

REGION H
Water Planning Group

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
MEETING MATERIALS

January 18, 2022

Common Region H Terms and Conversion Factors

List of Abbreviations

CRU	Collective Reporting Unit
DCP	Drought Contingency Plan
DFC	Desired Future Condition
DOR	Drought of Record
EA	Executive Administrator
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FWSD	Fresh Water Supply District
GAM	Groundwater Availability Model
GCD	Groundwater Conservation District
GMA	Groundwater Management Area
GPCD	Gallons Per Capita Per Day
GRP	Groundwater Reduction Plan
IFR	Infrastructure Finance Report
IPP	Initially Prepared Plan
MAG	Modeled Available Groundwater
MPC	Master Planned Community
MUD	Municipal Utility District
MWP	Major Water Provider
PDSI	Palmer Drought Severity Index
PWS	Public Water Supply
RFIG	Regional Flood Planning Group
RHWPG	Region H Water Planning Group
ROR	Run-of-River
RWP	Regional Water Plan
RWPA	Regional Water Planning Area
RWPG	Regional Water Planning Group
SWIFT	State Water Implementation Fund for Texas
SWP	State Water Plan
TAC	Texas Administrative Code
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
TWC	Texas Water Code
TWDB	Texas Water Development Board
UCM	Unified Costing Model
URS	Unique Reservoir Site
USS	Unique Stream Segment
WAM	Water Availability Model
WCID	Water Control and Improvement District
WCP	Water Conservation Plan
WMS	Water Management Strategy
WRAP	Water Rights Analysis Package
WUD	Water Utility Database
WUG	Water User Group
WWP	Wholesale Water Provider

Water Measurements

1 acre-foot (AF) = 43,560 cubic feet = 325,851 gallons

1 acre-foot per year (ac-ft/yr) = 325,851 gallons per year = 893 gallons per day

1 gallon per minute (gpm) = 1,440 gallons per day = 1.6 ac-ft/yr

1 million gallons per day (mgd) = 1,000,000 gallons per day = 1,120 ac-ft/yr

**Region H Water Planning Group
Nominating Committee
10:00 AM Tuesday
January 18, 2022
North Harris County Regional Water Authority Office
3648 Cypress Creek Parkway, Suite 110, Houston, Texas 77068**

AGENDA

1. Call to order.
2. Introductions.
3. Review and approve minutes of April 4, 2018 Nominating Committee meeting.
4. **Receive public comments on specific issues related to agenda items 5 and 6.** (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
5. Discuss and consider making recommendations to the Region H Water Planning Group (WPG) regarding the election of officers and designation of executive committee members.
6. Discuss and consider making recommendations to the Region H WPG regarding vacant WPG positions.
7. **Receive public comments.** (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)
8. Adjourn.

Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and would like to request auxiliary aids or services are requested to contact Philip Taucer at (713) 600-6835 at least three business days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

Agenda Item 3

Review and approve minutes of April 4, 2018 Nominating Committee meeting.

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
NOMINATING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 4, 2018**

A meeting of the Region H Water Planning Group Nominating Committee was held at 9:30 a.m., April 4, 2018, at the San Jacinto River Authority General and Administration Building. A notice of said meeting was posted as required by law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Hebert, David Bailey, Michael Turco, Glenn Lord, Bill Teer

DESIGNATED ALTERNATES: Alisa Max (alternate for John Blount)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmie Schindewolf

NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Evans

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Pudge Willcox

CONSULTANT TEAM: Courtney Corso

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Hebert welcomed the committee members and guests to the meeting.

Mr. Evans provided background on Agenda Items 3 and 4. Regarding Item 3, He listed the current members of the Region H Officers and Executive Committee, including himself, and suggested that he believed all officers were willing to continue to serve in their current positions. He reminded the Committee that if nominations were made to the Executive Committee, no more than one member representing each interest can stand on the Executive Committee.

Regarding Item 4, Mr. Evans explained that three positions in the Region H Water Planning Group are currently vacant. He had attempted to contact a person recommended by Gene Fisseler to fill the Electric Generating Utilities position but had not been successful. Mr. Evans also asked the Committee to confirm that any nominees would be capable and would have their employer's approval to devote time to RWPG and Committee meetings. Mr. Evans then excused himself from the remainder of the Nominating Committee meeting.

2. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 3 AND 4.

There were no public comments.

3. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REGION H WPG REGARDING THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DESIGNATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS.

Mr. Hebert suggested that no change be made to the current officers and Executive Committee members of the Region H WPG. This suggestion was unanimously approved by the Nominating Committee.

4. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE REGION H WPG REGARDING VACANT WPG POSITIONS.

The Committee considered a recommendation by David Collinsworth, who had just resigned from the WPG, to replace his position as a River Authority representative with Brad Brunett of the Brazos River Authority. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend Mr. Brunett's nomination to the WPG.

No recommended candidates were presented for the vacancies in Small Business and Electric Generating Utilities. The Committee agreed to recommend to the WPG that these positions remain vacant until suitable candidates can be found.

5. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS.

There were no public comments.

6. ADJOURN.

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 9:44 a.m.

Agenda Item 6

Discuss and consider making recommendations to the Region H WPG regarding vacant WPG positions.

**NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MEMBER REPRESENTING AGRICULTURE**

The Region H Water Planning Group (WPG) is hereby giving notice of a vacancy on the Region H Water Planning Group for a voting member representing agriculture. The Region H WPG may consider making an appointment to fill this vacancy on or after February 2, 2022. The term of this appointment ends in 2026.

Background:

The Region H WPG was established by appointment of an initial coordinating body by the TWDB on February 19, 1998, and one subsequent additional appointment by the initial coordinating body. The purpose of the Region H WPG shall be to provide comprehensive regional water planning and to carry out the related responsibilities placed on regional water planning groups by state law, including Texas Water Code Chapter 16 and TWDB rules, including 31 TAC Chapters 355, 357, and 358, in and for the Region H Water Planning Area (WPA).

Responsibilities:

The Region H WPG shall have the responsibility for performing the functions defined in Texas Water Code, Chapter 16 and in 31 TAC Chapters 355, 357, and 358 related to regional water planning groups for the Region H WPA. Foremost among those responsibilities shall be the development of a regional water plan for the Region H WPA that identifies both short and long-term water supply needs and recommends water management strategies for addressing them.

Conditions of Membership:

In order to be eligible for voting membership on the Region H WPG, a person must represent the interest for which a member is sought, be willing to participate in the regional water planning process, and abide by the bylaws.

Any entity or individual within the Region H area interested in nominating a representative to serve as a voting member representing agriculture may submit a letter of interest or recommendation to:

Mark Evans, Chair Region H WPG
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305

Philip Taucer

From: John G [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 11:38 AM
To: info@regionhwater.org
Cc: John G
Subject: RE: Agriculture Voting Member

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, Mr. Evans.

Per our conversation, I am providing you with a brief background on myself.

I am a long time resident of Montgomery County. My family owns the Lovin G Ranch in Magnolia on Lake Creek.

www.goodhay.com I am a member of the Montgomery County Farm association and other related farm and ranch associations.

In addition to the above, I am a past Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader. I work in the oil and gas business, defense and other industries worldwide.

It was a pleasure to speak with you.

John Graziano
Operations Manager.
The Lovin G Ranch LLC.

[REDACTED]

From: John G
Sent: Wednesday, October 6, 2021 8:21 AM
To: info@regionhwater.org
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Agriculture Voting Member

Hello, Mr. Evans.

I am interested in becoming a voting member to represent agriculture for Region H Water Planning Group.

Thank you.

John Graziano
Operations Manager.
The Lovin G Ranch LLC.

[REDACTED]

**NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MEMBER REPRESENTING COUNTIES**

The Region H Water Planning Group (WPG) is hereby giving notice of a vacancy on the Region H Water Planning Group for a voting member representing counties. The Region H WPG may consider making an appointment to fill this vacancy on or after February 2, 2022. The term of this appointment ends in 2026.

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Any county within the Region H area interested in nominating a representative to serve as a voting member representing counties may submit a letter of interest or recommendation to:

Mark Evans, Chair Region H WPG
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305



Harris County, Texas

1001 Preston St., Suite 934
Houston, Texas 77002

Request for Court Action
Commissioners Court

File #:21-5341

Agenda Date:10/12/2021

Agenda #259.

