

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP

TO: REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP
FROM: DAN BUHMAN, CHAIR
SUBJECT: OCTOBER 19, 2026 PLANNING GROUP MEETING
DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2026

This memorandum will serve as a notice that the Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) is holding a public meeting starting at **1:00 P.M. on Monday October 19, 2026**, at the **North Central Texas Council of Governments, 616 Six Flags Drive, Centerpoint Two Building, First Floor Transportation Council Room, Arlington, Texas, 76011**. An agenda (including information on how to participate in the public meeting) has been prepared for the meeting and is attached to this memorandum. The following is a brief overview of the agenda items to be discussed with relevant materials and handouts. Meeting materials are available on the Region C website at <https://RegionCwater.org>.

OPEN MEETING

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2, 2026

Agenda Item II: RCWPG Minutes from February 2, 2026

- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS (LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)
- IV. PRIMARY ACTION ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- A. Consider re-appointment or replacement of RWPG members with terms expiring in November 2026. Call for nominations to fill vacancies and vote to fill vacancies.

This action item will consider recommendations for replacement of RWPG members whose terms are expiring in November and consider vacant spots for regional liaisons. The RCWPG will also take nominations from the floor.

Agenda Item IV.A: RCWPG Roster of Members with Expiring Terms

- B. Accept nominations for officers for the 2031 planning cycle; consider election of Region C Water Planning Group Officers.

This action item will consider nominations for Region C RWPG officers for the 2031 Regional Water Planning cycle. Region C RWPG officers include Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

Agenda Item IV.B: Letter of Interest from Nicholas Konen to Serve as the Replacement for Russell Laughlin as Vice Chair

- C. Consider submitted proposal from Freese & Nichols (FNI) in response to Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Technical Consulting Services for the 2031 Regional Water Plan and vote to select firm to perform Technical Consulting Services for the 2031 Regional Water Plan.

Trinity River Authority issued a Request for Qualifications for regional water planning on June 22, 2026. They received one response from Freese and Nichols, Inc. (FNI). FNI will present a brief overview of their team to the RCWPG. The RCWPG will consider the response from FNI and consider selecting the consultant for the development of the 2031 Region C Water Plan.

- D. Consider authorizing the Trinity River Authority to enter into a contract for Technical Consulting Services with the selected firm.

V. OTHER ITEMS (MAY RESULT IN ACTIONS)

- A. Schedule Overview.

VI. OTHER DISCUSSION

- A. Updates from the Chair.
- B. Report from Regional Liaisons.
- C. Report from Texas Water Development Board.
- D. Other Reports.

VII. ADJOURNMENT OF REGION C PLANNING GROUP MEETING

The following items are enclosed with this memorandum:

- I. RCWPG Agenda – October 19, 2026
- II. Region C Meeting Handouts
 - A. Agenda Item II – RCWPG Minutes from February 2, 2026
 - B. Agenda Item IV.A: RCWPG Roster of Members with Expiring Terms
 - C. Agenda Item IV.B: Letter of Interest from Nicholas Konen to Serve as the Replacement for Russell Laughlin as Vice Chair

Agenda Item II – Attachment

RCWPG Minutes from February 2, 2026

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP
MINUTES OF AN OPEN PUBLIC MEETING
February 2, 2026

The Region C Water Planning Group (RCWPG) met in an open public meeting on Monday, February 2, at 1:00 P.M. The meeting was held at the North Central Texas Council of Governments located at North Central Texas Council of Governments located at 616 Six Flags Drive, Centerpoint Two Building, First Floor Transportation Council Room, Arlington, Texas. Notice of the meeting was legally posted.

Chair Dan Buhman called the Region C Regional Water Planning Group meeting to order at approximately 1:00 P.M. and welcomed guests.

I. ROLL CALL

Secretary Covington conducted a roll call. The following members were in attendance:

Dan Buhman	Corey Jones (Alternate for Harold Latham)
Glenn Clingenpeel	John Lingenfelder
Jenna Covington	Rick Shaffer
Grace Darling	Doug Shaw
Lisa Estrada-Perdue (Alt. for Steve Mundt)	Paul Sigle
Christopher Harder	John Stevenson

Kevin Smith, TWDB, Howdy Lisenbee, Region D, Kathy Turner Jones, Region G, Ronna Hart, UTRWD, Matt Beseda, TSSWCB, and Adam Whisenant, TP&W, were present. The registration lists signed by guests in attendance are attached.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 6, 2025, RCWPG meeting were approved by unanimous consensus by the Region C WPG.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

There were no speakers for public comment.

