

REGIONAL WATER PLANNING GROUP – AREA B

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, October 1, 2025

The Regional Water Planning Group – Area B held a public meeting on Wednesday, October 1, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., in the Conference Room of Red River Authority of Texas, 3000 Hammon Road, Wichita Falls, Texas with the following members, staff and guests present:

- RWPG Members:**
- Mr. Kyle Miller, Chair, Wichita County Water Improvement District No. 2, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Tracy Mesler, Vice Chair, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Nocona
 - Mr. Jimmy Banks, Iowa Park
 - Mr. J. K. Rooter Brite, J.A. Ranch, Bowie
 - Judge Mark Christopher, Foard County, Crowell
 - Mr. Fabian Heaney, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Judge Jim Johnson, Wichita County, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Darell Kennon, City of Vernon
 - Mr. Tom Parker, Olney Economic Development, Olney
 - Mr. Jerry Payne, Henrietta
 - Mr. Russell Schreiber, City of Wichita Falls (arrived at 10:14 a.m)
 - Mr. Lynn Smith, Rolling Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Seymour
 - Ms. Risa Tole, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon
- RWPG Alternates:**
- Mr. Bert Cunningham, City of Bowie
 - Mr. Doug Shaw, Upper Trinity Groundwater Conservation District, Springtown
- Consultants and Staff:**
- Mr. Robert Adams, Plummer, Austin
 - Mr. Walter Chandler, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Oklahoma City
 - Ms. Cara Glasscock, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Ms. Stacey Green, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Glen Hite, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Kerry Maroney, Biggs and Mathews, Inc., Wichita Falls
 - Mr. Jeremy Rice, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Tulsa
 - Mr. Bryan Schaffner, Red River Authority of Texas, Wichita Falls
- Discretionary:**
- Ms. Jennifer Meador, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Abilene
 - Mr. Kade Rogers, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board, Dublin
 - Mr. Kevin Smith, Texas Water Development Board, Austin
 - Mr. James York, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Wichita Falls

Guest: Ms. Anya Allen, Plummer, Austin
Ms. Deborah Clark, Rancher, Henrietta
Mr. Shane Cody, Henrietta
Mr. Brandon Early, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Ms. Jennifer Foster, Senator Charles Perry’s Office, Childress
Ms. Liz Flynn, Representative Ronny Jackson’s Office, Wichita Falls
Mr. Dylan Jimenez, KFDX News, Wichita Falls
Mr. Neil Pugliese, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Mr. Alvin Runnels, KAUZ News, Wichita Falls
Ms. Qiwen Thang, Plummer, Austin

Item One: Public Meeting Call to Order, Invocation, Roll Call (Establish a Quorum) and Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Kyle Miller, Chair of the Regional Water Planning Group - Area B (RWPG – B), called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and Mr. Payne delivered the invocation. Mr. Miller then called roll and noted the following absences: Ms. Tamela Armstrong and her alternate Mr. Max Vordenbaum, Mayor Pro Tem Gayle Simpson and her alternate Mayor Ronnie Allen, Mr. Dean Myers, Mr. Robert Zuchlewski and his alternate Mr. Steve Teaff, Mr. Keith Teichman, Ms. Carrie Dodson and her alternate Mr. Chase Reed. The presence of a quorum was confirmed by Mr. Miller.

Item Two: Public Input and Comments to the Regional Water Planning Group – Area B (each speaker is required to sign up and limited to three minutes per speaker)

Ms. Deborah Clark, representing Clay County, took the floor and reviewed regional population projections issued by the Texas Demographics Center and Texas Water Development Board (TWDB). She also expressed her concerns regarding the proposed construction of Lake Ringgold as a water management strategy (WMS) for Region B. In closing, Ms. Clark requested that the Region B Group consider removing the Lake Ringgold WMS from the *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan*.

Mr. Shane Cody, of Henrietta addressed the group, requesting that the Region B Group not adopt the proposed *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan*. He discussed Region B population projections from the Texas Demographics Center and Texas Water Development Board and presented projected costs for the Lake Ringgold Project. Mr. Cody urged the Region B Group to consider alternative, more cost-effective WMS options.

Note: At 10:14 a.m., Mr. Russell Schreiber, voting member, arrived and was noted as present.

Item Three: Review and Consider Approval of Minutes of the February 5, 2025 Region B Public Meeting

Mr. Miller presented the draft minutes of the February 5, 2025 Public Meeting to the group for approval. With no comments or discussion, Mr. Brite motioned to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Mesler seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **14 For** and **0 Opposed**.

Item Four: Review and Consider Approval of Minutes of the April 1, 2025 Region B 2026 Initially Prepared Plan Public Hearing

Mr. Miller presented the draft minutes of the April 1, 2025 Public Hearing to the group for approval. With no comments or discussion, Judge Johnson motioned to approve the minutes as written. Judge Christopher seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **14 For and 0 Opposed**.

Item Five: Review and Consider Approval of the Current Region B Financial Statement

Ms. Green reviewed the current financial statement, billing status, and contract balances. She noted that the TWDB final Amendment No. 4 was executed by the Authority on July 24, 2025, releasing the final committed contract funds of \$64,526. With no questions or comments, Mr. Heaney motioned to approve the financial statement as presented. Mr. Banks seconded the motion. The motion passed with vote of **14 For and 0 Opposed**.

