




TO: H-GAC Board of Directors
SUBJECT: Board Report
FROM: Chuck Wemple 
DATE: July 12, 2021

I'm looking forward to our Board of Directors Meeting next week. This month we will continue our hybrid meetings, which we first implemented last month. Many of you will still attend virtually, while a small group of up to 15 will attend in person. Please let us know if you would like to join us as part of the onsite, in-person group. The July 2021 Board packet is attached for your review. A summary is included below.

State Legislative Guest – We are starting a new information opportunity series and inviting a member of the State Legislature to update us on important items that affect our region. The Honorable Ed Thompson will join us this month. State Representative Thompson has served the 29th District in the Texas House of Representatives since 2013, is the Vice Chairman for the House Transportation Committee, and serves as an ex-officio member of H-GAC's Transportation Policy Council. We look forward to spending a few minutes with the Representative.

Consent Agenda – The consent agenda includes seven items that are routine, continuation of ongoing activities, and/or opportunities to expand our service to the region. The combined items represent just over \$10.6 million in contracts.

Our cooperative purchasing program, H-GACBuy, establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments can use the contracts to save time and money on important purchases. We have two items this month. The first item is a continuation of an existing product line that includes emergency response, radio communication, and mobile command equipment. The second continues a popular service line that includes access to emergency operations, risk assessment and, incident response services.

Public Safety has an opportunity to work with the Governor's Office to administer a Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding pass through program designed to assist the rural communities in our region; total amount \$249,446.

We are requesting authorization to enter into an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to continue funding for the regional incident management activities; total amount is \$10,000,000. This agreement is the first step in H-GAC receiving funds from the State. We will bring specific service contracts to you in the coming months.

The East Fork San Jacinto Watershed has been identified through H-GAC's water quality monitoring and planning efforts as a priority area for water quality protection and improvement. We are requesting approval to enter a contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; total amount is \$248,101.

The consent agenda also includes a request to contract with the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality on a watershed study, selection of a third-party contractor to review our procurement and contracting processes, and approval of the June 2021 Board Meeting minutes.

Finance and Budget Committee – will meet at **9:15 a.m.** to consider the monthly financial report and other finance-related items on the Board agenda. Members of the committee will receive a committee agenda and meeting notice, in addition to the general Board packet.

Community & Environmental Planning – We have an opportunity to assist local businesses and strengthen our economic recovery by partnering with the Small Business Administration. The Community Navigator Pilot Program is designed to increase the ability of local economic development organizations to provide high quality technical assistance to underserved small businesses and entrepreneurs. The grant application requires Board approval. Amount is \$2,500,000.

Water Resources Committee – The Water Resources Committee will meet on July 14. The primary agenda item is our approach and timeline for allocating approximately \$418 million in federal flood and hurricane mitigation funds to projects and communities in our region.

H-GAC Advisory Committee Appointments – H-GAC Advisory Committees are appointed by H-GAC's Board as a whole, based upon nominations from individual Board members and other groups. This month we have several nominations to seven committees for your consideration. The committees include: Aging and Disability Advisory Committee, Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation, Natural Resources Advisory Committee, Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee, Regional Flood Management Committee, Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council, and Solid Waste Management Committee.

Spotlight – Our spotlight this month will focus on H-GAC's role in preparing our region for Hurricane Season.

I appreciate your engagement and deliberation on the important action items before us. Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of the agenda items.

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AGENDA
HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA
COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
July 20, 2021 10:00 AM
To Participate Virtually:
**[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/
WN_6_9ASSY4TWuWMoFUmnFvJQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6_9ASSY4TWuWMoFUmnFvJQ)**

1. INVOCATION
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC COMMENT- Members of the public may participate in person at 3555 Timmons Lane in Houston by pre-registering or by sending comments to BoardPublicComments@h-gac.com; by joining online via our website; or by dialing 1-877-853-5247 or 1-888-788-0099 (Meeting ID 998 6257 2450; Participant ID 130762; Passcode 931276)
4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
 - a. REMARKS BY STATE REPRESENTATIVE ED THOMPSON

The Honorable Ed Thompson will provide an update on Transportation legislation approved during the 87th Legislative Session impacting the Gulf Coast region.
5. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

ACTION

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed are of a routine nature and may be acted on in a single motion unless requested otherwise by a member of the Board.

- a. H-GAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 15, 2021

Request approval of the minutes of the June 15, 2021 H-GAC Board Meeting. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)
- b. HGACBUY – RADIO COMMUNICATIONS/EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

Request authorization to negotiate contracts with the respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for Radio Communications/ Emergency Response Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)
- c. HGACBUY – ALL HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS, PLANNING, CONSULTING, AND RECOVERY SERVICES

Request authorization to negotiate a contract with the respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for all hazards preparedness, planning, consulting, and recovery services. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)
- d. CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Request authorization to submit an application for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding program in the amount of \$249,446. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

- e. PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS ASSESSMENT SERVICES
Request authorization to contract with firms in order ranked to conduct Procurement and Contracts Assessment Services for H-GAC; total amount is \$121,610. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)
 - f. FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE REGIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT
Request authorization to enter into an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to continue funding for the regional incident management activities; total amount of \$10,000,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)
 - g. EAST FORK SAN JACINTO RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN
Request approval to enter a contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to develop a Watershed Protection Plan for the East Fork San Jacinto River Watershed; total amount \$248,101. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
7. FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE
Report on activities and Committee recommendations.
- a. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JUNE 2021
Request approval of the monthly financial report ending June 30, 2021. (Staff Contact: Nancy Haussler)
8. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
- a. COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS PILOT PROGRAM
Request approval to apply for Community Navigators Grant for an amount of \$2,500,000. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
9. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE
- a. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE UPDATE
Request approval of Water Resources Committee recommendations to H-GAC Priority Flood Mitigation Projects list. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)
10. H-GAC ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
- a. H-GAC 2021 ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
Request approval of appointments to H-GAC advisory committees. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)

INFORMATION

11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
- a. H-GAC SPOTLIGHT – HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS OUTREACH
No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contacts: Ashley Seals and David Fink)
 - b. CURRENT AND UPCOMING H-GAC ACTIVITIES
Report on current and upcoming H-GAC activities. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

12. ADJOURNMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC will provide for reasonable accommodations for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests should be received by H-GAC 24 hours prior to the function.

H-GAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES – JUNE 15, 2021

Background

The H-GAC Board of Directors convenes on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Meeting minutes are prepared following each Board meeting to summarize any action taken and document the attendance of Board members.

Current Situation

A summary of the June 15 meeting of the H-GAC Board of Directors is attached and recommended for approval.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request approval of the minutes of the June 15, 2021 H-GAC Board Meeting. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)

ATTACHMENTS:

- Board Meeting Minutes - June 15 2021
- Cover Memo

**MEETING MINUTES
H-GAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS
June 15, 2021**

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

The following members of the Board of Directors (Board) of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) attended all or a portion of the June 15, 2021 Board meeting, via webinar and/or teleconference:

Brazoria County Commissioner Stacy Adams
Chambers County Commissioner Mark Tice
Colorado County Judge Ty Prause
Fort Bend County Commissioner Andy Meyers
Galveston County Commissioner Ken Clark
Liberty County Judge Jay Knight
Matagorda County Judge Nate McDonald
Walker County Commissioner Jimmy Henry
Wharton County Judge Phillip Spenrath

City of Conroe Mayor Pro Tem Raymond McDonald
City of Deer Park Councilman Bill Patterson
City of Houston Council Member Sallie Alcorn
City of Huntsville Mayor Andy Brauninger
City of La Porte Councilmember Chuck Engelken

City of Lake Jackson Mayor Gerald Roznovsky
City of League City Council Member Larry Millican
City of Sugar Land Mayor Joe Zimmerman
City of Texas City Commissioner Jami Clark

Home Rule Cities (Less than 25,000):
City of Sealy Mayor Carolyn Bilski

General Law Cities:
City of Waller Council Member Nancy Arnold
City of Kemah Councilmember Teresa Vazquez-Evans (Alternate)

Independent School Districts:
Huntsville ISD Trustee Rissie Owens

The following Board members were not marked in attendance at the June 15, 2021 Board meeting:

Austin County Judge Tim Lapham
Harris County Commissioner Adrian Garcia
Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo
Montgomery County Commissioner Charlie Riley
Waller County Judge Trey Duhon
City of Baytown Council Member Charles Johnson
City of Friendswood Councilmember Sally Branson

City of Galveston Mayor Dr. Craig Brown
City of Houston Council Member Letitia Plummer
City of Missouri City Council Member Jeffrey Boney
City of Pasadena Councilmember Cary Bass
City of Pearland Mayor Kevin Cole
City of Rosenberg Mayor Kevin Raines
City of Dickinson Councilmember William King III

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CALL TO ORDER

The Board Chair, Wharton County Judge Phillip Spenrath, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 via webinar and teleconference at 1-877-853- 5247.

