

REGION 14. UPPER RIO GRANDE FLOOD PLANNING GROUP  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 3, 2023  
9:00 AM (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>	✓
Zhuping Sheng	<i>Agricultural Interests</i>	X
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>	✓
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>	✓
<u>Non-voting Member</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Present(x)/Absent(____)/ Alternate Present (*)</u>
James Weaver	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department	X
Elijah Casas	General Land Office/Region 14 Liaison	✓
Megan Ingram	Texas Water Development Board	✓
Anita Keese	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	X
Vanessa Rosales-Herrera	Region 15 Liaison	X
Dr. Apurba Borah	International Boundary Water Commission	X
Georgina Gonzalez	Texas Division of Emergency Management	X
JD Lawrence	Texas Department of Agriculture	X
Judy Albus	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board	✓
Others Present:		
Annette Gutierrez, RGCOG	Shawna Payan, TDEM	
Gilbet Andujo, AECOM	Keri Stephens, UT- AUSTIN	
Georgina Gonzalez, TDEM	Samantha Varela, UT - AUSTIN	
Hudspeth County Judge Joann MacKenzie		

1. Welcome and call to order

Chairman Omar Martinez received confirmation that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:01.

2. Public Comments

Chairman Martinez asked if there were any public comments from the public. There were none.

3. Review and approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 21, 2023

Javier Acosta made a motion to approve the Minutes from June 21, 2023. Levi Bryand seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved.

4. TWDB Updates from Megan Ingram

Megan Ingram provided an update on activities from TWDB.

5. Review and approve Administrative expenses

Annette Gutierrez provided the group with the administrative expenses of the Rio Grande Council of Governments from January 2023 to April 2023. The total expenditures for this period is \$15,461.55. The total expenses for the program is \$65,093.38. Gisela Dagnino made a motion to approve the Administrative Expenses as presented. Dave Hall seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved.

6. AECOM Updates

AECOM provided updates to the group about the submission of the amended plan.

7. Review and approve whether to consider additional, region-specific, public notice requirements for the 2nd cycle of regional flood planning.

Omar Martinez made a motion to only utilize the public notice requirements as stipulated by the Texas Water Development Board. Levi Bryand seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved.

8. DRIP-program update on Hudspeth County project

Dr. Keri Stephens provided an update on the project that focused on developing a process to collect community-held knowledge (such as photos; verbal descriptions of water lines and dates of major storms leading to flooding; and verbal identification of areas/locations prone to flooding, etc.) to inform future mapping and modeling products. The main product will be a systematic collection of data focused on documenting and describing flooding in this flash-flood vulnerable community.

9. Adjourn

Jeff Bennett made a motion to adjourn. Gisela Dagnino seconded the motion. Chairman Martinez called for a vote and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

December 19, 2023

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Date

  

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Javier Acosta, Secretary