

Agenda Item 5. Discussion and Appropriate Action Regarding Nomination of a Region F Representative for the Interregional Planning Council

In 2019, the Texas Legislature passed House Bill (HB) 807, which added new requirements to the regional planning process. One of these requirements dictates that the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) shall appoint an Interregional Planning Council during each five-year cycle for the adoption of a new State Water Plan. This council will consist of one member from each regional water planning group, who will serve until a new State Water Plan is adopted. Each regional water planning group shall nominate one or more members for appointment to the council, and the TWDB shall consider the nominations in making appointments to the council.

The purpose of this Interregional Planning Council is to improve coordination among the regional water planning groups, as well as between regional water planning groups and the TWDB. This coordination could help regional water planning groups meet the goals of the state water planning process, facilitate dialogue regarding water management strategies that could affect multiple regional water planning areas, and enable the sharing of best practices regarding the operation of the regional water planning process.

This agenda item will allow the Region F water planning group to nominate one or more representatives to serve on the Interregional Planning Council.

Attachments:

1. Letter from TWDB

Kevin W. Krueger

From: Elizabeth McCoy <Elizabeth.McCoy@twdb.texas.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 14, 2019 9:40 AM
To: John Grant
Cc: Jennifer Posey; Kevin W. Krueger
Subject: Interregional Planning Council Information
Attachments: Interregional Planning Council Nomination Lette.pdf

Hi John,

The attached letter provides information on the Interregional Planning Council established by House Bill 807. The Council will be made up of one member of each planning group. We are asking that planning groups consider nominations to the Council at upcoming meetings. The TWDB Board will consider planning group nominations and formally appoint Council membership by the end of the year. The goal is to have the Council meet in spring of 2020 to discuss information in the Initially Prepared Plans. Logistics for the meeting are still being determined. Additional information will be sent out after formal appointments are made.

Once the planning group nominates a member to serve on the Council, we will need the group to submit a brief nomination packet via email with the following information:

- interest category the member represents
- committee membership (if applicable)
- contact information (email and mailing address)
- any other supporting information you would like to include

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

Elizabeth McCoy
Planner, Regional Water Planning
Water Use, Projections, and Planning
Texas Water Development Board
P.O. Box 13231, Austin, TX 78711
512-475-1852 | elizabeth.mccoy@twdb.texas.gov

July 8, 2019

Dear Regional Water Planning Group Chairs:

House Bill (HB) 807, as passed by the 86th Texas Legislature, directs the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) to appoint an Interregional Planning Council (Council). In accordance with HB 807, the purposes of the Council are to

- improve coordination among the Regional Water Planning Groups (RWPG), and between the RWPGs and the TWDB in meeting goals of the state water planning process;
- facilitate dialogue regarding regional water management strategies; and
- share operational best practices of the regional water planning process.

Additionally, HB 807 requires the Council to

- hold at least one public meeting; and
- prepare a report to the TWDB Board on the Council's work.

To support the Council's directive to facilitate dialogue regarding regional water management strategies, TWDB is initiating the Council establishment process so that information from the initially prepared plans may be discussed in early spring 2020. Although RWPGs may nominate more than one member to serve on the Council, the Council as appointed by the TWDB Board will consist of one member from each RWPG. Council membership will be appointed each five-year cycle prior to the adoption of a new state water plan and appointments will expire once a new state water plan is adopted. The Board will take into consideration nominations from each RWPG in appointing the Council, and Council appointments are anticipated to occur by the end of 2019.

To meet the goal of appointing the Council by the end of this year, we request that each RWPG take appropriate action at their next RWPG meeting to nominate one or more members. Please provide the nomination information, including the interest category the individual represents, committee membership (if applicable), a brief background statement including time served on the RWPG, contact information (email, phone number, and mailing address), and any other supporting information deemed relevant by the RWPG to Sarah Backhouse at Sarah.Backhouse@twdb.texas.gov.

The TWDB offers to facilitate the required public meeting and assist in development of the report, as requested by the Council. The TWDB also offers to assist with any supporting information the Council may deem necessary. Information for coordination of meeting time

Our Mission

To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas

Board Members

Peter M. Lake, Chairman | Kathleen Jackson, Board Member | Brooke T. Paup, Board Member
Jeff Walker, Executive Administrator

July 8, 2019

Page 2

and logistics as well as support services or materials will be distributed in Council member appointment notification letters later this year. If your RWPG has any opinions on meeting timelines or goals that they would like to share with TWDB, you may include such information in your nomination packet.

Thank you for your participation in the regional water planning process and consideration of this request. Please contact Sarah Backhouse at Sarah.Backhouse@twdb.texas.gov or at (512) 936-2387 with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,



Jeff Walker
Executive Administrator

cc: Designated Political Subdivisions for RWPGs