ROLL CALL

Chair Spenrath asked Rick Guerrero, Houston-Galveston Area Council Director of Intergovernmental Relations, to conduct the Board of Directors roll call. Mr. Guerrero conducted the roll call and announced that a quorum was present. Mr. Guerrero then welcomed several special guests, including Brooke Bacuetes, Melissa Washington and Clarissa Perez from the General Land Office and Ben DeLeon and Jay Guerrero from Senator John Cornyn's office. Also, one of our H-GAC Board Alternates was present: City of Bunker Hill Village Councilmember Susan Schwartz.

1. INVOCATION

Matagorda County Judge Nate McDonald gave the invocation.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Judge Spenrath led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Spenrath invited comments from any members of the public who wished to participate during the call and asked Mr. Guerrero if any public comments had been received via email prior to the meeting. Mr. Guerrero stated that we had not received any public comments via the email address posted publicly. He then opened the floor for public comments to those who had joined the meeting via webinar or teleconference. Mr. Guerrero announced if there was anyone on the line who would like to make a public comment, they could do so now by stating their name and they will have three minutes to make a public comment. He asked them to unmute their microphones at this time. There were no public comments.

4. DECLARE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Chair Spenrath called for any Board member with a conflict of interest to declare it at that time. City of Sugar Land Mayor Joe Zimmerman asked to pull Consent Agenda item 5d as he would abstain from voting on said item. Chair Spenrath asked if there were any other items to be pulled there being none, Chair Spenrath proceeded to the next item on the agenda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Spenrath called for the Consent Agenda and asked if there were any items along with 5d that needed to be pulled from the Consent Agenda to deliberate separately. Hearing none, he entertained motions from the floor for approval of items 5a through 5h with the exception of 5d. Fort Bend County Commissioner Andy Meyers moved to approve the consent agenda and City of Waller Council Member Nancy Arnold seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath then called for a vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

Chair Spenrath then moved on to the pulled item 5d, Livable Center Study – City of Houston, Southwest. Chair Spenrath requested Jeff Taebel take the floor to expand on this item in more detail. Mr. Taebel explained that H-GAC was seeking to negotiate with three consulting firms in the amount of \$303,125. He detailed that this would be our 38th Livable Centers Study which allows H-GAC to work with local partners to plan places that are more easily accessible by pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders that would result in intersection improvements or recommended bike lanes. Mr. Taebel explained there were five firms who submitted proposals and were scored by a committee, which ranked the top three firms. The action requested today is seeking authorization to negotiate contracts with those top three firms. Commissioner Meyers moved

to approve Consent Agenda item 5d and Judge Nate McDonald seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath then called for a vote, upon which Mayor Zimmerman abstained. The vote resulted in unanimous approval by all other members present.

The following items were acted on by approval of the consent agenda:

- a. **H-GAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES – May 18, 2021** – approved the minutes of the May 18, 2021 H-GAC Board Meeting.
 - b. **TOW AND GO PROGRAM – CITY OF HOUSTON** – authorized to enter an interlocal agreement with the City of Houston for the Tow and Go Program; total amount is \$4,020,000.
 - c. **PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLIST COUNTERS** – authorized to negotiate the purchase of permanent and mobile counting equipment from the above companies in the order presented; total amount is \$100,000.
 - d. **LIVABLE CENTERS STUDY – CITY OF HOUSTON, SOUTHWEST** – authorized to contract with firms in order ranked to conduct Livable Centers Study for the City of Houston, Southwest; total amount is \$303,125.
 - e. **WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN** – approved to contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to conduct regional water quality planning activities; total amount is \$136,588.
 - f. **SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM – FISCAL YEARS 2022-2023** – adopted resolution approving application submittal and authorized contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for fiscal year 2022-2023 solid waste management implementation program in the amount of \$2,013,328.
 - g. **WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – BAKERRIPLEY** – authorized to increase funding for the BakerRipley Career Office contract by \$2,200,000; total amount is \$25,600,000.
 - h. **WORKFORCE SYSTEM CONTRACT AMENDMENT – LEARNING DESIGNS** – authorized to increase contract with Learning Designs by up to \$50,000; total contract amount is \$979,668.
6. **FINANCE AND BUDGET COMMITTEE**
- a. **Monthly Financial Report – May 2021**

Galveston County Commissioner Kenneth Clark, Board Vice Chair, recognized Nancy Haussler, H-GAC Chief Financial Officer, to present the Financial Report for May. Ms. Haussler presented the Financial Status Report through the month of May. She stated that the revenues and expenditures were a little behind where she anticipated being at this time of the year. Membership dues are still coming in, but Ms. Haussler believes there will be substantial improvements to these numbers. The Cooperative Purchasing program is behind as well, but it is not currently an issue. Ms. Haussler went on to state that our federal and state grants continue to have some timing

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differences. The state grants are lagging, mostly the Workforce Program, but they should catch up during the summer months.

Ms. Haussler asked if there were any questions on the Financial Report. There being none, Mayor Zimmerman moved to approve, and Commissioner Meyers seconded the motion. Vice Chair Clark called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

7. AUDIT COMMITTEE

a. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report

Ms. Haussler took to the floor again to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The Statement of Net Position for the year shows our assets exceeded the liabilities by \$36 million. Our Unrestricted Fund Balance is approximately \$35.6 million and our Component Units all have positive fund balances. There were slight declines in the Local Development Corporation (-\$8,000) and the Energy Purchasing Corporation (\$-328,000) for 2020. The Governmental Fund balance increased by about 129 million and the Cooperative Purchasing Fund increased by 1.5 million. Our Gulf Coast Economic Development District had an increase of \$9,000, we also had positive increases for our Corporation for Regional Excellence (+\$190,000) and the Gulf Coast 9-1-1 District (+\$986,000). Ms. Haussler continued onto the General Fund, which is H-GAC's discretionary fund and it ended the fiscal year with an unrestricted fund balance of \$11.41 million which is about 30% of the assets at H-GAC. During 2020, H-GAC administered \$377 million in grant funds. We passed through about \$346 million of those to local governments and non-profits, which is about 92% of all the money we pass through. Ms. Haussler then introduced external auditor Ms. Amanda Eaves with BKD for her audit comments and presentation.

Ms. Eaves began her presentation by stating this was the second year BKD conducted the audit for H-GAC; in accordance with Governmental Auditing Standards. The audit included a review of H-GAC's financial statements, federal and state programs including compliance with grant requirements under those programs. Ms. Eaves reported that the results of all the audits resulted in unmodified or clean opinions. That is the highest level of assurance that H-GAC's financial statements were properly stated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and that H-GAC complied with all material respects with major federal and state programs tested during the audit. Ms. Eaves then presented the results of the Federal and State Single Audit; again, she reported no findings. BKD issued an unmodified opinion on compliance with the federal and state programs which, again, is the highest level of assurance. Ms. Eaves did state there was one audit adjustment that was recorded: an adjustment of \$13,000 which was a timing difference related to accounts receivable and management did record it in their financial statements. Ms. Eaves concluded her summary of the audit and opened the floor to questions. There being no questions Mayor Zimmerman moved to approve and Commissioner Meyers seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

b. Employee Retirement Plan Audit

Ms. Haussler took the floor to present the Employee Retirement Plan Audit report. This audit was also conducted by BKD and some highlights of the report were the following: the fund has \$47 million in it, additions to the fund through contributions and earnings equates to \$10.6 million, deductions to the fund for withdrawals and expenses equates to \$3.5 million, so the total change in the net position equates to \$7 million. Ms. Haussler ended her presentation by stating H-GAC received an Unmodified Opinion on the Internal Control and Financial Statements of this audit. No reportable findings or question costs and it is the highest level of opinion issued by an audit firm for this type of audit. She then opened the floor to questions. There being none,

Commissioner Meyers moved to approve and Mayor Zimmerman seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

8. HUMAN SERVICES

a. Workforce System Contract – Construction Career Collaborative

Chair Spenrath recognized Mike Temple, Director of Human Services. Mr. Temple requested authorization to contract with Construction Career Collaborative; total amount is \$364,511 in the first year with an option to renew for two additional years.

