15. Chair Adjourn

Levi Bryand made a motion to adjourn. Sal Masoud seconded the motion. Dave Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 10:42.

2/28/22  
Date

Javier A. Acosta  
Secretary, Javier Acosta