Item 1:
Call to Order

Item 2:
Welcome and Roll Call
Item 3: Texas Water Development Board Update
Item 4: Registered Public Comments on Agenda Items 5-18

(Limit of 3 minutes per person)
Item 5: Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting
## Meeting Minutes
### Region 6 San Jacinto Flood Planning Group Meeting
**October 28, 2020**
**9:00AM**
**GoToWebinar Virtual Meeting**

### Roll Call:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Voting Member</th>
<th>Interest Category</th>
<th>Present (x) / Absent ( ) / Alternate Present (*)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Elisa Maia Donovan</td>
<td>Agricultural interests</td>
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<td>Alisa Max</td>
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<td>Timothy E. Buscha</td>
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<td>Alisa Vinson</td>
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<td>Todd Burrer</td>
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<td>Adam Terry</td>
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<td>Natalie Johnson</td>
<td>Texas Division of Emergency Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristin Lambrecht</td>
<td>Texas Department of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Clark</td>
<td>Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board</td>
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<td>Ellen Kinsey</td>
<td>General Land Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>Megan Ingram</td>
<td>Texas Water Development Board (TWDB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Mills</td>
<td>Texas Commission on Environmental Quality</td>
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### Quorum:
- **Quorum:** Yes
- Number of voting members or alternates representing voting members present: **11**
- Number required for quorum per current voting membership of **12:** **7**

### Other Meeting Attendees: **
- James Bronikowski, TWDB (Meeting Facilitator)
- Kathleen Jackson, TWDB Board Member
- Matt Nelson, TWDB
- Reem Zoun, TWDB
- Morgan White, TWDB
- Megan Ingram, TWDB
- Richard Bagans, TWDB
- Annette Mass, TWDB
- Anna Gonzalez, TWDB
- Hayley Gillespie, TWDB
Meeting attendee names were gathered from those who entered information for joining the GoToWebinar meeting.

All meeting materials are available for the public at:

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/flood/planning/regions/schedule.asp
AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to Order
James Bronikowski called the meeting to order at 9:06AM. A roll call of the planning group members was taken to record attendance and a quorum was established prior to calling the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Welcome, Meeting Facilitation Information and Instructions
James Bronikowski and Director Kathleen Jackson welcomed members to the meeting. James Bronikowski provided meeting facilitation information and Instructions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: Member Introductions
Each present voting and non-voting member of the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG introduced themselves.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: Regional Flood Planning Overview Presentation
James Bronikowski and Reem Zoun presented an overview of the regional flood planning process.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 5: Discussion of group bylaws and consider adopting group bylaws
James Bronikowski presented the model bylaws provided by the TWDB for the RFPG to consider adopting and opened discussion on adopting group bylaws.

After discussion, the bylaws were edited to replace “Model RFPG” with “Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG” and non-substantive formatting changes were approved.
Additionally, the members discussed and made edits to the model bylaws regarding the following topics: attendance requirements, designating alternates, and officer selection.

The members discussed conflict of interest, designating non-voting member liaisons to coordinate with neighboring RFPGs, and the requirement that written notice of the meeting to select officers be sent to all members of the RFPG thirty calendar days prior to the meeting. No changes were made regarding these topics.

A motion was made by Alla Vinson to adopt the bylaws, with changes as noted in discussion. The motion was seconded by Gene Fisseler. The vote to adopt the group bylaws passed by a vote of 11 Ayes and 0 Nays.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6: Consider nominating and electing regional flood planning group Chair or Interim Chair
James Bronikowski described the Chair/Interim Chair election process and opened the floor to nominations for the Chair or Interim Chair position.

A nomination of Russ Pope as the Chair was made by Steve Costello. The nomination was seconded by Jenna Armstrong. The members discussed the possibility of selecting an Interim Chair.

A nomination of Alla Vinson as the Chair was made by Elisa Donovan. Alla Vinson declined the nomination of Chair and expressed her willingness to serve as Interim Chair.
Alla Vinson expressed support for Russ Pope as Chair.
A nomination of Gene Fisseler as the Interim Chair was made by Sarah Bernhardt. Gene Fisseler expressed his willingness to serve as Interim Chair.

The nominations were voted on in the order received.