Mr. Temple stated that with more than 260,000 jobs in the construction industry, this is an important sector and a key driver for our region's economy. The Workforce Board approved a contract with the Construction Career Collaborative to support small and medium-sized employers with talent acquisition, talent development, and human resources consulting. The Collaborative is a local, non-profit, labor-neutral alliance of owners, contractors, specialty contractors, design professionals, and industry associations collaborating to establish a safe skilled and sustainable craft workforce. The Collaborative grew out of the Houston Chapter of Associated General Contractors and will serve a minimum of 200 companies in the first year and reach 300 young people in 11 school districts throughout the entire region. Mr. Temple ended his presentation by stating this approval would be for a three-year term, with \$364,511 for the first year; with second and third year contracts being contingent upon satisfactory performance, availability of funds and board approval.

Chair Spenrath called for a motion to approve the request. Judge Nate McDonald moved to approve and Commissioner Meyers seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

9. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

a. Clean Rivers Program Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Work Program

Chair Spenrath recognized Todd Running, Manager of Clean Rivers in our Community and Environmental Planning department. Mr. Running requested authorization to contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for regional water quality monitoring in the amount of \$1,931,230.

Mr. Running began his presentation by stating the Texas Clean Rivers Program is a partnership among the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, regional agencies, and local government with the aim of improving water quality of surface water that flows through our region. Since 1992, H-GAC has been the lead agency responsible for implementing the Clean Rivers Program in four major basins that cover about 66% of our region. The four basins are spread across the 13 counties and the 136 cities in our service area. H-GAC conducts water quality monitoring, data analysis, stakeholder involvement and public awareness under contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This two-year work plan will coordinate multiple state and local agencies in the planning and implementation of water quality monitoring programs, provide data to support the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in evaluating permits for wastewater treatment and conducting total maximum daily load studies and continue to produce and distribute high-quality publications to raise public awareness of water quality issues. This work would begin on September 1, 2021 and continue until August 31, 2023. Mr. Running opened the floor to questions.

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Commissioner Meyers moved to approve and Huntsville ISD Trustee Rissie Owens seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

b. Clean Rivers Program Water Quality Monitoring Subcontracts

Chair Spenrath recognized Todd Running who requested authorization to contract with the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services, Environmental Institute of Houston @ University of Houston-Clear Lake; and the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies for Water Quality Monitoring Services; combined total amount is \$292,625.

Mr. Running stated this is a continuation of item 9a and it will assist in carrying out that work plan. H-GAC contracted with the COH Department of Health & Human Services, the Environmental Institute of Houston @ U of H-Clear Lake, and Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies @ Sam Houston State University, to provide a variety of water quality monitoring services. H-GAC's Clean Rivers Steering Committee has recommended reissuing subcontracts to these providers. The proposed budgets for each of the subcontracts are as follows: \$140,000 to COH Department of Health & Human Services, \$131,225 to the Environmental Institute of Houston, and \$21,400 to the Texas Research Institute for Environmental Studies for a total combined amount of \$292,625.

Judge McDonald moved to approve and Liberty County Judge Jay Knight seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

c. Clean Rivers Program Laboratory Subcontract

Chair Spenrath recognized Todd Running once again who requested authorization to execute a contract with Eastex Environmental Laboratory; total amount is \$127,000.

H-GAC contracted with the Eastex Environmental Lab to conduct laboratory analysis of water quality samples and other related services. This contract allowed for a 24-month extension, based on satisfactory performance, which staff is proposing to exercise. On a quarterly basis, Eastex will analyze approximately 730 water quality samples collected by local Clean Rivers Program partners and these activities will commence on September 1, 2021 and continue through August 31, 2023.

Chambers County Commissioner Mark Tice moved to approve and City of Conroe Mayor Pro Tem Raymond McDonald seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

10. WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

a. Water Resources Committee Update

Chair Spenrath recognized Commissioner Meyers who introduced Jeff Taebel, H-GAC Director of Community and Environmental Planning, to lead the discussion and possible action on the Water Resources Committee recommendations.

Mr. Taebel presented two action items. The first item was to add the Brazos River Pinch Point Project to their Priority Flood Mitigation Project list as a Tier 1 project, and authorize H-GAC staff to work with the involved jurisdictions in further developing this project for potential funding applications. This project would use barriers to prevent the erosion of a new channel through a pinch point of the Brazos River near Simonton, with an estimated cost of \$25.8 million.

The barriers would protect area landowners and communities, prevent higher river velocities downstream, and ensure the viability of the Allen's Creek Reservoir project.

The second item was to authorize the Executive Director to work with H-GAC member governments to create a letter of appeal to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to delay the implementation of its new National Flood Insurance Program risk rating program until its impact on levee protected properties could be clarified and work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a levee rating system.

Before taking action on the two items, Commissioner Meyers asked Chuck Wemple to elaborate on potential funding opportunities under the American Rescue Act; a status report on the Method of Distribution for the Regional Mitigation Program; and an overview of the services available to local governments by the American Flood Coalition. Mr. Wemple stated that the work of the committee will be incredibly important over the next few months as they determine which parts of the region will be included in these allocations. H-GAC staff is preparing options and scenarios for the committee to consider and plans to move forward soon. He stated that a call is scheduled with the General Land Office, where he, Mr. Taebel and other staff will meet with the General Land Office to receive guidance from the state regarding requirements for this additional funding. Mr. Wemple then opened the floor for questions and asked for Commissioner Meyers to continue with the action items.

Commissioner Meyers moved to approve the first action item (Brazos River Pinch Point Project) and Judge McDonald seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

Commissioner Meyers moved to approve the second action item (letter of appeal to FEMA) and Judge McDonald seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

11. H-GAC ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

a. H-GAC 2021 Advisory Committee Appointments

Chair Spenrath recognized Rick Guerrero, H-GAC Director of Intergovernmental Relations to request approval of appointments to our H-GAC Advisory Committees. Mr. Guerrero took to the floor and presented 25 appointments to seven committees for the board's consideration. He stated there were two additional appointments received after the distribution of materials to our members. Mr. Guerrero stated the additional appointments were from the East Harris County Manufacturers Association to the Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee, which entitles them to a primary and an alternate representing business in industry. He asked if the board would consider adding Mary Jane Mudd and Ann Dieringer to the list for approval.

Councilmember Nancy Arnold moved to approve as verbally amended and Commissioner Meyers seconded the motion. Chair Spenrath called for the vote, which resulted in unanimous approval by all members present.

12. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

a. Legislative Update

Chair Spenrath recognized Judge McDonald, Chair of the Legislative Committee. Judge

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McDonald then yielded the floor to Mr. Wemple, who stated the committee has had a fantastic round of meetings this year and have expanded their engagement within the committee and beyond, by hosting a weekly call where members can participate to share rapidly developing information regarding state and federal legislation. The committee plans to stay active, and reconvene during the Legislative Special Session, to stay abreast of activities occurring between legislative sessions. After his comments, Mr. Wemple then asked Mr. Guerrero to speak on specific legislation and allow other committee members to speak on the subject matter.

Mr. Guerrero began by stating the state legislative session was quite interesting and adjourned on May 31. Our team tracked over 129 bills and their companions in both the House and Senate. There were many bills passed, and over 20 bills that H-GAC was monitoring were approved. Several bills were signed by the Governor and will become law in September.

House Bill 2404 which calls on the Comptroller to create and maintain a database of local Economic Development Agreements for cities and counties, may be of interest to our members. House Bill 1410 is a new law that will raise the cap on the use of recreational bonds for nature-based infrastructure in municipal utility districts and other water districts. It would raise the cap from 1% to 3% and should become law with the Governor's signature.

Senate Bill 1160 (Gulf Coast Protection District) was approved and awaiting the Governor's signature, the bill in its final form creates a district for Harris, Chambers, Galveston, Jefferson, and Orange counties.

House Bill 2911 funds Next Generation 9-1-1 service and establishes a Next Generation 9-1-1 Service Fund. This bill was approved and sent to the Governor for signature, it was amended to accredit any federal money provided to Texas from The American Rescue Package and Corona Virus Relief Funding for the deployment of Next Generation 9-1-1 equipment in the state. This bill was of importance to us since H-GAC is the 9-1-1 emergency communications district for eight counties in our region.

House Bill 2708 relates to the use of hazardous and solid waste remediation fees. As approved, this would allow for money in the hazardous and solid waste account to reimburse environmental remediation at the site of a former battery recycling facility.

House Bill 2539 (Low-Income Vehicle Repair Assistance Fund) was not passed and unfortunately, will leave about \$80 million undistributed funds for counties to partner with MPOs, such as H-GAC to utilize these funds to improve air quality through eligible projects. Senate Bill 1025 ultimately expired in the House State Affairs Committee.

