

11/17/16 RWPG Work Session –Action Item Status

1) **Provide additional support to RWPGs and Political Subdivisions/Administrators**

- a) Develop an information packet (up to eight pages) for new regional water planning group (RWPG) members. High-level overview of the regional water planning (RWP) process, planning group responsibilities, and required planning considerations. Include link to the Open Meetings Act video. **Status: Provided to RWPG Political Subdivisions and Chairs 2/2/2018. Posted online at:**
http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/regions/doc/New_Member_Overview.pdf
- b) Project managers to provide an updated RWP 101 presentation at planning group meetings. **Status: RWP staff have provided presentation to 14 of 16 RWPGs; 1 RWPG declined. A copy of the presentation was posted online at:**
http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2021/doc/current_docs/project_docs/121216_RWPprocess_intro_5th_cycle.pdf?d=6952.550000001793
- c) Develop a best practices guide for political subdivisions - TWDB to create initial draft, document to be “owned” by a political subdivision representative. **Status: Provided to RWPG Political Subdivisions and Chairs 11/13/2017. Posted online at:**
http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2021/doc/current_docs/adm_in_docs/RWPGPolSubBMPGuide.pdf
 - i. Orientation to the responsibilities of acting as a planning group administrator. Include what is required by 31 TAC Chapter 357 rules (meeting notices, etc.), contract requirements, outreach and regional coordination ideas, and other useful information (collection of local funds, best practices for web posting and newsletter distribution, etc.). Include link to the Open Meetings Act video.
 - ii. Hold workshops, webinars, or Board work sessions for political subdivisions, as needed.
- d) Hold additional Board work sessions on planning for RWPG Chairs during the 85th Legislative Session, as needed. **Status: Second work session held 10/17/2017**
- e) Provide RWPGs a list of potential entities to fulfil the non-voting member position of holding surface water rights of 1,000 acre-feet per year in the RWPA, whose headquarters are in another RWPA, per 31 TAC §357.11(e)(4). **Status: TBD.**
- f) Administer a stakeholder survey on the TWDB support of the regional planning process. **Status: Survey completed February 7, 2017 and results incorporated into daily work process as able; developing FAQs and one-pagers on areas of interest. Summarized results were provided to the EA April 13, 2017. Summarized survey results available upon request. Provided FAQ and Education webpage links to RWPG Political Subdivisions and Chairs 2/2/2018. Posted online at:**
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/faq/index.asp> and
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/education/index.asp>
- g) Hold a webinar for political subdivisions with Contract Administration staff to go over RWP grant contracts, eligible expenses, and payment requests. **Status: Webinar conducted 1/31/2017 and recorded webinar available online:**

http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/planningdocu/2021/doc/current_docs/project_docs/20170131_RWPcontracts_webinar_video.mp4

- h) Create an aggregated list of RWPG host websites on the TWDB website. **Status: completed December 2016. Available online at:**
<http://www.twdb.texas.gov/waterplanning/rwp/regions/index.asp>

2) **Potential contract changes**

- a) Require RWPGs to maintain a dedicated website in RWPG contract and explicitly emphasize eligibility of reimbursement for direct web posting costs (beyond web hosting). **Status: Completed with Summer 2017 contract amendments; all RWPGs now have websites.**
- b) Explicitly allow for reimbursement of direct costs for newsletters for an amount not to exceed. **Status: Completed with Summer 2017 contract amendments.**
- c) Re-emphasis on interregional coordination activities and/or documentation. **Status:**
- i. **Ex. C Section 13.1.1 now states that TWDB will provide information to RWPGs following Technical Memorandum for their consideration in plan development with intent being report generation for surrounding RWPAs. TWDB provided the Regional Data Visualization Map on 10/02/2018.**
 - ii. **Discuss hosting "interregional council" (The Interregional Planning Council established by HB 807 replaces this former idea.)**
- d) Require that RWPGs explain why certain types of water management strategies (e.g. aquifer storage and recovery, seawater desalination, and brackish groundwater desalination) may not have been recommended, like requirements for conservation and drought management already in rules (31 TAC §357.34(g)). **Status: Completed with Summer 2017 contract amendments and included in Chapter 357 rule revisions June 2020.**