The vote to select Russ Poppe as the Chair of Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG passed by a vote of 10 Ayes and 0 Nays. Sarah Bernhardt abstained from the vote.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Consider selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the regional flood planning group
James Bronkowski listed the entities that had expressed interest in serving as the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG’s planning group sponsor. These interested entities included:
Houston-Galveston Area Council
San Jacinto River Authority

Alisa Max introduced the interest of Harris County in serving as planning group sponsor.

James Bronkowski opened the floor to public comments.

Jeff Taebel (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council’s interest in serving as planning group sponsor.

James Bronkowski opened discussion on selecting a planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG.

The members discussed selecting an entity to be the planning group sponsor and the potential for additional entities to participate in other ways besides serving as planning group sponsor. No action was taken.

The members decided to include discussion of ways that additional entities can participate in an agenda item for the next RFPG meeting.

Matthew Barrett expressed willingness on behalf of the San Jacinto River Authority to serve as planning group sponsor.

A motion was made by Alia Vinson to select Harris County as the designated planning group sponsor for the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG. Timothy Buscha seconded the motion.

The vote to select Harris County as the planning group sponsor to act on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 10 Ayes and 0 Nays. Alisa Max abstained from the vote.

After noting the time, the members decided to move to Agenda Item No. 11 to receive general public comments. The members noted that they would return to Agenda Items No. 8, No. 9, and No. 10 as time allowed.
AGENDA ITEM NO. 11: Receive general public comments (Public comments limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

James Bronkowski opened the floor to public comments.

TWDB staff shared written comment submitted by Michael Bloom congratulating the RFPG members.

TWDB staff shared written comment submitted by Jill Bouillion regarding counties wholly located within the Region 6 San Jacinto flood planning region. Jill Bouillion gave public comment regarding counties wholly located within the Region 6 San Jacinto flood planning region.

Brandon Wade gave public comment regarding his interest in being considered as an additional voting member.

With the end of public comment, the members returned to Agenda Items No. 8, No. 9, and No. 10.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Consider additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3)

Matt Nelson described existing notice requirements and opened discussion on identifying additional, region-specific public notice requirements.

James Bronkowski opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were given.

James Bronkowski opened discussion on consideration of additional, region-specific public notice requirements, if any, that might be necessary to ensure adequate public notice in the region per 31 Texas Administrative Code §361.12(3).

The members discussed current notice requirements. No action was taken.

James Bronkowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Consider authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG

James Bronkowski opened discussion on authorizing the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and to enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

No points nor comments/concerns were brought forth during open discussion.

A motion was made by Timothy Buscha to authorize the RFPG sponsor, Harris County, to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG.

The motion was seconded by Stephen Costello.

The vote to authorize the RFPG sponsor to apply for grant funds and enter into a contract with the TWDB on behalf of the RFPG passed by a vote of 11 Ayes and 0 Nays.
AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Discussion of necessary additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region

James Bronkowski opened the floor to public comments.

Jeff Taebel (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council’s interest in serving as either an additional voting member or additional non-voting member.

Michael Bloom (Houston-Galveston Area Council) gave public comment regarding Houston-Galveston Area Council’s interest in participating.

James Bronkowski opened discussion regarding additional voting and non-voting positions that may be needed to ensure adequate representation from the interest in the region.

The members noted that due to public notice requirements, action could not be taken on this item during this first meeting.

The members discussed the importance of adding membership and encouraged proactive and purposeful consideration of this topic at future meetings. No action was taken.

The members requested that TWDB assist in organizing information regarding other individuals and entities interested in participating.

The members discussed the RFPS’s ability to create working groups, committees, and subcommittees during the regional flood planning process.

No action was taken. James Bronkowski closed discussion on AGENDA ITEM NO. 10.

The members moved to Agenda No. 12 since they had already completed Agenda Item No. 11.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 12: Consider date and agenda items for next meeting

James Bronkowski opened discussion to consider the date and agenda items for the next meeting.

After discussion, Alisa Max stated that the next meeting will be on December 10, 2020 at 9:00AM.

Potential agenda items include additional membership, designation of liaisons with neighboring RFPSs, logistics of planning meeting spaces, status of contracts with TWDB, the RFQ/RFP process, selection of officers and executive committee members, discussion of regular meeting times, and how to accept written public comment, information requests, and data contributions.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: Adjourn

Jenna Armstrong made a motion to adjourn.
The motion was seconded by Alisa Max.
The motion to adjourn was passed by unanimous consent.
The meeting adjourned at 12:16PM by James Bronkowski.