Department: County Engineer

Department Head/Elected Official: Loyd Smith, P.E., Interim County Engineer

Regular or Supplemental RCA: Regular RCA

Type of Request: Executive Session

Project ID (if applicable): N/A

Vendor/Entity Legal Name (if applicable): N/A

MWDBE Participation (if applicable): N/A

*See Attached Order

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Judge Lina Hidalgo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Rodney Ellis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Adrian Garcia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. Tom S. Ramsey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comm. R. Jack Cagle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Request Summary (Agenda Caption):

Request by the Office of the County Engineer for an Executive Session for discussion and possible action concerning the nomination of Loyd Smith, P.E., to the Texas Water Development Board™s Region H Water Planning Committee (TWDB) to represent counties, to fill the seat vacated by John R. Blount, P.E., upon his retirement from Harris County.

Background and Discussion:

The Texas Water Development has established regional committees to address the planning required to ensure the state has adequate (drinking) water in the future; Harris County is located in Region H. John Blount, P.E., has served as a representative for counties within Region H for many years. Loyd Smith, P.E., has served as John™s alternate to this committee at the time of John™s retirement. The Committee will determine who John™s replacement is amongst all the counties within its boundaries. This letter is to endorse Loyd as the candidate from Harris County: <http://regionhwater.org/about/planninggroup.html>

Expected Impact:

The support of the nomination of Loyd Smith, P.E., will provide additional credibility to Loyd™s application materials for this position.

Alternative Options:

Court may choose to nominate a different individual to serve on the Committee, or Court may choose to pull Harris County out of participating in the committee.

Alignment with Goal(s):

- Justice and Safety
- Economic Opportunity
- Housing
- Public Health
- Transportation
- Flooding
- Environment
- Governance and Customer Service

Presented to Commissioners Court

October 12, 2021

Approve: R/E *See attached order

Prior Court Action (if any):

Date	Agenda Item #	Action Taken
12/1/2020		Lloyd Smith, P.E. named as alternate to John R. Blount, P.E.

Location:

Address (if applicable):

Precinct(s): Countywide

Fiscal and Personnel Summary				
Service Name	-	FY 21-22	Estimates	
			FY 22	Next 3 FYs
Incremental Expenditures				
Labor Expenditures	-	-	-	-
Non-Labor Expenditures	-	-	-	-
Total Incremental Expenditures	-	-	-	-
Funding Sources (General Fund, PIC Fund, Debt or CP, Grants, or Other - Please Specify)				
Existing Budget	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total Current Budget	-	-	-	-
Additional Budget Requested	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Total Additional Budget Requested	-	-	-	-
Total Funding Sources	-	-	-	-
Personnel (Fill out section only if requesting new PCNs)				
Current Position Count for Service	-	-	-	-

Additional Positions Requested	-	-	-
Total Personnel	-	-	-

Anticipated Implementation DateOctober 12, 2021

Emergency/Disaster Recovery NoteNot an emergency, disaster, or COVID-19 related item

Contact(s) name, title, departmentLloyd Smith, P.E., Interim County Engineer, Harris County Engineering Department

Attachments (if applicable)N/A

ORDER OF COMMISSIONERS COURT

The Commissioners Court of Harris County, Texas, convened at a meeting of the Court at the Harris County Administration Building in the City of Houston, Texas, on October 12, 2021 with all members present.

Commissioner Ramsey introduced an order and made a motion that the same be adopted. Commissioner Ellis seconded the motion for adoption of the order. The motion, carrying with it the adoption of the order, prevailed by the following vote:

Vote of the Court	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Judge Hidalgo	✓	□	□
Comm. Ellis	✓	□	□
Comm. Garcia	✓	□	□
Comm. Ramsey, P.E.	✓	□	□
Comm. Cagle	✓	□	□

The County Judge thereupon announced that the motion had duly and lawfully carried and that the order had been duly and lawfully adopted. The order thus adopted follows:

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. The nomination of Loyd Smith, P.E., to the Texas Water Development Board’s Region H Water Planning Committee (TWDB) to represent counties, to fill the seat vacated by John R. Blount, P.E., upon his retirement from Harris County be approved.