Senate Bill 5 relates to the expansion of broadband services, this bill was approved by the Senate; however, the Governor is expected to call a special session in the fall to address redistricting.

Mr. Guerrero concluded his presentation by thanking H-GAC's Sr. Governmental Relations Coordinator, Laura Parker; Executive Director Chuck Wemple; and the Legislative Chair Judge Nate McDonald for their diligence, hard work and dedication to the committee.

Following Mr. Guerrero's presentation, Commissioner Meyers took to the floor to mention several bills that could impact cities and counties in our region. House Bill 2730 relates to the acquisition of property by an entity with eminent domain authority.

House Bill 1869 relates to the definition of debt for the purposes of calculating certain ad valorem tax rates of a taxing unit.

Senate Bill 968 relates to public health disaster & public health emergency preparedness and response; providing a civil penalty.

Senate Bill 23 relates to an election to approve a reduction or reallocation of funding or resources for certain county law enforcement agencies.

House Bill 1900 relates to municipalities that adopt budgets that defund municipal police departments.

House Bill 1128 relates to persons permitted in a polling place or place where ballots are counted.

House Bill 3107 relates to election practices and procedures.

House Bill 3920 relates to an application to vote early by mail based on disability or confinement for childbirth.

Senate Bill 1116 relates to cities, counties, or ISDs posting election notices and results on an internet website. Commissioner Meyers concluded by stating he would summarize all this information and have Mr. Wemple and Mr. Guerrero share with members of the board.

13. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

a. H-GAC Spotlight – Regional Bacteria Reduction Plans

Mr. Wemple recognized Steven Johnston, H-GAC Senior Planner, Clean Rivers. Mr. Johnston began his presentation by stating that H-GAC receives funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, to support the region's total maximum daily load projects. The single largest water quality issue in the 13-county service area is elevated levels of fecal bacteria. Nearly 50% of the stream miles in H-GAC's service area are impacted by fecal bacteria levels that are higher than the contact recreation standard and are considered impaired. The Clean Water Act requires the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to address impaired waters through watershed-based management planning. A Total Maximum Daily Load Project is the state's planning effort used to improve water quality. A Total Maximum Daily Load Project determines the number of fecal bacteria a body of water can support while maintaining the contact recreation standard. Any concentration of fecal bacteria above the total maximum daily load needs to be reduced.

There are currently 11 Total Maximum Daily Load Projects that address fecal bacteria within the H-GAC service area. Our staff works with local stakeholders to develop the Total Maximum Daily Loads and identify voluntary measures to reduce bacteria. We have seen success in reducing bacteria levels through voluntary actions such as: addressing sanitary sewer system overflows; improving county septic system maintenance requirements for homeowners; repairing and replacing septic systems; and providing outreach and technical assistance, such as Septic System Homeowner Education.

Mr. Johnston then presented two success stories that highlighted the reduction in bacteria in

(over)

our region. The first story was that of the Aldine Westfield Study, a coordinated partner effort of Harris County and the East Aldine Management District. A study was conducted in the late 90s that found septic systems functioning at failure rates between 30 and 50%. Since 2014, the partners have connected 846 residential & commercial properties to centralize wastewater while removing 1500 septic systems, which has led to a 20% reduction in bacteria at monitoring sites downstream. The project cost \$43 million by using community block grants, Texas Water Development Board State Revolving Funds, and issuance of local bonds.

The second story was about the Bacteria Implementation Group project that is the most urban bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load Project, as well as the longest running. The main reduction occurred between 2006 and 2014, and the Bacteria Implementation Group attributed this to the efforts of the City of Houston, Harris County and the Harris County Flood Control District. Each entity is focused on different reduction efforts. The City of Houston addressed wastewater treatment, managed sanitary sewer overflows, and enforced storm water controls. Harris County addressed septic systems and encouraged green infrastructure practices. The Harris County Flood Control District installed green infrastructure practices within their detention and flood prevention efforts.

Mr. Johnston concluded his presentation stating that if the Contract Recreation Standard is met or not, reduction of fecal bacteria is a reduction in human risk of illness when encountering water in our region and overall improvement in water quality, and this is the stated goal of the Total Maximum Daily Load Program.

b. Current and Upcoming H-GAC Activities

Mr. Wemple took to the floor to report on current and upcoming H-GAC activities. Mr. Wemple began with thanking the participants who attended our first hybrid board meeting in person and reported that since COVID-19 numbers in Harris County were on the decline, was hopeful to return to these types of activities in the future. He was optimistic that we could be ready to return to in person meetings beginning next month, with at least 15 board members meeting in our conference room. He stated if any board member was interested in attending July's meeting in person to reach out to him or his assistant to reserve their spot since it will be first come, first serve.

He continued his report with the successful meeting with the Texas Association of Regional Councils, which held its first hybrid meeting earlier in the month for executive directors and board members. There were great conversations as a group about regional broadband initiatives, rural transportation initiatives and freight & goods movement. The National Association of Regional Councils will be hosting its annual conference this week. As a side note, H-GAC's Regional Conservation Framework Project will be recognized nationally with an Achievement Award at the National Association of Regional Councils Achievement Awards tomorrow morning (June 16).

Mr. Wemple mentioned that H-GAC will be holding our Newly Elected Officials Workshop on June 23; where topics of discussion will be, the Open Meetings Act, finance, compliance and how to deal with the media. Currently we have 52 participants. The workshop will be held virtually and if anyone is a newly elected official or needs a refresher, please contact Mr. Rick Guerrero to sign up.

Mr. Wemple also mentioned that our midyear budget revision will be brought to the board in July; our continuation of our voluntary return to the office; hybrid meetings for board and key committees; and lastly our kickoff of hurricane season this month. Houston-Galveston Area Council is continuing its activities in helping coordinate regional evacuation planning with our members and others at the state. Public service announcements are now in rotation informing the region of our zip zone activities and our Together Against the Weather program, which is designed to help the elderly

and others with special considerations to prepare or shelter in place during a major hurricane. Mr. Wemple concluded his report by stating that if anyone was interested in any of the programs, please reach out and we could provide materials and website links.

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Spenrath adjourned the June Meeting of the H-GAC Board of Directors at 11:28 a.m.

(over)

HGACBUY – RADIO COMMUNICATIONS/EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT

Background

The H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program (H-GACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened twenty-one proposals for Radio Communications/Emergency Response Equipment on April 15, 2021. The following companies submitted a proposal:

Activu Corporation	Rockaway, NJ
All Points Communication, Inc. dba Advantage Communications	Kerrville, TX
BK Technologies, Inc.	West Melbourne, FL
DAMM Cellular Systems, Inc.	Broomfield, CO
E.F. Johnson Company	Irving, TX
Cloud Dock Solutions LLC dba First In Software	Cypress, TX
Freedom Communication Technologies, Inc.	Kilgore, TX
Icom America, Inc.	Kirkland, WA
IPKeys Power Partners, Inc.	Tinton Falls, NJ
JPS Interoperability Solutions, Inc.	Raleigh, NC
L3Harris Technologies, Inc.	Melbourne, FL
Microwave Networks, Inc.	Stafford, TX
Mobile Communications America, Inc.	Spartanburg, SC
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	Chicago, IL
Nokia of America Corporation dba Nokia Innovations US LLC	Murray Hill, NJ
Northwest Communications, Inc. dba NW Radio	Houston, TX
Power Products Unlimited LLC	Alpharetta, GA
PowerTrunk, Inc.	Jersey City, NJ
SIAE Microelettronica, Inc.	Rochester, NY
Tait North America, Inc. dba Tait Communications	Houston, TX
Zetron, Inc.	Redmond, WA

Current Situation

This contract is a continuation of an existing contract in our portfolio, consisting of various types of radio communications/emergency response equipment. Northwest Communications did not receive an award because their response did not meet the minimum threshold score. All proposals have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Twenty are being recommended for award. Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed in the Award Recommendation Table.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchases

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate contracts with the respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for Radio Communications/ Emergency Response Equipment. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