Approved by the Region 6 San Jacinto RFPG at a meeting held on DATE.
Item 6: Announcement of Alternate Members
Item 7: Nominations, Discussions, and Possible Action to Elect RFPG Vice Chair and Secretary
Item 8: Nominations, Discussions, and Possible Action to Elect Two Members-at-Large to Serve on the RFPG Executive Committee
Item 9: Discussion and Possible Action on Liaisons to Adjacent Planning Groups

Trinity, Lower Brazos, Neches
Item 10: Discussions of Regional Flood Planning Group Membership

a. Nominations for additional voting and non-voting member categories
b. Discussion and consider taking action to add group member categories in either voting or non-voting capacities, as applicable
c. Discussion and consider taking action on development of a process for solicitation and selection of new Group members, as applicable
Item 11: Discussions and Possible Action on Potential Changes to By-Laws

a. Discussion and possible action on process to amend by-laws

b. Any changes necessitated by Regional Flood Planning Group Membership discussion in Item 10
a. Discussion and possible action on process to amend by-laws

In Article XV, Consideration of the insertion of “and/or amend” in the following sentence: “The voting members shall adopt and/or amend these bylaws by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present.”

The title of this article is “Adopting and Amending the Bylaws” but the model bylaws as written did not include any language for amending the bylaws.
b. Any changes necessitated by Regional Flood Planning Group Membership discussion in Item 10

Was there any change in membership proposed from Item 10 on the agenda that would necessitate a change to the by-laws?
Item 12: Texas Water Development Board Presentation – Process Overview
Texas Water Development Board
Flood Planning Presentation
Regional Flood Planning Group 2\textsuperscript{nd} Meeting

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- Flooding 101 (20 minutes)
- Request for Applications Process & Contract Details (5 minutes)
- RFPG Responsibilities: Scope of Work Overview (20 minutes)
Flooding 101
(20 minutes)
Flooding 101: Watersheds

Flood planning regions follow Hydrological Unit Code (HUC-8) watershed boundaries.
Flooding 101: Flooding in Texas

Map: FEMA
Data: NOAA Storm Event Database 1996-2020
Flooding 101: What is a Flood?

A general and temporary condition of partial or complete inundation of normally dry land area from overflow of inland or tidal waters or from the unusual and rapid accumulation or runoff of surface waters from any source.

Agricultural flooding damaging crops and hay.
Flooding 101: Floodplains

The area of land subject to periodic inundation by floodwaters.
Flooding 101: Benefits of Floods

When floodplains are preserved in their natural state, they provide many benefits:

• Reduce severity of floods by storing floodwaters, reducing flood velocities, and curbing sedimentation and erosion
• Contribute to groundwater recharge
• Provide recreation and quality of life
• Create habitats for many plants and animals.

Wetlands at Galveston Island State Park provide natural ecosystem services. Image: Yinan Chen CC-PD
Flooding 101: Quantifying Flood Events

• 1.0% annual chance flood event
  – flood event having a 1.0% chance of happening in any given year = every year
  – also referred to as the "base flood" or "100-year flood"

• 0.2% annual chance flood event
  – flood event having a 0.2% chance of happening in any given year
  – also referred to as the "500-year flood"

The 1% annual chance floodplain is shown in blue. The 0.2% annual chance floodplain is shown in orange. Image by FEMA
Flooding 101: Types of Flooding

**Structural Failure**
- 2019 Lake Dunlap Spillway Failure.
  - Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority

**Stormwater**
- Flash flooding in San Marcos, TX.
  - CC-BY-SA-3.0
- Texas National Guard, Houston, TX
  - Texas National Guard CC-BY-2.0

**Shallow**
- Cadillac Ranch sculpture near Amarillo, TX.
  - © Rachel Goad, used by permission.

**Riverine**
- Blue Hole Park, South San Gabriel River, Georgetown, TX.
  - FEMA

**Coastal**
- Coastal flooding in Galveston, TX.
Flooding 101: Flood Mitigation

The implementation of actions, including both structural and non-structural solutions, to reduce flood risk to protect against the loss of life and property.

Mangroves on the Texas Coast stabilize shorelines and help absorb storm surge; an example of a non-structural flood mitigation solution.

