

**MINUTES OF THE
REGION I - EAST TEXAS REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP MEETING
Thursday February 5, 2026 – 10:00 A.M.**

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman John Martin called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M.
2. **Invocation/Pledge** – Matthew McBroom offered the Invocation; John Martin led the Pledge.
3. **Notice of Meeting** – Meeting was posted and emailed as required.
4. **Roll Call/Determination of Quorum** – The roll was called by Cheryl Bartlett and quorum was determined as follows:

Voting Members Present: (15 of 22)

Kate Dietz – Municipality (*Virtual*)
David Gorsich – Industry (*Virtual*)
Teresa Griffin – GMA-11
Scott Hall (proxy, Yassin Gallardo)– River Authority (*Virtual*)
Kelley Holcomb – River Authority
Fred Jackson – Counties (*Virtual*)
John Martin – GMA-14
Matthew McBroom - Environmental
Matthew Mettauier – Agriculture
David Miley - Water Districts
David Montagne (proxy, Jamie East) – River Authority (*Virtual*)
Mike Snyder – Electric Power (*Virtual*)
Rob Starr – Water Utilities (*Virtual*)
Terry D. Stelly – Public
Christopher Wiesinger – Small Business

Voting Members Absent: (3)

David Alders - Agriculture
Chris Davis – Counties
Jenny Sanders – Public

Voting Member Category Vacancies: (4)

Municipality
Small Business
Industry
River Authority (*Monty Shank retired*)

Other Attendees

Agencies:

Lann Bookout – Texas Water Development Board

Staff and Consultants:

Cheryl Bartlett - City of Nacogdoches
Krista Hintz – City of Nacogdoches
Brigit Buff, PE – Plummer Asso.
Qiwen Zhang, PE – Plummer Asso.

5. Public Comments: None

6. Consideration and Approval of the minutes of the September 9th, 2025 meeting

Rob Starr made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9th, 2025 meeting as presented, 2nd by Fred Jackson, passed unanimously.

7. Report from City of Nacogdoches:

Cheryl Bartlett introduced Krista Hintz who will be learning the administrative process for the next few months as Cheryl plans to retire later this year. There will most likely be a change in email address for the Admin in the future - details will be shared at a later date. The website is back up and running after a slight delay in getting the domain name renewed in December.

8. Reports of adjoining regions activity:

- a. Region C – Jamie East: no report
- b. Region D – Teresa Griffin agreed to attend future Region D meetings as the ETWPG representative.
- c. Region H – Scott Hall: no report
- d. Interregional Liaison – Kelley Holcomb: has completed work for round 6.

9. Report from Standing Committees:

- a. Executive Committee met this morning to discuss planning for next cycle, including suggestions for new committee members and executive committee to recommend to the Nominations Committee. John announced that Monty Shank has retired.
- b. Finance Committee did not meet; Kelley reported that the round 6 planning cycle will be wrapping up later this month. About 1.2 million has been received in grant funds and estimates show that a little over 1 million has been spent. Final invoices will be reviewed and submitted this month and planning for round 7 begins very soon.
- c. Bylaws Committee did not meet; no report.
- d. Technical Committee did not meet; no report.
- e. Nominations Committee met today and Kelley Holcomb was designated as Interim Chair since Monty Shank has retired. Kelley deferred one action item until Item 10c on the agenda.

10. Report from consultant team with discussion by RWPG:

- a. Report from Consultant Team: Brigit Buff. PE (Plummer) & Qiwen Zhang, PE (Plummer)

Our Region I Water Plan was accepted by the TWDB on January 22, 2026. Plummer must submit final invoices to the City of Nacogdoches by before February 27 with final invoicing to the State completed by April 30th.

Brigit mentioned that she will be giving a presentation on Region I Water Planning at a TWUA lunch meeting in Longview, August 6, 2026. She invited members to attend the function and will provide details to Board Members later in the summer.

Brigit requested input from members on suggestions or goals for the next cycle, including lessons learned, goals for the future and possible ways to engage water providers and users. Some discussion among members followed concerning more accurate population

data evaluation, outreach to our smaller rural areas and input for hearings being held in Austin by Chairman Cody Harris and the House Natural Resources Committee.

Brigit and Qiwen provided a demonstration on a new project they have been working on. The Plummer Team has developed a “dashboard” that allows data from the TWDB that was used in the 2026 Planning Report to be more easily accessed by users through the website. Parameters may be entered with specific criteria such as water providers, water users, dates, counties, water source, etc. to produce reports and graphs concerning supply utilization and strategies.

- b. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Political Subdivision, City of Nacogdoches, to make any necessary revisions/amendments to the budget for the 6th Round of Planning prior to submitting the final payment request due to the Texas Water Development Board by February 27, 2026.