IV. PRIMARY ACTION ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

None

V. OTHER ITEMS (MAY RESULT IN ACTIONS)

- A. Update from the Inter-Regional Working Group (IRWG) on the Studies specified in the Mediated Agreement between Regions C and D, with possible actions.

Discussion was led by Nicole Rutigliano, IRWG, on the status of the contracting, scope of work, funding options, and schedule for the studies in the Mediated Agreement between Regions C and D. Ms. Rutigliano advised the Planning Group that the RFP will be finalized by March 2026 with the study to be completed by July 2027. She also stated that the deadline will not be met without TWDB funding.

RCWPG MINUTES

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Region D is working on setting a meeting where they will make a recommendation to allow the consultants to make changes without going back to the Region D board. They are also considering asking for money for the studies from stakeholders.

Kevin Smith, TWDB, advised that the Water Board is considering suggesting that a percentage of the funds in the 7th Cycle grant be optional to use for studies. Chair Buhman recommended letting the IRWG continue to work on obtaining funding for studies for the Interregional Conflict from the TWDB.

There were two motions presented to the Region C WPG for approval:

Motion No. 1: Upon a motion by Glenn Clingenpeel, and a second by Grace Darling, the Region C WPG voted unanimously to authorize the IRWG to modify the schedule for the Marvin Nichols study as specified in the Mediated Agreement as appropriate, contingent upon Region D WPG taking similar action; and to authorize the IRWG to seek funding for the Marvin Nichols study outside TWDB funds.

Motion No. 2: Upon a motion by Glenn Clingenpeel, and a second by Grace Darling, the Region C WPG voted unanimously to authorize the IRWG to modify the Toledo Bend to Marvin Nichols “apples-to-apples” study schedule as appropriate, notifying the Region C WPG of the study’s schedule as determined; and to authorize the IRWG to seek funding for the Toledo Bend study outside TWDB funds.

VI. OTHER DISCUSSION

A. Updates from the Chair - None

B. Report from Regional Liaisons.

- Region B – None
- Region D – Doug Shaw advised Region D met a week ago.
- Region G – None
- Region H – None
- Region I – None

C. Report from State Agencies - None

D. Other Reports – Kevin Smith, TWDB, advised that the final invoicing for the 2026 Regional Water Plan contract final reimbursement date is February 27, 2026. Final payment request date is April 30, 2026. Contract executed with TWDB expiration date is August 31, 2026.

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VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the Region C WPG adjourned at approximately 2:23 PM.

DAN BUHMAN, Chairman

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP

OPEN MEETING

February 2, 2026

ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION SHEET

NAME	REPRESENTING	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Calen Roberts	NTMWD	groberts@ntmwd.com
Raj Mehta	JACOBS	raj.mehta@jacobs.com
Colby Walton	Cooksey	
Jason Kelliher	Dunaway	jkeiliher@dunaway.com
SHEILA CHOWDHURY	CITY OF FORT WORTH	shela.chowdhury@fortworthtx.gov
MATTHEW BESSETT	TSSWCB	mjbessett@tsswcb.texas.gov
TROY D. HENRY	SRA-TX	THENRY@SRATX.ORG
ANGELO DUPONT	ARLINGTON WATER UTILITIES	ANGELO.DUPONT@ARLINGTONTX.GOV
SUSAN ALVAREZ	NCTCOG	salvarez@nctcog.org
Lisa Perdue	Small Bus.	
Christi Upton	NCTCOG	cupton@nctcog.org
Dan Buchanan	TRWD	

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP

OPEN MEETING

February 2, 2026

ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION SHEET

NAME	REPRESENTING	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Perry Day	WCSUD	perry@walnutcreeksud.org
Andrew Figueroa	Celina	afigueroa@celina-tx.gov
Jason Stovall	SRA	jstovallsratx.org
Howdy Lisenbee	Region D	howdy.lisenbee@commercetx.org
Jan Stevenson	EVJ&Associates	JSTEVENS@EVJ&ASSOCIATES.COM
MATT PENK	Dallas Water Utilities	matthew.penk@dallas.gov
Bill Gase	City of Arlington	Bill.Gase@ArlingtonTX.gov
Chang Lee	OWU	chang.lee@dallas.gov
Scott Cole	FNI	SCC@free.se.com
STEVE PETTIT	IRVING	spettit@IrvingTX.gov
MICHAEL BRANNON	PAPE-DAWSON ENGINEERS	mike.brannon@pape-dawson.com
Doug Shea	NTCCIT	doug@ntccit.org

