East Texas Regional Water Planning Group - Region I
Combined Pre-Planning & Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2026

MINUTES

Pre-Planning Meeting Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** Called to order at 10:05 a.m.
2. **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Kelley Holcomb
3. **Notice of Meeting:** Confirmation of proper meeting posting and notices.
4. **Roll Call and Determination of Quorum:** 17 in attendance. Quorum confirmed.

Present: Christopher Wiesinger, David Miley, Jason Vickery, John Martin, Kelley Holcomb, Matthew Mettauer, Dr. Matthew McBroom, Teresa Griffin, Terry Stelly

Virtual: Judge Chris Davis, David Alders, David Montagne, Fred Jackson, Gina Black, Jenny Sanders, Robb Starr, Tassin Gallardo, Yassin Gallardo

Absent: David Gorsich, Kate Dietz, Mike Snyder, Scott Hall

Also in attendance: Lann Bookout - Texas Water Development Board, Krista Hintz - City of Nacogdoches, Cheryl Bartlett - City of Nacogdoches, Brigit Buff, PE - Plummer Associates, Inc, Jordan Skipwith, PE - Freese and Nichols, Randall Kroll - Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)

5. **Open Meeting to Public Comment period related to the seventh round and development of the 2031 Regional Water Plan (limited to 5 minutes per speaker).**
   Two members of the public spoke:
   - Emile Toups spoke and also provided public comment in written form (See Exhibit A)
   - Co. Judge Carey McKinney spoke
   - Written public comment received by Fawn Elizabeth Zion (See Exhibit B)

Members of the public, representing ranching and local interests in Houston and Anderson Counties, expressed significant concerns regarding large-scale groundwater exports, specifically mentioning the Redtown Ranch project and proposals involving the Carrizo-Wilcox and Queen City aquifers. Key requests included better modeling of high-capacity wells, increased interregional coordination, improved spring flow monitoring, and accurate reflection of local regulatory statuses, such as the formation of Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs).

After the above public comments, John Martin offered guidance for those interested in groundwater management on how Region I is not able to make any changes to numbers coming from the Groundwater Conservation Districts (GCDs) on groundwater usage\demand (Desired Future Conditions, DFC). He noted that regional water planning groups are required to use the data provided by the groundwater

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management areas (GMAs) which are comprised of the local groundwater conservation districts within the GMA. He pointed out that citizens must participate at the local GCD level to affect changes in the groundwater availability data.

6. **Adjourn Pre-Planning Meeting:** Concluded at the end of public comments. 10:22 a.m.

Regular Region I Meeting Agenda

1. **Call to Order:** Called to order at 10:24 a.m.
2. **Confirm Quorum:** Quorum re-confirmed.
3. **Consideration and Approval of Minutes:** Review and approval of minutes from the February 5, 2026 meeting.
   Motion to approve: First - Robb Starr, Second - Fred Jackson. Approved unanimously.
4. **Reports from Standing Committees:**
   a. *Executive Committee* - John Martin will begin drafting a general outline for a procedural/guidance manual for standard operating procedures.
   b. *Finance Committee* - The committee has not met. There is no report.
   c. *Bylaws Committee* - The committee has not met. There is no report.
   d. *Technical Committee* - The committee has not met. There is no report.
   e. *Nominations Committee* - Kelley Holcomb and the Nominations Committee will meet to fill the two open positions on the board, Industrial and Small Business, prior to beginning the Round 7 planning process.
5. **Consideration, Discussion, and Possible Action to Elect Officers and At-Large Executive Committee Members:** Election of executive committee slate.
   a. Chair - Dr. Matthew McBroom
   b. Vice-Chair - David Alders
   c. Secretary - Terry Stelly
   d. At-Large 1 - Kelley Holcomb
   e. At-Large 2 - John Martin

   Motion to approve: First - Robb Starr, Second - Kelley Jackson. Approved unanimously.

Leadership Change: The board adopted a new slate of executive committee members, naming Dr. Matt McBroom as the new chair to succeed John Martin who assumed the role of Chair at 10:31 a.m.

6. **Discussion and possible action to appoint new RWPG members;** Discussion regarding open board seats. The categories of the two remaining vacancies will be confirmed. There will be recommendations at the next meeting.

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7. **Consideration, discussion, and possible action to accept t**he recommendation of the City of Nacogdoches's review committee to select a professional planning and engineering consultant under RFQ No. 26-10-133, and authorize the administrative sponsor to negotiate and execute a professional services contract; Krista Hintz presented Plummer as the consulting firm chosen by the administrative sponsor City of Nacogdoches's review committee for RFQ No. 26-10-133. Consideration and action to accept the recommendation to select Plummer as the planning consultant.
   Motion to approve: First - John Martin, Second - Terry Stelly. Approved unanimously.

8. **Report from the City of Nacogdoches:** Krista Hintz reiterated that the City will move forward contracting with Plummer following the Board's approval.

9. **Reports from Adjoining Regions & Activities:**
   a. Region C- The next meeting is October 19th. Looking at Region I and Region D groundwater and surface water. Hoping for stronger laws to protect local people.
   b. Region D - This group will meet on November 4th.
   c. Region H - Nothing to report.
   d. Inter-regional Liaison Updates - The Inter-Regional Planning Council has not met since its last meeting three to four years ago. During the meeting, the following details were shared regarding the inter-regional liaison updates:
      - **Potential Discontinuation:** Kelley Hollcomb raised a question regarding potential changes to the council. Lann Bookout from the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) clarified that rules requiring the initiation of an inter-regional liaison and council remain on the books. However, the TWDB is conducting a rulemaking process to request its removal from their rules due to a lack of future relevance.
      - **Transition Process:** Because the rule revision and planning timelines do not completely align, the TWDB may still be required to initiate the council's formation before eventually disbanding it once the rule amendment is approved.

10. **Reports from Other State Agencies:**
    a. **Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)** - Lann Bookout reported that contracts are in place, the 2027 state water plan is being finalized for a December approval, and data updates regarding population and water demand projections are forthcoming in early 2027. Also working on Water User Group (WUG) Lists and Population Water Demand Projections.
       i. The Board asked about updated census numbers which TWDB is working on.
       ii. Lann will submit the Board's request to the Texas Water Development Board for virtual presentations regarding state demographer population census updates and state climatologist temperature projection data.

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b. **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD**) - Nothing to report
c. **Texas Department of Agriculture** - No report
d. **Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board** - No report
e. **Groundwater Management Areas (GMAs 11 & 14)** are continuing their work on Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) and encourage public participation.
    i. Teresa Griffin reported that GMA 11 will be meeting October 7th to review five (5) additional scenarios and the updated Tech memo. They are on track to meet the January 2027 deadline to establish the DFCs.
    ii. John Martin reported that GMA 14 met in late April to open a 90-day public comment period followed by a 30-day period for the public to review the gathered information. The group meets again on November 9th and will most likely adopt the proposed DFCs.

11. **General Discussion:** The board discussed the challenges of inaccurate census data, noting that past undercounts negatively impacted rural population projections and consequently regional water planning. Members emphasized the importance of public engagement, particularly through Groundwater Conservation Districts and communication with state representatives.

12. **Next Meeting Date:** Scheduling the next meeting date (set for January 20, 2027 at 10:00 a.m.).

13. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

APPROVED THIS _____ DAY of _____ , 202___

_____ ATTEST: _____

Dr. Matthew McBroom, Chair
ETRWPG - Region I

Terry Stelly, Secretary
ETRWPG - Region I

Exhibit A: Written Public Comment by Emile Toups
Exhibit B: Written Public Comment by Fawn Elizabeth Zion

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