Photo by Univ. Of Texas Marine Science Institute

Galveston Seawall, a structural flood mitigation solution. Image by Yinan Chen CC-PD
Flooding 101: Structural Solutions to Flooding

Examples include the construction of levees, dikes, floodwalls/seawalls, dams, channel alterations, culverts, flood gates, and detention and retention basins.

Anzelduas Dam on the Rio Grande near Mission, TX. Image: TWDB

Storm Drains

Streambank Stabilization in Austin, TX. Image by City of Austin Watershed Protection
Flooding 101: Non-Structural Solutions to Flooding

Examples include open space preservation, property buyouts and relocation, zoning and building codes, wetland restoration, elevated structures, flood warning systems, educational campaigns, and participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Homes that survived the ~20-foot-high storm surge of Hurricane Ike in Bolivar Peninsula, near the community of Caplen. Image: TWDB

Turn Around, Don't Drown educational campaign. Image: Weather.gov

Flooding 101: National Flood Insurance Program

Based on an agreement between local communities and the federal government.

- Local communities agree to adopt floodplain management regulations to reduce flood risks
- The federal government makes flood insurance and disaster assistance available to the community
Questions? Comments?

Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.
Request for Applications Process & Contract Details
(5 minutes)
Flood Planning Timeline

First RFPG Meetings
Oct/Nov 2020

RFPG sponsors will solicit technical consultants
Early 2021

Draft regional flood plans due to TWDB
Aug 1, 2022

First state flood plan due to legislature
Sept 1, 2024

Feb/March 2021
Contract execution with the RFPG sponsors

Jan 7, 2022
Technical memorandum due to TWDB

Jan 10, 2023
First regional flood plans due to TWDB
Regional Flood Planning Grant RFA

- $19.5 million in available funds to be allocated between 15 regions.

- Sponsors may submit applications November 20, 2020 - January 21, 2021

- Applications will be processed as received

- Contract execution (TWDB & sponsor) by March 31, 2020

Texas Water Development Board approved posting the Regional Flood Planning Grant Request for Applications on November 19th!

The Request for Applications and associated documents are now available on our website:

Regional Flood Planning Grant Application Documents:

- Request for Applications Posting
- Application Instructions
- Application Checklist
- Draft Scope of Work
- Draft Contractor (Planning Group Sponsor) Task Budget
- Board item document

These documents are available on our website at:
### Funding the Planning Process

Total $19,500,000

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<th>Allocated Funds</th>
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Questions? Comments?
RFPG Responsibilities: Scope of Work Overview
(20 minutes)
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<th>Exhibit B - General Guidelines for Regional Flood Plan Development</th>
<th>Regional Flood Plan Chapter Number</th>
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<th>2023 Regional Flood Plan Chapter, Associated TAC Sections, and Content</th>
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Task 1 – Planning Area Description

A general description of the region, including:

• social & economic character
• flood-prone areas, types of major flood risks, and key historical flood events
• political subdivisions with flood related authority
• the extent of local regulation and development codes relevant to flooding
• existing or proposed natural flood mitigation features and constructed major flood infrastructure

Llano dam on the Llano river sits on the banks of the county seat. Image: TWDB
Perform existing and future condition flood hazard analyses to determine the location and magnitude of both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events.

Develop existing & future condition flood exposure analyses to identify who and what might be harmed for both 1.0% and 0.2% annual chance flood events.

Perform existing & future condition vulnerability analyses to identify vulnerabilities of communities and critical facilities.
Task 3A – Evaluation & Recommendations on Floodplain Management Practices

• Consider how current floodplain management practices or regulations increase flood risks.

• Consider how the 1.0% annual chance floodplain and associated flood risks may change over time.

• Consider adopting minimum floodplain management/land use standards that an entity must adopt prior to including any evaluations, projects, or strategies in the regional flood plan.

West Fork San Jacinto River near Humble, Texas after Hurricane Harvey
Image: Steve Fitzgerald, Harris County Flood Control District
Task 3B – Flood Mitigation & Floodplain Management Goals

- Identify specific and achievable flood mitigation and floodplain management goals
  - Short (10 year) & Long-Term (30 year)
  - State the levels of residual flood risk after goals are fully met.
Task 4A – Flood Mitigation Needs Analysis

- Identify locations within the region that have the greatest flood mitigation and flood risk study needs.
- Based on the analyses and goals developed by the RFPG under Tasks 2A through 3B

Map of inundated areas (yellow areas) on the lower Brazos River after Hurricane Harvey
Image: USGS
**Key Terms for Tasks 4 & 5: FME, FMP, FMS**

**Flood Management Evaluation (FME)**

- A proposed flood study of a specific, flood-prone area that is needed in order to assess flood risk and/or determine whether there are potentially feasible FMSs or FMPs.