REGION C WATER PLANNING GROUP

OPEN MEETING

February 2, 2026

ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION SHEET

NAME	REPRESENTING	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Xiwen Zhang	Plummer	Xiwenzhang@plummer.com
Gabe Arsen	GPRC	gabard@gprc.org
Charles Brewer	City of Grand Prairie	cbrewer@gptx.org
STAN LEWIS	NASH-FORRESTON WSC	Nashforrestonwsc@yahoo.com
Gregory Van Nicwenhuize	City of Haltom City	gvann@haltomcitytx.com
Ranna Herth	UTRWD	rhartha@utrwd.com
Larry Patterson	UTRWD	lpatterson@utrwd.com
Niraj Acharya	TNP	nacharya@tnpin.com
Kevin Smith	TWDB	kevin.smith@twdb.texas.gov
Glenn Clingenpeul	TRWA	clingenpeul@trinitywa.org
Lorey Jones	NTGCD	Lorey Jones@ntgc.com
Paul Sigle	GTWA	paul@gtwa.org

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OPEN MEETING

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ATTENDANCE REGISTRATION SHEET

NAME	REPRESENTING	E-MAIL ADDRESS
Nestor Ramirez	City of Pilot Point	nramirez@pilotpointtx.gov
Semon Keil	PNI	
Jenna Covington	NTMWD	
Barrie Darung	ACC/GAF	DARUNG@SBCGLOBAL.NET
Ryck Shaffin	RCWPG	
Kathy Turner Jones	PGCD	
Shala Green Smith	NCTCOG	

Agenda Item IV.A – Attachment

RCWPG Roster of Members with Expiring Terms

Region C Regional Water Planning Group Members with Expiring Terms

Name	Representing	Alternate	Office	Term Expires	Interested in Renewing Membership?
Steve Starnes	Counties	Vacant	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Ryan Bayle	Electric Generating Utilities	Vacant	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Grace Darling	Environment	Roy Miliner	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Russell Laughlin	Industry	Nicholas Konen	Vice Chair	11/1/2026	N
Stephen Gay	Municipalities	Haley Salazar	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Jay Barksdale	Public	Matt Garcia	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Glenn Clingenpeel	River Authority	Kevin Ward	Member	11/1/2026	Y
Dan Buhman	Water Districts	Rachel Ickert	Chair	11/1/2026	Y
Connie Standridge	Water Utilities	Kyle Pritchett	Member	11/1/2026	Y

Agenda Item IV.B – Attachment

**Letter of Interest from Nicholas Konen to Serve as the Replacement for
Russell Laughlin as Vice Chair**



Mr. Ward,

I respectfully request that I be considered for the position of Vice-Chair of the Region C Water Planning Group.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve as an Alternate on the Region C Planning Group and to become more engaged in the regional water planning process. Through that involvement, I have developed a greater appreciation for the importance of Region C's work and the responsibility we have to thoughtfully plan for the long-term water needs of one of the fastest-growing and most economically significant regions in Texas.

I believe my professional experience, perspective, and continued interest in water-related issues would allow me to contribute meaningfully in a leadership role. My work at Hillwood Properties has provided me with a firsthand understanding of the challenges associated with securing and planning for future water supplies, including the importance of infrastructure, water availability, conservation and reuse, economic development, and the coordination required among municipalities, utilities, industry, river authorities, groundwater interests, and other stakeholders.

As Vice-Chair, I would strive to support the Chair and the Planning Group in maintaining a collaborative, transparent, and forward-looking planning process. I believe effective regional water planning requires bringing together the diverse interests represented on the Planning Group while keeping our focus on the long-term water security and economic vitality of Region C.

The importance of this work will only continue to grow. Region C faces significant population and economic growth, increasing competition for water resources, and the need to identify and advance innovative water supply and infrastructure strategies. I would welcome the opportunity to take a more active leadership role as we move into the next phase of regional planning.

I respectfully ask for your consideration for the position of Vice-Chair and would be honored to serve the Region C Planning Group in that capacity.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to continue contributing to the work of Region C.

Respectfully,
Nicholas Konen, P.E., PMP, MBA