- RA05-21 Award Recommendation Table Cover Memo

H-GAC Product Categories

A: Radio Communication Equipment

B: Emergency Response Command and Control Equipment

C: Mobile Command Interoperable Communication Equipment

D: Services

RA05-21 Award Recommendation Table

Proposal	Product Category
Activu Corporation	WB
All Points Communication, Inc. dba Advantage Communications	AP, XD
BK Technologies, Inc.	XA
DAMM Cellular Systems, Inc.	XA
E.F. Johnson Company	FD, NA
Cloud Dock Solutions LLC dba First In Software	HA, HB
Freedom Communication Technologies, Inc.	XA
Icom America, Inc.	JA
IPKeys Power Partners, Inc.	D
JPS Interoperability Solutions, Inc.	MC
L3Harris Technologies, Inc.	GA
Microwave Networks, Inc.	OA
Mobile Communications America, Inc.	XC, PA, BA, XD, AA, XA
Motorola Solutions, Inc.	PA, PB, PC PD
Nokia of America Corporation dba Nokia Innovations US LLC	AA, AD
Power Products Unlimited LLC	XA
PowerTrunk, Inc.	XA, SA, XD
SIAE Microelettronica, Inc.	XA
Tait North America, Inc. dba Tait Communications	TA, TD
Zetron, Inc. Huffman Communications Sales, Inc.	VA, VD

HGACBUY – ALL HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS, PLANNING, CONSULTING, AND RECOVERY SERVICES

Background

The H-GAC Cooperative Purchasing Program (HGACBuy) establishes contracts for a variety of products and services through competitive solicitations. Member governments are able to use the contracts to make purchases. HGACBuy received and opened twenty-nine proposals for all hazards preparedness, planning, consulting, and recovery services on May 3, 2021. The following companies submitted a proposal:

Ardurra Group, LLC	Tampa, FL
AG Witt, LLC	Little Rock, AR
APTIM Corp. dba Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC	Baton Rouge, LA
Atkins North America, Inc.	Tampa, FL
CDR Macguire, Inc.	Miami, FL
The CNA Corporation dba CNA	Arlington, VA
Constant and Associates, Inc.	Torrance, CA
Data Transfer Solutions, LLC	Tampa, FL
DCMC, LLC dba DCMC Partners	Alexandria, VA
Dewberry Engineers, Inc.	Fairfax, VA
Disaster Recovery Services, LLC	Houston, TX
Five23 Group, Inc. dba Lumenor Consulting Group	Alpharetta, GA
GP Strategies Corporation	Columbia, MD
H2O Partners, Inc.	Austin, TX
Hagerty Consulting, Inc.	Evanston, IL
Hill International, Inc.	Philadelphia, PA
Innovative Emergency Management, Inc.	Morrisville, NC
Institute for Building Technology and Safety	Ashburn, VA
Integrated Solution Consulting Corporation	Prospect Heights, IL
iParamedics, LLC	Alpharetta, GA
Mission Critical Partners, LLC	Port Matilda, PA
MPACT Strategic Consulting, LLC	Houston, TX
NewGen Strategies and Solutions, LLC	Lakewood, CO
Safework, Inc.	Woodland Hills, CA
SWCA, Incorporated dba SWCA Environmental Consultants	Phoenix, AZ
Tetra Tech	Pasadena, CA
The Olson Group, LTD	Alexandria, VA
Thompson Consulting Services, LLC	Maitland, FL
Witt O'Brien's, LLC	Washington, DC

Current Situation

This contract is a continuation of an existing contract in our portfolio, consisting of various types of services, such as emergency operations, contingency, risk assessment, vulnerability, hazard mitigation, incident response, testing, and training.

All proposal responses have been evaluated by H-GAC staff. Fifteen proposals are being recommended for award. Request authorization to negotiate contracts with each respondent listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table, and as may be applicable, to extend contract assignments to other authorized entities during the contract period.

Funding Source

Participating local government purchases

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request authorization to negotiate a contract with the respondents listed in the Contract Award Recommendation Table for all hazards preparedness, planning, consulting, and recovery services. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

- HP08-21 Award Recommendation Table
- Cover Memo

HP08-21 Award Recommendation Table

Proposal	Services
Ardurra Group, LLC	Hazard mitigation; disaster management; risk assessment; disaster preparedness; emergency response and recovery services
AG Witt, LLC	Preparedness, response, and recovery services
APTIM Corp. dba Environmental & Infrastructure, LLC	Immediate response support services; disaster recovery; hazard mitigation, coastal resiliency and recovery
DCMC, LLC dba DCMC Partners	Preparedness and resiliency services; response and recovery services
Dewberry Engineers, Inc.	Planning; mitigation and response/recovery
Disaster Recovery Services, LLC	Hazard mitigation assistance; preparation and disaster planning
H2O Partners, Inc.	Hazard mitigation and risk planning; grant and flood insurance development / management; disaster recovery monitoring services
Hagerty Consulting, Inc.	Pre-disaster preparedness solutions; training and exercise solutions; response solutions; recovery solutions
Innovative Emergency Management, Inc.	Planning; public information and warning; training; exercises; risk and disaster resilience; modeling and assessment; threats and hazards identification; community resilience; long-term vulnerability reduction
Institute for Building Technology and Safety	Construction management; risk management; design and implementation disaster management; resilience planning; regulatory frameworks
Integrated Solution Consulting Corporation	Emergency operations planning; incident response; community outreach and preparedness development; hazard mitigation planning; vulnerability and hazard risk analysis
SWCA, Incorporated dba SWCA Environmental Consultants	Hazard response; agency consultation and planning; assessments and disaster recovery and mitigation
Tetra Tech	Emergency management consulting services; debris program management; consulting services; grant administration and disaster recovery

Thompson Consulting Services, LLC	Preparedness planning; consulting and recovery services
Witt O'Brien's, LLC	Preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation and crisis management services

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Background

The coronavirus pandemic has put an extraordinary amount of strain on local government resources. Local governments have been burdened with a variety of unplanned expenses including, but not limited to: coronavirus testing, securing personal protective equipment (PPE) for county emergency medical services, sanitizing government buildings, securing storage for PPE, and paying for overtime for essential workers including peace officers. The financial burden on rural jurisdictions was especially acute. This funding will help these jurisdictions recuperate some of those costs.

Current Situation

This project will use the funds provided in the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CERF) Program to reimburse the region's eight rural counties (Austin, Chambers, Colorado, Liberty, Matagorda, Walker, Waller, Wharton) and cities within those counties for expenses incurred responding to the coronavirus pandemic. Per the Request for Applications, allowable projects and purchases include but are not limited to: overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and addressing the medical needs of inmates in local and tribal jails and detention centers. The Regional Homeland Security Council has been updated on this project.

Proposed Budget

Personnel	\$9,905
Passthrough	\$236,143
Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses	\$562
Indirect Costs	\$2,836
Total	\$249,446

Funding Source

Federal Funds

Budgeted

No

Action Requested

Request authorization to submit an application for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding program in the amount of \$249,446. (Staff Contact: Ronnie Barnes)

ATTACHMENTS:

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS ASSESSMENT SERVICES

Background

H-GAC has established a centralized procurement section and has been working to finalize this centralization of the procurement functions throughout all departments within the agency. At the end of 2019, the H-GAC Executive Director began to standardize, at a high-level, the agency contracts functions throughout the departments. The transition is nearly complete; however, a small percentage of procurement functions remain in the departments. The H-GAC Public Services department houses the HGACBuy cooperative purchasing program which encompasses procurement functions that H-GAC is seeking to transition to the agency Procurement and Contracts section. H-GAC seeks an assessment of the current work processes to evaluate and recommend which functions remain at the project level and which functions transition into a centralized contracts management function. As part of this assessment, current department work processes will be evaluated to increase standardization and process improvements.

Current Situation

Currently, each department has staff who are responsible for project management in conjunction with contracts management and/or procurement functions. As part of this assessment, current department work processes will be evaluated to increase standardization and identify process improvements.

H-GAC issued a Request for Proposals in March 2021. Four proposals were received and evaluated. Based on the committee's scoring and evaluation of the proposals as well as interviews, the committee's ranking is shown below:

1. Civic Initiatives
2. Calyptus Consulting

Funding Source

HGACBuy

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to contract with firms in order ranked to conduct Procurement and Contracts Assessment Services for H-GAC; total amount is \$121,610. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE REGIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Background

H-GAC's regional incident management activities include the Gulf Coast Regional Tow and Go Program and the Harris County Sheriff's Office's Motorist Assistance Program and Incident Management Unit. These activities operate out of Houston TranStar, the Regional Transportation Management Center. The Tow and Go Program is a towing program to remove motorists who are stalled on the freeway to a safe location with no direct cost to the motorist. The Incident Management Unit authorizes the tows using the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) Freeway Closed Caption Television cameras at Houston TranStar.

Since the Tow and Go program began on May 1, 2018, almost 95,000 tows have been provided. The average incident clearance time has decreased from over 25 minutes to 16 minutes and 17 seconds over the first three years of the program.