Presented to Commissioners Court

October 12, 2021

Approve: R/E

**NOTICE OF VACANCY FOR
REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
MEMBER REPRESENTING PUBLIC**

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Mark Evans, Chair Region H WPG
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305

Hon. Mark Evans, Chairman
Region H Planning Group
c/o San Jacinto River Authority
P.O. Box 329
Conroe, Texas 77305
November 1, 2021

Dear Judge Evans,

It is with some regret that I am submitting to you my resignation from the Region H Planning Group. It has been a long and rewarding experience for me. The time has come for me to focus on other interests. This is not to say I won't occasionally show up in the audience. This is not an easy decision, and I will miss the interaction with the members of the Group and former colleagues. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the meeting on November 3rd and wish you all great success in future planning for the region.

Warm Regards,



Carl Masterson

General Public Representative

January 6, 2022

Mark Evans, Chair
Region H Water Planning Group

Dear Mark:

I would like to be considered for appointment to the "Public" member position on the Region H Water Planning Group that became vacant when Carl Masterson resigned this past November. As you know, I was Carl's alternate to the Planning Group for many years and participated in a number of Planning Group meetings when he was not able to attend. My knowledge of the regional water planning process and specifically of the Region H water planning effort is extensive. I was involved in the passage of SB 1 in the 1997 state legislative session, which created the regional water planning process, and have actively monitored implementation of the process and the development of the Region H water plans for over 20 years.

For the past three years I have been a full-time resident in Region H. My wife and I live on property in rural Austin County inherited from my family in 2012 that was originally a cotton farm and later a cattle ranch operated by my grandparents and then by my parents (my family got out of the cattle business in 2000 and the property is now leased for pasture). This property was purchased by one of my great grandfathers in 1918 and sold to my grandfather, his son-in-law, in 1920. My ancestors actually moved to Austin County from neighboring Washington County in 1896, so there is a long family history in the region that informs my perspective about the value of long-range water planning.

In addition to my family heritage in Austin County, I am intimately familiar with the Houston-Galveston area. I grew up in Houston (in the Heights and Timbergrove Manor neighborhoods) and attended public schools there, graduating from then Reagan High School in 1965. During the summers while I was in college, I worked for an oil field equipment manufacturer in Houston. After getting my undergraduate degree and my Master's degree and then serving in the U. S. Army, I returned full-time to Houston to attend graduate school at Rice University, from which I received a PhD in Political Science in 1979. During my years at Rice, I also taught part-time at Houston Community College during the summer and I became active in the Section 208 Water Quality Planning Process conducted for the region by the Houston-Galveston Area Council of Governments, H-GAC (which by the way is where I met Carl Masterson).

Over the years of my professional career, I have been a member of many advisory groups which engaged in collaborative work on a variety of issues, including not only water quality but also solid waste management, hazardous waste management, pollution prevention, air quality, freshwater inflows, water conservation, and environmental science, among others. Currently I serve on the stakeholder committees for the Trinity-San Jacinto Basin & Galveston Bay and the Brazos Basin areas as part of the SB 3 environmental flow standards process. These activities

have given me a great deal of experience in working with others to seek consensus on important issues of public interest, which is a critical part of regional water planning.

Moreover, I continue to be actively involved in statewide water matters as a member of the board of the Texas Water Foundation and a participant in the Texas Water Research Network. I would look forward to sharing the knowledge gained from these activities to help inform the work of the Region H Water Planning Group.

In conclusion, I sincerely believe that I have a great deal of background that would allow me to contribute significantly as a member of the Region H Water Planning Group. Although most of the people involved in the Region H water planning process are probably most aware of my track record as an environmental advocate, my life experiences as noted above are actually much broader than that. My family background in agriculture, my military service, my work for an oil field equipment manufacturer, my early career in academia (teaching at Angelo State University and Texas A&M as well as at the community college level), my current status as a rural landowner and resident and the owner of a domestic groundwater well, my use of rainwater collection and storage for potable water supply, and other experiences give me the broad perspective to be able to represent the "Public" on the Region H Water Planning Group.

Thank you for the opportunity to seek appointment to the Region H Water Planning Group.

Sincerely,



Ken Kramer

