

REGION 14. UPPER RIO GRANDE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, November 21, 2024
11:00 A.M. (MST)
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>	✓
Rene Rodriguez	<i>Small Business</i>	X
Gisela Dagnino	<i>Water Utilities</i>	✓
Vacant	<i>Flood Districts</i>	
Levi Bryand	<i>Water Utilities</i>	✓
Rick Tate	<i>River Authorities</i>	X
Carlos Velarde	<i>Public</i>	✓
Vacant	<i>Generating Electric Utilities</i>	
<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent(____)/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
John Clayton William	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	✓
	General Land Office/Region 14 Liaison	✓
Nick Collins	Texas Water Development Board	✓
Vacant	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	
Vanessa Rosales-Herrera	Region 15 Liaison	X
	International Boundary Water Commission	X
Georgina Gonzalez	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
JD Lawrence	Texas Department of Agriculture	✓
dowens@tsswcb.texas.gov	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	X
Others Present:		
Annette Gutierrez, RGCOG	Gilbert Andujo, AECOM	
Luis Alday	Dolores Benitz, AECOM	
Alejandra Marco, AECOM		

1. Welcome and call to order

Chairman Omar Martinez received confirmation that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

2. Public Comments

Chairman Martinez asked if there were any public comments from the public. There being none, he moved on to agenda item #3.

3. Review and approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 26, 2024.

Dave Hall made a motion to approve the Minutes from February 26, 2024. Gilbert Saldana seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. TWDB Updates

Nick Collins provided an update on activities from TWDB.

5. Discuss and take appropriate action on the current voting member vacancies.

Dave Hall made a motion to direct staff post vacancies for generating electric utilities and agricultural interests. Gisela Dagnino seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discuss and take appropriate action on the proposed revisions to current bylaws.

No action was taken on this item.

7. Discuss and take appropriate action on the 2023 Regional Flood Plan Amendment that is Due April 1, 2025, to include additional Flood Mitigation projects.

Chairman Martinez made a motion to approve the Flood Management Evaluation prioritization list as presented by AECOM to be submitted to the Texas Water Development Board prioritization process with the following amendment allowing the City of El Paso to recommend an FME focusing on watershed and engineering planning, and other studies on flood preparedness that the City of El Paso considers a priority that is not currently listed in the plan. Dave Hall seconded the motion.

Dave Hall made a amendment to Chairman Martinez motion to approve the Flood Management Evaluation prioritization list as presented by AECOM to be submitted to the Texas Water Development Board prioritization process and to also include stream restoration/flood retention projects planned for watersheds above Marfa and Alpine to be considered in addition to the amendment to allow the City of El Paso to recommend an FME focusing on watershed and engineering planning, and other studies on flood preparedness that the City of El Paso considers a priority that is not currently listed in the plan. Levi Bryand seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Presentation on the Flood Management Evaluations to be performed as part of Regional Flood Plan Cycle 2 that is due Jan. 26, 2026.

NO ACTION

9. Discuss and take appropriate action to approve the Flood Management Evaluation Prioritization to be submitted to the State Prioritization.

Dave Hall made a motion to approve the Flood Management Evaluation prioritization list as presented by AECOM to be submitted by the state prioritization. Gisela Dagnino seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Adjourn

Jeff Bennett made a motion to adjourn. Dave Hall seconded the motion. Vice-Chairman Hall called for a vote and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned 12:03 p.m.

December 19, 2024

Date



Javier Acosta, Secretary