Current Situation

H-GAC staff recommends entering into an Advance Funding Agreement with TxDOT to continue the activities in the Gulf Coast Regional Tow and Go Program and Regional Incident Management. Funds from this agreement would be used in future program expansion to other freeways in the Region while continuing current operations on 244 center line miles of freeways in the City of Houston and Harris County.

Funding Source

Federal: \$10,000,000

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

Request authorization to enter into an Advance Funding Agreement with the Texas Department of Transportation to continue funding for the regional incident management activities; total amount of \$10,000,000. (Staff Contact: Craig Raborn)

ATTACHMENTS:

EAST FORK SAN JACINTO RIVER WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN

Background

The East Fork San Jacinto Watershed has been identified through H-GAC's water quality monitoring and planning efforts as a priority area for water quality protection and improvement. H-GAC has secured funding from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, with support from member governments, to work with local stakeholders in completing a Watershed Protection Plan for this area.

The plan will focus on voluntary measures that can be taken to reduce water pollution, based on input from local stakeholders and the public.

Current Situation

Project elements will include:

- Compiling and evaluating water quality data and trends.
- Identifying sources of pollution.
- Working with local stakeholders to recommend voluntary strategies to reduce pollution in the watershed.
- Engaging with project partners and the public throughout the development of the plan.
- The project will start in September 2021 and end in August 2025.

Funding Source

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality \$148,861

Match (Clean Rivers Program, in-kind) \$99,240

Budgeted

Yes

Action Requested

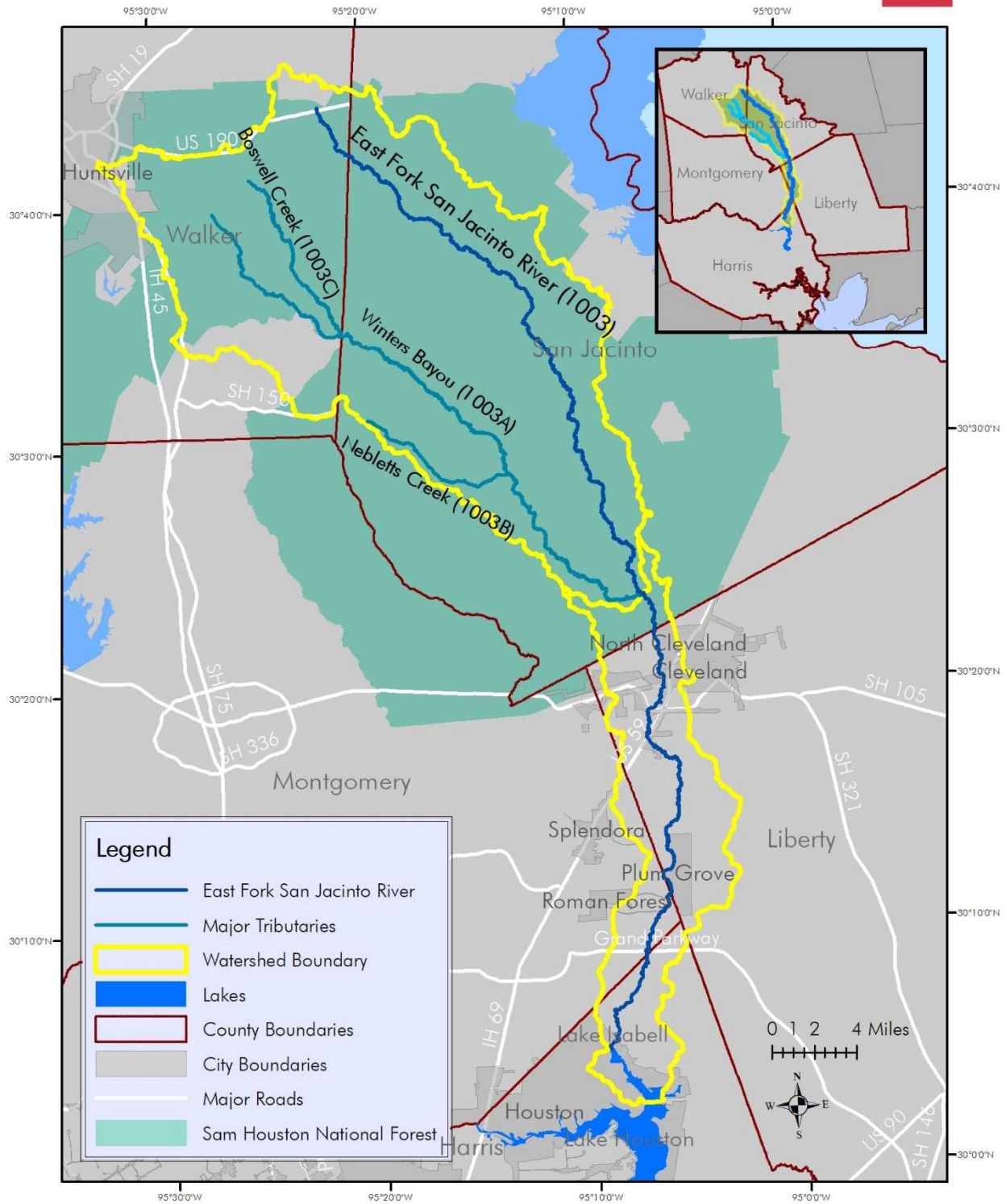
Request approval to enter a contract with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to develop a Watershed Protection Plan for the East Fork San Jacinto River Watershed; total amount \$248,101. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

ATTACHMENTS:

▫ Map of East Fork Watershed

Cover Memo

The East Fork San Jacinto River Watershed



MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – JUNE 2021

ATTACHMENTS:

- Monthly Financial Report - June 2021 PDF

HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Six Months Ended June 2021

	Budget Year to date	Actual Year to date	Variance Dollar	%
Combined Revenues and Expenditures				
Revenues	\$ 193,900,296	\$ 161,281,940	\$ (32,618,356)	-17%
Expenditures	(193,424,799)	(159,791,556)	33,633,243	-17%
Change in Combined Fund Balance	\$ 475,497	\$ 1,490,383	\$ 1,014,887	

Change in Fund Balance by Fund Type				
Change in fund balance - General Fund	\$ 60,364	\$ 313,801	\$ 253,437	
Change in fund balance - Gulf Coast Regional 911	447,755	1,035,873	588,119	
Change in fund balance - Enterprise Fund	122,622	140,710	18,088	
Total Change in Fund Balances	\$ 630,740	\$ 1,490,384	\$ 859,643	

Variance Analysis

The presentation of the change in fund balance by fund type is intended to highlight the effects of revenue and expenditure transactions by fund. The General Fund (GF) consists of those funds not associated with grant programs or enterprise activities. The Special Revenue Fund (SRF) consists of those funds that are restricted for a specific purpose. HGAC's grant programs are in this fund. The Enterprise Fund is used to track activities of the Cooperative Purchasing program and the Energy Purchasing Corporation. The variances of specific revenues and expenditures are explained on the second page of this report.

*** The Cooperative Purchasing program has contributed a \$142,167 increase toward the Enterprise fund balance YTD, and the Energy Purchasing Corporation is reflecting a (\$1,457) a decrease to the Enterprise fund balance.

**HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
For the Six Months Ended June 2021**

	Annual Budget	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date	Variance Dollar	%
Revenues					
General and Enterprise Fund					
Membership dues (a)	\$ 395,538	\$ 395,538	\$ 277,350	\$ (118,188)	-30%
HGAC Energy Purchasing Corporation	90,000	45,000	45,367	367	1%
Cooperative Purchasing fees	5,500,000	2,750,000	2,283,412	(466,588)	-17%
Gulf Coast Regional 911 fees	4,036,797	2,018,399	2,132,651	114,253	6%
Interest Income (b)	35,000	17,500	728	(16,772)	-96%
Other (c)	3,981,468	1,990,734	2,329,353	338,619	17%
Total General and Enterprise Fund revenues	\$ 14,038,803	\$ 7,217,171	\$ 7,068,862	\$ (148,309)	-2%
Special Revenue Fund					
Federal Grant (d)	\$ 3,556,065	\$ 1,778,033	\$ 127,804	\$ (1,650,229)	-93%
State Grants	369,810,185	184,905,093	154,085,272	(30,819,821)	-17%
Total Special Revenue Fund revenues	\$ 373,366,250	\$ 186,683,125	\$ 154,213,076	\$ (32,470,049)	-17%
Total Revenues	\$ 387,405,053	\$ 193,900,296	\$ 161,281,938	\$ (32,618,358)	-17%
Expenditures					
Personnel	\$ 27,608,829	\$ 13,804,415	\$ 13,579,799	\$ (224,616)	-2%
Pass-through funds - grant	341,090,281	170,545,141	140,503,453	(30,041,688)	-18%
Consultant and contract services	11,480,098	5,740,049	3,323,268	(2,416,781)	-42%
Lease of office space	1,791,142	895,571	871,337	(24,234)	-3%
Equipment	1,677,448	838,724	216,466	(622,258)	-74%
Travel (f)	327,205	163,603	23,167	(140,436)	-86%
Other expense	2,874,595	1,437,298	1,274,065	(163,233)	-11%
Total Expenditures	\$ 386,849,598	\$ 193,424,799	\$ 159,791,555	\$ (33,633,244)	-17%
Excess of Revenues over(under) Expenditures	\$ 55,455	\$ 475,497	\$ 1,490,383	\$ 1,014,886	