Kelley Holcomb made a motion to approve, 2nd by Terry Stelly, passed unanimously.

- c. Discussion and potential action to appoint and/or reappoint the Regional Water Planning Group Members and standing subcommittees.

1. Kelley Holcomb (Nominations Committee Interim Chair) began by recommending a resolution and recognition for Monty Shank, long-time retiring member. Executive Committee will follow through on this item.

2. Nominations Committee recommended the addition of two new members for positions that are currently vacant:

Municipality - Jason Vickery, Asst City Engineer/Asst Public Works Director, City of Nacogdoches

River Authority - Gina Black, General Manager, Upper Neches River Municipal Water Authority

Kelley Holcomb made a motion to approve both new members, 2nd by John Martin, passed unanimously.

3. Nominations Committee recommended a slate of officers for the Executive Committee for the 7th Planning Cycle: Chair: Matt McBroom, Vice-Chair: David Alders, Secretary: Terry Stelly, At-Large #1: Kelley Holcomb, At-Large #2: John Martin but since voting on them requires a 30-day notice, action on this item will be deferred to the next meeting.

4. The Executive Committee appointed members for the Nominations Committee: Kelley Holcomb, David Miley, Fred Jackson, Chris Weisinger, Jason Vickery.

5. John Martin announced a list of members he recommended be considered for the Standing Committees:

By-Laws Committee: David Alders (chair), Matt Mettauier

John Martin, motion to approve, 2nd by Matt McBroom, passed unanimously.

Finance Committee: Teresa Griffin (chair), John Martin, Kelley Holcomb

John Martin, motion to approve, 2nd by David Mile, passed unanimously.

Technical Committee: Scott Hall (chair), John Martin, Matt McBroom, Terry Stelly, Rob Starr

David Miley, motion to approve, 2nd by John Martin, passed unanimously.

Interlocal Planning Council: Kelley Holcomb, David Alders (alternate)

John Martin, motion to approve, 2nd by Matt McBroom, passed unanimously.

Adjoining Region Liasons:

Region C: David Montagne

Region D: Teresa Griffin

Region H: Scott Hall

Terry Stelly, motion to approve, 2nd by Kelley Holcomb, passed unanimously.

- d. Discussion and possible action to authorize the City of Nacogdoches to serve as the Region I Political Subdivision for the 7th cycle of regional water planning.
Kelley Holcomb made a motion to approve, 2nd by Matt McBroom, passed unanimously.
- e. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Region I Political Subdivision/RWPG Sponsor to 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 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning (2031 Regional Water Plans).
Terry Stelly made a motion to approve, 2nd by Matt McBroom, passed unanimously.
- f. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Political Subdivision, City of Nacogdoches, to issue a Request for Qualifications to solicit a Technical Consultant for the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning in accordance with 31 TAC 355.92(c).
Matt McBroom made a motion to approve, 2nd by David Miley, passed unanimously.
- g. Discuss and take appropriate action to authorize the Executive Committee to review the responses to the Request for Qualifications to solicit a Technical Consultant for the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning.
David Miley made a motion to approve, 2nd by Matt Mattauer, passed unanimously.
- h. Discussion and potential action to authorize the Political Subdivision to provide public notice and hold a pre-planning public meeting to obtain public input on development for the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning.
Matt McBroom made a motion to approve, 2nd by David Miley, passed unanimously.

11. Reports from other state agencies:

a. Texas Water Development Board – Lann Bookout

Lann presented a projected timeline for closing the 6th Planning Cycle and beginning the 7th Cycle for the 2031 Water Plan. New to this cycle will be a Public Hearing in the fall/winter 2026 to address comments from agencies and the public prior to beginning data analysis for the new planning cycle. He also reviewed several programs available from the TWDB to financially aid water providers. Brigit will post a brochure on the Region I website with a consolidated version of the information and requirements from the TWDB for many of their programs to assist water providers with funding.

- b. Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife – not present, no report.
- c. Texas Department of Agriculture – not present, no report.
- d. Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board – Trey Watson (*virtual*), no report.

e. Groundwater Management Areas –

GMA 11 – Teresa Griffin, new GMA 11 representative, GMA 11 will be meeting March 3rd.

GMA 14 – John Martin reported that GMA 14 will meet February 18th to discuss changes to the new model and invited everyone to attend.

12. General Discussion

13. Set Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is set for September 30th, 2026, 10:00 am - to tentatively include a workshop/introduction for new members either before or after the meeting.

14. Adjourned at 11:20 am

APPROVED THIS 30th DAY, SEPTEMBER 2026


John Martin, Chair
ETRWPG – Region I

ATTEST:


Terry Stelly, Secretary
ETRWPG – Region I