**Flood Management Strategy (FMS)**

- A proposed plan to reduce flood risk or mitigate flood hazards to life or property (may or may not require associated FMPs to be implemented).

**Flood Mitigation Project (FMP)**

- A proposed project (structural and non-structural) that when implemented will reduce flood risk, mitigate flood hazards to life or property.

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**Cottonwood Creek Flood Study, San Marcos, TX.**

Image: City of San Marcos

**Exploration Green project, Clear Lake City, TX**

Image: Texas Water Resources Institute

**El Paso storm water project, El Paso, TX**

Image: El Paso Water
Task 4B – Identification and Evaluation of Potential FMEs & Potentially Feasible FMSs and FMPs

• Identify potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on process developed with public input.

• Evaluate potential FMEs and potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on a variety of factors described in rules and guidance.

• The FMPs should be permittable, constructible, and implementable.
Task 4C – Prepare and Submit Technical Memorandum

• Include all deliverables from Tasks 1 to 4B detailed in the Scope of Work

• TWDB Guidance Document will provide more information.

• Tentative Due Date: January 2022
Task 5 – Recommendation of FMEs, FMSs & FMPs

• Recommend FMEs that are most likely to identify potentially feasible FMSs and FMPs based on evaluations under Task 4B

• Recommend FMSs and FMPs to reduce the impacts of flood based on evaluations under Task 4B

• Recommendations should be based on comparison of alternatives
Regional Flood Plans will identify flood risk and recommend FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs within regions.

State Flood Plan will rank recommended FMEs, FMSs, and FMPs statewide.

Future state financial assistance may be allocated using a to-be-determined prioritization criteria.*

*Funding to implement projects can also come from local, federal, or other sources.
Task 6A – Impacts of Regional Flood Plan

• Summarize the relative reduction in flood risk that implementation of the plan would achieve.

• Describe impacts of recommended FMSs and FMPs on environment, agriculture, recreation, water quality, erosion, sedimentation, and navigation.

• State that FMPs will not negatively affect neighboring areas.
Task 6B – Impacts on Water Supply

- Summarize how Regional Flood Plan will affect water supply.
- How would FMSs and FMPs contribute to water supply?
- How would FMSs and FMPs impact water supply, availability, or projects in the State Water Plan?
Task 7 – Flood Response Information and Activities

- Summarize existing flood response preparations.
- Coordinate with entities in the region to gather information.
- RFPGs do not perform analyses or other activities related to disaster response or recovery.
Task 8 – Administrative, Regulatory, and Legislative Recommendations

• Develop policy recommendations to implement and achieve the RFPG's stated goals and plans.
• Consider potential new revenue-raising opportunities to fund flood activities in the region.
Task 9 – Flood Infrastructure Financing Analysis

• Survey and report on how sponsors propose to finance recommended FMEs and FMPs
• Include recommendations on the proposed role of the State in financing FMEs and FMPs
Task 10 – Public Participation & Plan Adoption

Administrative activities not included in other tasks, including:

- Meeting preparations, notices, agendas, materials, minutes, presentations, and public comments
- Website creation and maintenance
- Intraregional and interregional coordination and communication to develop the regional flood plan.
Questions? Comments?

Image: Brent Hanson, U.S. Geological Survey. Public domain.
Item 13: Update from Planning Group Sponsor regarding status of Regional Flood Planning Grant contract with the TWDB

a. Discussion on status of application for Regional Flood Planning Grant funds
b. Discussion of technical consultant procurement process
c. Discussion on Scope of Work posted with TWDB RFA
Item 14: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding RFPG Public Website (required per §361.21(b))
Item 15: Discussion and possible action regarding a means by which the RFPG will accept written public comment prior to and after meetings (required per §361.21(c))
Item 16: Discussion and possible action regarding the required solicitation for persons or entities who request to be notified of RFPG activities (required per §361.21(e))
Item 17: Consider meeting frequency and regular meeting dates for calendar year 2021
Item 18: Consider agenda items for next meeting
Item 19:
Public Comments
(limit 3 minutes per person)
Item 20:
Meeting Adjournment