

**Minutes of Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group  
February 5, 2024  
Edna, Texas**

A meeting of the Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group was held on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the Lavaca Navidad River Authority Office Complex, 4631 FM 3131, located approximately seven (7) miles east of Edna, Jackson County, Texas off FM 3131 and was also available through audio/video teleconference.

Voting Group Members present were Chairman Spenrath, Vice-Chair Neil Hudgins, Secretary Patrick Brzozowski, Members Steve Cooper, Lee Hafernick, Jack Maloney, Vance Mitchell, Dick Ottis, Robert Shoemate, and Ed Weinheimer. Also in attendance was Jaime Burke of Black and Veatch, Ron Ellis and John Mauer of Texas Water Development Board, Gary Broz of the City of Edna, Grace Ward and James Migl of the City of Hallettsville, LNRA Board President Jerry Adelman, LNRA Deputy General Manager Karen Gregory, LNRA Deputy General Manager, Operations Doug Anders, and LNRA Assistant Manager Scott Hartl. Joining via audio/video teleconference were Lauren Gonzales and Alicia Smiley of Black and Veatch, Troy Franklin, and Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group voting members, Marie Day, Jim Coleman, and Jill Sklar.

Absent Voting Group Members were Tom Chandler, Bart McBeth, Edward Pustka, and Michael Sklalicky.

Chairman Spenrath called the meeting to order.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the October 23, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Cooper moved to approve the minutes as presented. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Nominations for New Voting Members**

Brzozowski introduced James Migl, City of Hallettsville as a nominee for Lavaca County, Municipalities voting member.

Brzozowski also introduced Grace Ward, City of Hallettsville Administrator.

Ottis moved to approve James Migl as a voting member, Lavaca County, Municipalities. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Group will continue to seek new members to fill the remaining two (2) vacancies.

**Briefing and Update from Texas Water Development Board**

Ron Ellis, Texas Water Development Board, introduced John Maurer as the new water planner for Region P. Ellis presented an update to the Group as follows:

- Technical Memorandum – Due to TWDB on March 4<sup>th</sup>  
Electronic Submittal Folders will be provided by TWDB in February
- Water Use Survey is open until March 1<sup>st</sup>

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- Water Service Boundary Editor is open until July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Agricultural Water Conservation Grant app period until April 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Informational Webinars February 7<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, and March 27<sup>th</sup>
- RWPG Chairs Call was held on January 16<sup>th</sup>  
Next Chairs Call will be scheduled for April 2024
- Interregional Planning Council  
Next meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup> in Austin with virtual option to attend  
Review of Final Draft of IPC Report (due to TWDB March 4<sup>th</sup>)  
Resources posted on TWDB IPC web page
- Texas Water Fund  
TWDB to seek public input at Board meetings on February 8<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup> and at workshops in Austin (March TBD) and on April 10<sup>th</sup> in Lubbock  
Updated SB29 FAQ and Issues for Consideration and Request for Feedback document are on the TWDB web page
- Upcoming Materials for RWPGs  
County-Specific Water Supply Planning Info & Resource Documents  
Includes Rural Entities and At-Risk Suppliers
- Conservation Resources
- Drought/Drought Preparedness Resources  
List of Entities Required to Submit Drought Contingency Plans to TCEQ  
Drought Preparedness Council Recommendations to RWPGs  
Updated Drought Management Costing Information
- Updated Uniform Costing Model
- Updated One-pager on TWDB web pager: RWP Amendments

### **Reports from Regional Liaisons and Interregional Planning Council Representative**

There were no report updates from Regional Liaisons. Brzozowski reported that the Interregional Planning Council's next meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup> and will discuss and adopt the Interregional Planning Council Report to the Texas Water Development Board.

### **Briefing and Update from Black and Veatch**

Jaime Burke, Black and Veatch, briefed the Group on the Region P Schedule and progress since the last meeting. New or ongoing efforts include:

- Begin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) Outreach and Evaluations for Task 7
- Planning Group responsibilities for all eligible Water User Groups (WUG):  
Gather and request DCPs  
Review DCPs and describe Drought Management Measures

### **2026 Lavaca Regional Water Planning Technical Memorandum**

Burke briefed the Group on the 2026 Lavaca Regional Water Planning Technical Memorandum. She presented the Group with a draft copy of the Technical Memorandum. Task 4C includes development of a mid-cycle deliverable for the 2026 Regional Water Plan with a snapshot of March 2024 data. The data remains in draft

form until the submittal of Adopted Regional Water Plans by the RWPGs in October 2025. The draft Technical Memorandum is due to the TWDB on March 4, 2024.

Burke presented information via power point handout to the Group which included:

- Population and Water Demand Projections
- Source Water Availability
- Existing Water Supplies
- Identified Water Needs
- Infeasible WMSs from 2021 Plan
- Documented Process for Identifying Potentially Feasible WMS
- Potentially Feasible Water Management Strategies
- Interregional Coordination Efforts

Chairman Spenrath requested Public Comments on the Technical Memorandum. There were no public comments.

Weinheimer moved to approve the Technical Memorandum as presented, and to authorize Black and Veatch to submit to the TWDB, to address DB27 updates and non-substantive revisions to the Technical Memorandum, and to address any requests from TWDB associated with processing the Technical Memorandum. Brzozowski seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Task 5B Scope of Work for Evaluating Water Management Strategies**

Burke presented to the Group the draft Task 5B Scope of Work via power point handouts for the Group's discussion.

Hudgins moved to approve and authorize Black and Veatch to submit the notice-to-proceed scope of work request to the TWDB, authorize for Black and Veatch and/or LNRA to work with the TWDB on any follow up information that might be required, and authorize for LNRA to negotiate and execute the subsequent TWDB contract amendment that will be issued. Weinheimer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Schedule Future Meetings**

The Group tentatively scheduled a meeting for May 6, 2024 at noon (12:00 p.m.)

#### **Receive Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.

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Phillip Spenrath  
Chairman