

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGION I - EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING  
Tuesday, September 9, 2025 – 10:00 A.M.**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman John Martin called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.
2. **Invocation/Pledge** – David Alders led the invocation and the Pledge.
3. **Welcome & Introduction**
4. **Roll Call/Determination of Quorum** – The roll was called by Cheryl Bartlett and quorum was determined as follows:

**Voting Members Present: (17 of 22)**

David Alders - Agriculture  
Chris Davis – Counties  
Kate Dietz – Municipality  
David Gorsich – Industry (*Virtual*)  
Scott Hall – River Authority (*Virtual*)  
Kelley Holcomb – River Authority  
Fred Jackson – Counties (*Virtual*)  
John Martin – GMA-14  
Matthew McBroom - Environmental (*Virtual*)  
Matthew Mettauer – Agriculture  
David Miley - Water Districts  
David Montagne – River Authority (*Virtual*)  
Monty Shank – River Authority  
Mike Snyder – Electric Power (*Virtual*)  
Rob Starr – Water Utilities  
Terry D. Stelly – Public  
Christopher Wiesinger – Small Business

**Voting Members Absent: (1)**

Jenny Sanders – Public

**Voting Member Category Vacancies: (4)**

Municipality  
Small Business  
Industry  
GMA-11 (*John McFarland retired*)

**Other Attendees**

**Agencies:**

Lann Bookout – Texas Water Development Board  
Stephen Lange – Texas Parks & Wildlife (*virtual*)  
Manuel Martinez – Texas Department of Agriculture  
Trey Watson – Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board

**Staff and Consultants:**

Cheryl Bartlett - City of Nacogdoches  
Brigit Buff, PE – Plummer Asso.  
Jordan Skipwith – Freese & Nichols

**5. Public Comments:** None

**6. Consideration and Approval of the minutes of the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 meeting**

This item was not addressed at this time.

**7. Reports of adjoining regions activity:**

a. Region C – David Montagne:

Region C & D are in discussions about how the proposed Marvin Nichols reservoir and Toledo Bend reservoir will be presented in their final plan to the State.

b. Region D – John McFarland retired: no representative to Region D at this time

c. Region H – Scott Hall: Planning group will be meeting Oct 1<sup>st</sup> to adopt their final plan

d. Interregional Liaison – Kelley Holcomb: Interregional Planning Council has not met since original adoption of its report about 18 months ago.

**8. Report from Standing Committees:**

a. Executive Committee met this morning to discuss planning for next cycle. No action items at this time.

b. Finance Committee did not meet; no report.

c. Bylaws Committee did not meet; no report.

d. Technical Committee did not meet; no report.

e. Nominations Committee did not meet. Monty Shank reminded group members that we have 3 vacancies – Municipal, Small Business and Industry. John asked group members to forward possible names to him or Monty so we can try to get new members by the time the next planning cycle begins.

**9. Reports from other state agencies:**

a. Texas Water Development Board – Lann Bookout

TWDB is busy reviewing regional water plan data and draft reports. Staff also took public comment on and is in the process of reviewing planning region boundaries. The Board will officially vote on the areas in October but no changes are anticipated. Distributed final fund amounts in contracts with the City of Nacogdoches for this cycle. Agency is in the process of developing a schedule for the 7<sup>th</sup> planning cycle (2031 report).

b. Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife – Stephen Lange (virtual), submitted water use reports for various Regions throughout the state

c. Texas Department of Agriculture – Manuel Martinez, not present, no report.

d. Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board – Trey Watson (virtual), no report.

e. Groundwater Management Areas –

GMA 11 – John Martin announced that John McFarland has retired and GMA 11 will be meeting October 14<sup>th</sup> to appoint a replacement.

GMA 14 – John Martin reported that GMA 14 will meet next week and encouraged everyone to attend. There will be a legal panel present to discuss private property rights and how they affect water rights in Texas. Meeting will be held at the Lone Star Conservation District in Conroe, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm and will also be available online.

**10. Report from consultant team with discussion by RWPG:  
Brigit Buff (Plummer), Jordan Skipwith (Freese & Nichols)**

- a. Summary of Public Comments and Responses on the 2026 Region I Initially Prepared Plan  
The IPP was submitted to TWDB in March. It has been available for approximately 6 months on the website and was sent out to various agencies and public locations such as libraries and county offices.
- b. Overview of Major Updates Incorporated into the Final 2026 Regional Water Plan  
There were no official comments received directly from the public. A spreadsheet listing the comments received from TWDB, along with the proposed revisions, were posted and sent out to the group. Brigit briefly reviewed these comments and the resulting updates to the Region I Plan. The revisions were submitted to TWDB for review and have been approved. They are included in the plan that will be voted on for adoption today. The data in the tables referenced in the report will be finalized by TWDB on September 22nd and available to regions by September 24<sup>th</sup> for possible minor changes needed for coordination between regions. David Alders and Kate Dietz mentioned a few additional minor revisions that were noted for updates.

**11. Consideration and Approval for adoption of the Final 2026 Region I East Texas Regional Water Plan, authorize the submittal of the Plan to the Texas Water Development Board, and authorize the Consultant to review and make any non-substantive changes prior to submittal, included approved revisions discussed in this meeting.**

Motion by David Alders, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kelley Holcomb; passed unanimously

**12. Discuss and consider taking action to authorize the City of Nacogdoches to serve as the Region I Political Subdivision for the 7th cycle of regional water planning.**

John reported that the Executive Committee met today and recommended that the group hold off on this discussion and decision until the committee is able to meet with the City Manager to discuss the City's relationship as the political subdivision for Region I.

**13. Consideration and Approval to authorize the Region I Political Subdivision to provide public notice, submit a grant application to the TWDB, and execute a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the Region I RWPG for initial funding of the 7<sup>th</sup> cycle of Regional Water Planning**

John also recommended tabling discussion for this item.

**14. Questions and Answers** No questions asked.

**15. Set Next Meeting Dates**

Next meeting is set for February 5, 2026, 10:00am.

This meeting will primarily be addressing items 12 and 13 above and items necessary to close out the 6<sup>th</sup> planning cycle.

**16. Adjourned at 10:50 am**

APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

John Martin, Chair  
ETRWPGB – Region I

Terry Stelly, Secretary  
ETRWPGB – Region I

**REGION I - EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING**  
**Tuesday, September 9, 2025 – Second Meeting 10:50 A.M.**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman John Martin called the meeting to order at 10:51 A.M.
2. **Roll Call/Determination of Quorum** – Cheryl Bartlett confirmed that attendance and quorum had not changed from the 10:00 am meeting.
3. **Public Comments:** None
4. **Consideration and Approval of the minutes of the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting**  
*Rob Starr made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Miley, passed unanimously.*
5. **Consideration and Approval of the minutes of the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Public Hearing**  
*Robb Starr made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 Public Hearing as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Judge Chris Davis, passed unanimously.*
6. Adjourned at 10:53 am

APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

John Martin, Chair  
ETRWPGB – Region I

Terry Stelly, Secretary  
ETRWPGB – Region I