Item Six: Discuss and Consider Action on Responses to Public Comments Received on the Region B 2026 Initially Prepared Plan

Mr. Rice confirmed that there were no public comments received during the Region B 2026 Initially Prepared Plan (IPP) Hearing held on April 1, 2025. He then summarized post-hearing comment letters received from the Texas Conservation Alliance, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the TWDB noting that all comments and responses can be reviewed in Appendix H of the IPP.

Mr. Smith added that comments received from the TWDB were standard overall and mainly focused on clarity of the population projections, which he feels have been addressed.

Item Seven: Discuss and Consider Action on Adoption of the 2026 Region B Regional Water Plan, Approval for the Technical Consultant Team to Make Non-Substantive Edits to the Adopted Plan Prior to Submittal, and Authorization for the Red River Authority and Technical Consultants to Submit the Final Plan to the Texas Water Development Board by the October 20, 2025 Deadline

Mr. Rice highlighted the appendices that were incorporated into the IPP following its distribution to the Region B members. He noted that the Socioeconomic Impact Analysis was prepared by the TWDB and included in the IPP as Appendix E. Mr. Kevin Smith mentioned that the TWDB issued an addendum for the Analysis that acknowledged underreported manufacturing water use in 2020. Mr. Rice continued discussion noting that Appendix K – TWDB Adopted Projections and Appendix L – Plumbing Code Savings have also been incorporated into the IPP as part of the final *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan*. Mr. Rice then opened the floor to questions and comments.

Mr. Brite inquired if Wichita County has encountered a decline in population. Mr. Schreiber replied “no.”

Mr. Mesler discussed the importance of developing methods to estimate population projections and demands for Region B, and the need for public participation throughout the entire regional water planning process.

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Mr. Lynn Smith and Mr. Miller reiterated the importance of public participation throughout the 5-year planning process.

Mr. Parker commended the Region B Group for their consistent efforts in ensuring that the estimated higher population projections were included in the *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan*.

Mr. Schreiber stated that water planning is a “ground up process” with a consensus driven approach of local citizens. He added that the City of Wichita Falls is moving forward with the construction of Lake Ringgold as an approved WMS for Region B.

With no further comments, Mr. Schreiber motioned to adopt the *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan* allowing the consultants to make non-substantive edits prior to submittal and authorize the Red River Authority and consultants to submit the final Plan to the TWDB by the deadline. Mr. Lynn Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **13 For** and **1 Opposed**.

Item Eight: Other Discussion

A. Texas Water Development Board Region B Project Manager Updates

Mr. Smith discussed the reviewing process for regional water planning (RWP) boundaries. He confirmed that the comment period for RWP boundary revisions has closed and the TWDB anticipates taking the item before their Board in October. Mr. Smith also mentioned that the presentation of the Socioeconomic Impact Analysis for 2026 RWPs is available on the TWDB website. His discussion continued with some information on Proposition 4 and the Texas Water Fund, which is pending voter approval in November 2025. In closing, Mr. Smith highlighted the anticipated timeline for the 7th cycle of Regional Water Planning (2031 Regional Water Plans) contracts.

There was some general discussion concerning Proposition 4, and Ms. Foster with Senator Charles Perry’s office provided some insight into the appropriation of funds for water.

B. Interregional Planning Council Member Update

Mr. Miller confirmed that the Council held a virtual meeting in May 2025 and reviewed the upcoming RWP deadlines and updates.

C. Region B Administrative Agency Updates

Ms. Green informed the members that she is currently working with Mr. Rice to finalize the paperwork for Amendment No. 3, and Amendment No. 4 has been executed releasing the remaining

Item Eight: Other Discussion (continued)

contract funds. She added that hard copies of the *Region B 2026 Regional Water Plan* are available upon request. Ms. Green also announced that Ms. McKinzi Donnell has been appointed alternate for Mr. Lynn Smith.

D. Regional Water Planning Groups A, C, G, and O Liaison Updates

There were no reports for Regions A and O.

Mr. Shaw reported that Regions C and D have an interregional conflict concerning the Marvin Nichols Reservoir and have agreed to obtain funding for additional studies. He added that Region C is scheduled to meet and adopt their Plan on October 6, 2025.

Mr. Smith informed the group that Region G is scheduled to meet on October 7, 2025, to adopt their Plan.

E. Groundwater Management Areas' 6 and 8 Representative Updates

Mr. Lynn Smith reported that GMA 6 is scheduled to hold a meeting on November 18, 2025. He added that GMA 6 is looking at participating in a grant for aqua testing in their area.

Mr. Shaw reported that the GMA 8 updated model of the Trinity Aquifer is pending TWDB approval, and model runs are currently being performed to set the Desired Future Conditions (DFCs) for GMA 8.

F. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Representative Updates

Mr. Pugliese provided some updates on the Dundee State Fish Hatchery.

G. Texas Department of Agriculture Representative Updates

There was no report for the Texas Department of Agriculture

H. Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board Representative Updates

Mr. Rogers reported that the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board is meeting today and he will report on any new developments at the next Region B meeting.

Item Nine: Consider Date and Agenda Items for the Next Region B Public Meeting

Mr. Miller noted that officer elections and preparations for the 7th cycle of planning would be on the next meeting agenda. The group discussed optional dates and confirmed January 28, 2026 for the next meeting.

Item Ten: Adjourn

Mr. Miller called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:14 a.m. Mr. Banks moved to adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Heaney seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of **14 For** and **0 Opposed**.



Kyle W. Miller, Chair



Dean Myers, Secretary