

DRAFT

Interregional Planning Council Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2024, 1:00 p.m. to 1:33 p.m.

Held in person in the Stephen F. Austin Building, Austin TX and virtually via Microsoft Teams

Council decisions bolded and italicized in document

Participation: Number of Interregional Planning Council members present 13 of 16

A	Ben Weinheimer	E	Scott Reinert – absent	I	Kelley Holcomb	M	Jim Darling
B	Randy Whiteman-absent	F	Tommy Ervin (alternate)	J	Tara Bushnoe (alternate)	N	Carl Crull
C	Jenna Covington	G	Gail Peek	K	David Van Dresar	O	Melanie Barnes
D	Fred Milton (alternate)	H	Mark Evans	L	Tim Andruss	P	Patrick Brzozowski

Presiding Officer: Council Chair Mark Evans

Senators/Representatives/Other VIPs in Attendance: None

Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Board Members and Staff: Temple McKinnon, Elizabeth McCoy, Sarah Lee, Lann Bookout, Brittany Condry, Heather Rose, Michele Foss, Kevin Smith, and John Maurer

Council alternates present in addition to participating members: Fred Milton (Region D), Tommy Ervin (Region F), Tara Bushnoe (Region J), and Jonathan Stinson (Region L)

MEETING GENERAL

Elizabeth McCoy (TWDB) called roll and determined that a quorum was present. Council Chair Mark Evans (Region H) called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Welcome

Mr. Evans welcomed the Council to the meeting.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Evans asked if there were any comments from members of the public. No comments were provided.

3. Minutes from November 30, 2023 Meeting

The Council considered the minutes of the November 30, 2023 meeting. Jim Darling (Region M) made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Melanie Barnes (Region O) seconded the motion. ***The minutes were unanimously approved.***

4. Discussion and Adoption of the Interregional Planning Council Report to the Texas Water Development Board

Council members reviewed the final draft of the Interregional Planning Council Report to the Texas Water Development Board. Fred Milton (Region D) made a motion to adopt the Interregional Planning Council Report to the Texas Water Development Board. Carl Crull (Region N) seconded the motion. ***The Council unanimously adopted the Interregional Planning Council Report to the Texas Water Development Board.***

Temple McKinnon (TWDB) noted that TWDB will route a signature page to Council members that will be included in the final published report. TWDB will send Council members a final copy of their report before the March 4, 2024 report deadline.

5. TWDB Update

Ms. McKinnon provided an overview of direct reuse projects that TWDB has funded in the last five years as requested by Mr. Darling at the Council's November 2023 meeting. Mr. Darling shared observations about direct reuse projects in Region M and noted that distribution costs for direct reuse costs can be prohibitive.

Ms. Barnes asked if the TWDB has a list of all reuse projects, both funded and non-funded. Ms. McKinnon noted that the TWDB has a funded project viewer on the TWDB website that includes all projects funded by the TWDB. Mr. Darling mentioned that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality should have that information. Mr. Evans mentioned that the North Harris County Regional Water Authority is developing a report on projects funded by the organization. Mr. Evans can share the report with those interested. Ms. Barnes mentioned that she would like that information.

Jenna Covington (Region C) highlighted that there are many projects that would not be shown on the list provided by Ms. McKinnon because they are indirect reuse projects or direct reuse projects that did not have a dedicated capital expenditure. Ms. Barnes asked if projects like those mentioned by Ms. Covington tend to show up in best practices. Ms. Covington agreed.

Ms. McKinnon provided an update on TWDB implementation of Senate Bill 28. The TWDB is currently seeking stakeholder input on implementation of Senate Bill 28. The TWDB website has information on TWDB implementation and stakeholder surveys. On March 20 at 1:30 p.m., the TWDB will hold an in-person stakeholder meeting in Austin, TX at the Barbra Jordan Building. The TWDB Board will also hold a board meeting in Lubbock, TX on April 11. TWDB Communications staff will provide information on Senate Bill 28 implementation to regional water planning group sponsors to share with planning group stakeholders.

6. Consider Future Interregional Planning Council Meetings

Mr. Evans noted that the Council has TWDB support through the end of 2024. Ms. Covington asked if the Council had accomplished its legislative charge with the adoption of its report to the TWDB. Mr. Evans confirmed that the Council has accomplished its charge. Ms. Covington proposed that a subsequent Council meeting is not needed at this time.

Ms. Covington made a motion that the Council not schedule a future meeting at this time, but the Council could reconvene prior to the end of 2024 subject to the call of the chair or TWDB staff. Kelley Holcomb (Region I) seconded the motion. ***The motion was unanimously approved.***

7. Public Comment

Mr. Evans asked if there were any comments from members of the public. No comments were provided.

8. Adjourn

Mr. Evans adjourned the meeting at 1:33 p.m.