

**REGION H WATER PLANNING GROUP
POPULATION DEMANDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 21, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marvin Marcell, Robert Istre, Mike Turco (virtual), and Byron Ryder (virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ivan Langford and Mark Evans

CONSULTANT TEAM: Philip Taucer, Jason Afinowicz, and Courtney Corso

OTHER ATTENDEES: Julia Frankovich and Lianna Gregorian (BGE, Inc. / North Fort Bend Water Authority) and Sheila Cunningham (Bolivar Peninsula SUD)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:23 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Mr. Marcell welcomed the committee members and public to the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves. Mr. Turco and Judge Ryder attended the meeting virtually via Microsoft Teams.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 31, 2017 COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Istre made a motion to approve the minutes from July 31, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Turco and carried.

4. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS 5 THROUGH 7.

There were no comments related to this item.

5. DISCUSS COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES AND SCHEDULE

Mr. Taucer presented the upcoming schedule for activities related to population and demand projections in 2022 and 2023, including upcoming coordination between the Harris-Galveston and Fort Bend Subsidence Districts, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the Region H Water Planning Group (RHWPG). Mr. Marcell mentioned the importance of the Committee and others' involvement in reviewing TWDB projections, particularly because of concerns related to potential Census undercounts in the Region H area.

6. RECEIVE PRESENTATION ON AND DISCUSS PRELIMINARY TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD (TWDB) WATER USER GROUP (WUG) DATA FOR THE 2026 REGION H REGIONAL WATER PLAN AND POTENTIAL REVISIONS TO WUG LISTINGS, PROPOSED PER-CAPITA DEMAND RATES, AND OTHER FACTORS.

Mr. Taucer explained the TWDB approach to defining WUGs, including what usage is and is not represented in demand projections for each WUG. TWDB generally maintained named municipal WUGs that were included in the 2021 Region H Regional Water Plan unless the WUG is no longer active. Mr. Taucer provided a summary of changes in the draft WUG list relative to the 2021 Regional

Water Plan and proposed revisions for the Committee's consideration based upon technical review of the draft WUG list and background data.

Mr. Marcell asked Ms. Frankovich (attending on behalf of BGE, Inc. and North Fort Bend Water Authority (NFBWA) whether George Ranch is part of NFBWA. She confirmed that it is a contract participant but is not within the Authority's boundaries. Mr. Taucer suggested that the George Ranch area could be considered for evaluation as a sub-WUG since it is expected to grow substantially but is currently part of the County-Other, Fort Bend WUG. Ms. Frankovich commented that NFBWA would appreciate this approach so that demands in the George Ranch could be evaluated individually in the 2026 Regional Water Plan.

Ms. Frankovich confirmed that NFBWA would not have concerns with the TWDB change that removed two Texas Department of Criminal Justice water systems from NFBWA such that they are now shown as individual named WUGs.

Judge Ryder had to leave the meeting during discussion of Item 6.

Mr. Istre asked whether systems using only groundwater wells are still considered WUGs. Mr. Taucer confirmed that they are if the volume threshold is met and that the definition of a WUG is not dependent on water sources used.

The Committee discussed the current and past drought conditions in Texas and how these conditions may relate to data in the 2026 Regional Water Plan.

7. CONSIDER TAKING ACTION TO RECOMMEND CHANGES TO PRELIMINARY WUG PLANNING DATA AND AUTHORIZING THE CONSULTANT TEAM TO COMPILE AND TRANSMIT THE FORMAL REVISION REQUEST TO TWDB.

Mr. Turco made a motion to authorize the consultant team to compile and transmit the formal revision request to TWDB. The motion was seconded by Mr. Istre and carried unanimously by the present Committee members (Mr. Turco, Mr. Istre, and Mr. Marcell).

8. RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

9. ADJOURN

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.