Variiances:

- a) We have been in contact with entities that have outstanding dues, and we anticipate payment soon.
- b) Interest income is down due to the Federal Reserve holding interest rates low. H-GAC has made investments in government securities that will mature later in the fiscal year. We anticipate meeting our interest income projection.
- c) Other revenue includes the EDA loan program that has seen increased activity due to COVID related funds being made available to small businesses. These funds were not originally in H-GAC's budget and will need to be included in the mid-year revision.
- d) Federal pass-through revenue and expense in an EPA program administered by the Transportation department is off to a slow start for the year. We will review and revise the anticipated progress on this grant during the budget revision process.
- f) The travel budget was anticipating that Covid restrictions would end in 2021. We are starting to see some easing of restrictions and requests for in-person events that include in-region and out-of-region travel, so we expect that our expenses will increase later in the year.

COMMUNITY NAVIGATORS PILOT PROGRAM

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act authorized the Small Business Administration to establish the Community Navigator Pilot Program. The program is designed to provide high quality technical assistance to underserved small businesses and entrepreneurs impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and other economic disruptions.

Programs are delivered through a *hub and spoke* model, where the lead applicant (H-GAC) will serve as the coordinating "hub" and a coalition of "spoke" organizations will deliver the technical assistance services to the businesses.

Current Situation

H-GAC has identified the following public and non-profit organizations as potential partners for this project:

- BakerRipley
- Brazoria County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership
- El Campo Economic Development Corporation
- Houston Business Development, Inc.
- Galveston Economic Development Partnership
- Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone 25/Hiram Clark Redevelopment Authority
- Texas A&M Corpus Christi Sea Grant Mariculture Program (Palacios)
- Weimar Economic Development Corporation/Chamber of Commerce
- Wharton Economic Development Corporation
- University of Houston, Bauer College of Business, Stimulating Urban Renewal through Entrepreneurship (SURE) Program

H-GAC will pursue a total grant amount of \$2.5 million and each partner may receive up to \$200,000 to carry out technical assistance activities. As part of the application, H-GAC must execute letters of commitment with each coalition partner. Additional partners may be added as the program is finalized.

Funding Source

U.S. Small Business Administration

Budgeted

No; amends H-GAC Budget

Action Requested

Request approval to apply for Community Navigators Grant for an amount of \$2,500,000. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Background

The H-GAC Board of Directors Water Resources Committee has been working to identify and support flood mitigation projects of regional significance for H-GAC's 13 counties. These projects – including capital investments, special studies, and planning initiatives – will provide benefits to the entire H-GAC region.

Current Situation

The Water Resources Committee will meet on July 14, 2021. The committee will consider recommending the addition of the following project to the Priority Flood Mitigation Projects list as a Tier 1 project:

Waller County Coordinated Detention Pilot Project – Waller County is seeking funding to implement a series of coordinated detention basin network pilot installations in multiple watersheds. The pilot study would involve installation of sensors on existing detention basins and engineering assessment of downstream impacts from coordinated releases, focusing on disaster and risk mitigation. The study will model hydrological benefits for potential flood loss reduction, positive impacts to low-to-moderate income communities, and water quality and conservation benefits. The project will also assess how the data may support alternative engineering, construction and maintenance of detention-retention assets and how it may impact placement of future retrofits (*Waller County*).

The other item on the committee's agenda will be an update and discussion on the Method of Distribution for H-GAC's Regional Mitigation Program.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request approval of Water Resources Committee recommendations to H-GAC Priority Flood Mitigation Projects list. (Staff Contact: Jeff Taebel)

ATTACHMENTS:

▫ Priority Flood Mitigation Projects List

Cover Memo

**H-GAC PRIORITY FLOOD MITIGATION PROJECTS
For H-GAC Board of Directors consideration July 20, 2021**

The H-GAC Board of Directors has approved this project priority list, grouped into priority tiers indicating the level of engagement and support H-GAC could provide. This list will be regularly reviewed and updated, as necessary.

TIER 1: Projects benefitting multiple jurisdictions for which there are specific opportunities for H-GAC to provide support, coordination, or to serve as the lead in securing funding.

Cedar Bayou Alliance – Judge Sylvia of Chambers County appointed H-GAC to lead a coalition of governments and industry in the Cedar Bayou watershed of Harris, Chambers, and Liberty Counties to identify joint flood mitigation projects. H-GAC has been working with Cedar Bayou Alliance partners to identify and promote projects of shared priority and to coordinate activities among the entities involved. Longer term steps may include creating a special district/authority to develop revenue and implement resiliency projects in the watershed (*Harris, Liberty and Chambers Counties; Cities of Baytown, Mont Belvieu*).

Lower Colorado River and San Bernard River Flood Warning System – Wharton, Colorado, and Matagorda Counties, and the Cities of Bay City, Columbus, and Wharton, along with the Lower Colorado River Authority, have collaborated on a study of the Lower Colorado River, post-Harvey. This project involves new inundation maps that can be used to enhance flood warning information. H-GAC and Wharton County are considering potential funding opportunities to mirror this modeling and mapping project in the San Bernard River and Caney Creek Watersheds and install river gauges in both Lower Colorado and San Bernard systems (*Austin, Brazoria, Colorado, Fayette, Fort Bend, Lee, Matagorda, Wharton*).

Chambers County and City of Mont Belvieu Flood Protection Planning for Watersheds Chambers County and the Cities of Liberty, Dayton and Mont Belvieu, in coordination with other local entities, are seeking funding and additional partners for a proposed flood protection planning project for approximately 900 miles of watersheds in Chambers, Liberty, Galveston, Harris, and Jefferson Counties. The project will develop hydrologic models for the study area and produce inundation maps for a variety of storm events. The project will also seek to identify areas of highest risk, recommend flood mitigation measures to address them and develop planning level estimates of provable costs. (*Chambers, Liberty, Harris, Galveston, and Jefferson counties; Cities of Mont Belvieu, Liberty and Dayton*).

Lower Brazos Flood Protection Planning Study –Includes analysis of medium- to large-scale structural solutions and buyouts, and recommendations for additional modeling, engineering, and environmental studies that benefit parts of the region along the lower Brazos River. The study involved several of H-GAC's local governments and includes some projects inside the region and others that, while outside the region, would benefit H-GAC counties and their communities (*Fort Bend, Brazoria, Austin, and Waller Counties*).

Brazos River Pinch Point Project.

This project would use structural barriers to prevent further erosion of a new channel through a pinch point of the Brazos River near Simonton, at a cost of \$25.8 million. The barriers would

protect area landowners and communities, prevent higher river velocities downstream, and ensure the viability of the Allen's Creek Reservoir project (*Fort Bend County, Missouri City, Richmond, Rosenberg, Simonton, Sugar Land, Thompsons, Weston Lakes*).

Waller County Coordinated Detention Pilot Project – Waller County is seeking funding to implement a series of coordinated detention basin network pilot installations in multiple watersheds. The pilot study would involve installation of sensors on existing detention basins and engineering assessment of downstream impacts from coordinated releases, focusing on disaster and risk mitigation. The study will model hydrological benefits for potential flood loss reduction, positive impacts to low-to-moderate income communities, and water quality and conservation benefits. The project will also assess how the data may support alternative engineering, construction and maintenance of detention-retention assets and how it may impact placement of future retrofits (*Waller County*).

TIER 2: Projects that H-GAC endorses which benefit individual or multiple jurisdictions and for which funding already exists or is programmed.

Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou Study – Multiple local partners are working with the US Army Corps of Engineers to conduct a \$1.5 million flood mitigation study of the Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou watersheds of Galveston County. The current local participants include League City, Friendswood, Harris County Flood Control District, and Galveston County, with Brazoria County and Pearland as potential contributing participants. The study began in 2019 and is undergoing public review of preliminary results (<https://www.leaguecity.com/3645/Lower-Clear-Creek-Dickinson-Bayou-Waters>) (*Covered areas noted in description*).

Metropolitan Houston Regional Watershed Assessment – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is conducting a 22-watershed assessment of drainage planning and flood mitigation in the Houston area in conjunction with the Harris County Flood Control District and other local partners (*22 watersheds in Harris County and adjacent counties*).

Southeast Texas Flood Control District – Liberty and Chambers counties are participating in ongoing flood control studies and efforts as part of an 8-county southeast Texas area effort that also includes several area river authorities. Additional work is ongoing through 2021 as a continuation of these studies (*Liberty and Chambers Counties; areas outside the region*).

Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) Bond Projects – Projects arising from HCFCD's [2018 bond program](#) are moving forward throughout the county, and the District is coordinating with local partners (*Harris County*).

Harris County Flood Tunnel Study – the first phase of the study identified [flood tunnels as a viable flood management option](#) to study further. The second phase is currently underway, looking at potential routing, and will complete soon. A third phase looking at more specific design will take an additional 12-18 months (*Harris County*).

San Jacinto Regional Watershed Master Drainage Plan – multiple local jurisdictions worked to develop the [San Jacinto Regional Watershed Master Drainage Plan](#). Using Atlas 14 rainfall data to develop inundation maps and estimates of impacted areas, the plan

identified flood mitigation projects and policies that can be implemented in the near- and long-term to reduce flood risks to people and property throughout the San Jacinto watershed. (*Harris County Flood Control District, San Jacinto River Authority, Montgomery County, City of Houston*).

TIER 3: Projects that do not currently have specific components identified that could be advanced for funding. H-GAC will continue to track progress on these projects and provide coordination or support as warranted.

River Authority Flood Mitigation Implementation– The committee discussed the potential future role for river authorities to implement flood mitigation planning and implementation activities. San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) is considering this type of approach and also developing a Flood Forecasting and Reservoir Operations Tool to help predict peak releases from Lake Conroe and better coordinate with local emergency management entities. The expected completion is Spring, 2021 (*Montgomery and Harris Counties; additional counties covered by other Authorities*).

Flood Upgrades – Fort Bend County – Fort Bend County is working to improve its flood readiness by incorporating Atlas 14 into its infrastructure planning and design and flood risk assessments as part of an interim drainage criteria manual. Portions of Fort Bend County, especially those areas impacted by Barker Reservoir during Hurricane Harvey, have also been the focus of several recent studies and efforts, including a 2018 study on the feasibility of a levee on the western end of Barker reservoir and a 2019 desilting project (*Fort Bend County*).

Summary of Projects by Tier and H-GAC Local Governments Benefitting

Tier 1	H-GAC Local Governments Benefitting
Cedar Bayou Alliance	Harris, Liberty and Chambers Counties; Cities of Baytown and Mont Belvieu.
Lower Colorado River and San Bernard River Flood Warning System	Portions of Austin, Brazoria, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda, and Wharton counties and cities therein; portions of Fayette and Lee Counties outside of H-GAC region.
Chambers County and City of Mont Belvieu Flood Protection Planning for Watersheds	Chambers, Liberty, Harris, Galveston, and Jefferson Counties; Cities of Mont Belvieu, Liberty and Dayton.
Lower Brazos Flood Protection Planning Study	Areas within the Lower Brazos River watershed; including some outside the region.
Brazos River Pinch Point Project	Fort Bend County, Missouri City, Richmond, Rosenberg, Simonton, Sugar Land, Thompsons, Weston Lakes
Waller County Coordinated Detention Pilot Project	Waller County

Tier 2	
Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou Study	Areas in Harris and Galveston County, League City, Friendswood and other area municipalities within the Clear Creek and Dickinson Bayou watersheds.
Metropolitan Houston Regional Watershed Assessment	22 watersheds in Harris, Chambers, Liberty, Galveston, Brazoria, Fort Bend County, Montgomery, and Waller Counties.
Southeast Texas Flood Control District	Liberty and Chambers Counties; six (6) other southeast Texas counties outside the region; River authorities in the study area.
Harris County Flood Control District (HCFCD) Bond Projects	Harris County
Harris County Flood Tunnel Study	Harris County
San Jacinto River Master Drainage Plan	Harris County, Montgomery County, City of Houston, other local governments and organizations in the San Jacinto River Basin above Highway I-10.
Tier 3	
River Authority Flood Mitigation Implementation	Harris and Montgomery Counties, potentially other river authorities and counties.
Flood Upgrades -- Fort Bend County	Areas within Fort Bend County, including those impacted by Barker Reservoir.

H-GAC 2021 ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Background

H-GAC advisory committees are appointed by H-GAC's Board as a whole, based upon nominations from individual Board members and other groups. This month there are nominations to the Aging and Disability Advisory Committee, Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation, Natural Resources Advisory Committee, Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee, Regional Flood Management Committee, Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council, and Solid Waste Management Committee.

Current Situation

N/A

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Request approval of appointments to H-GAC advisory committees. (Staff Contact: Rick Guerrero)

ATTACHMENTS:

- H-GAC 2021 JULY ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS Cover Memo

H-GAC JULY 2021 ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Aging and Disability Advisory Committee

Advise H-GAC Board on needs, services, and programs for older citizens in 12 H-GAC counties (all but Harris).

Nominations received for terms expiring December 2023:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
Ira Jeane Echols	Chambers County	Commissioner Tice

Houston-Galveston Area Local Development Corporation

Implement small business loan program by receiving loans for fixed assets; Small Business Administration provides financing.

Nominations received for terms expiring May 2022:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
Samantha Humphrey	Chambers County- Local Government	Commissioner Tice

Natural Resources Advisory Committee

This committee makes recommendations to the Board on issues related to natural resources in the Gulf Coast Planning Region.

Nominations received for terms expiring May 2023:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
George "Pudge" Wilcox	Chambers County	Commissioner Tice

Regional Air Quality Planning Advisory Committee

Advises the H-GAC Board, local governments, and state agencies on regional air quality issues.

Nominations received for terms expiring June 2022:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
Charlie Gagen (Primary)	Citizen/Environment	American Lung Assoc.
Paulette Wolfson (Alt.)	Citizen/Environment	American Lung Assoc.

Regional Flood Management Committee

The Regional Flood Management Council's purpose is to assist and advise elected officials in their decision-making responsibilities by making recommendations on issues related to all aspects of flood management in the Gulf Coast Planning Region.

Nominations received for terms expiring May 2023:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
Brad Wilber (Primary)	Chambers County	Commissioner Tice
Lucino Palacios (Alt.)	Chambers County	Commissioner Tice
Stephen Costello (Primary)	City of Houston	Mayor Turner
Jonathan S. Marks (Alt.)	City of Houston	Mayor Turner

Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Council

Coordinates local planning for Homeland Security.

Nominations received for terms expiring May 2023:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
George Buenik (Primary)	City of Houston	Mayor Turner
Nikea Bradley (Alt.)	City of Houston	Mayor Turner
Butch Davis (Primary)	Walker County	Judge Pierce
Sherri Pegoda (Alt.)	Walker County	Judge Pierce

Solid Waste Management Committee

Advises H-GAC Board and its member local governments on solid waste management issues.

Nominations received for terms expiring in May 2023:

Name	Representing	Nominated by
Eddie Gallaway (Primary)	Subregion 2-Chambers County	Commissioner Tice
Susan Folsom (Alt.)	Subregion 2-Chambers County	Commissioner Tice

H-GAC SPOTLIGHT – HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS OUTREACH

Background

Annually, the Houston-Galveston Area Council conducts a Public Outreach Campaign to inform people about Hurricane Evacuation Routes, Zip-Zone Evacuation Zones and how to prepare for a Hurricane and/or other natural disasters.

Current Situation

The goal of the outreach campaign is to increase awareness about hurricane evacuation planning, especially for those residents living in zip code zones that are subject to storm surge.

For more information, please contact David Fink at 713-993-4558 or david.fink@h-gac.com; or contact Ashley Seals at 713-499-6658 or ashley.seals@h-gac.com.

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

No action requested. For information only. (Staff Contacts: Ashley Seals and David Fink)

CURRENT AND UPCOMING H-GAC ACTIVITIES

Background

N/A

Current Situation

N/A

Funding Source

N/A

Budgeted

N/A

Action Requested

Report on current and upcoming H-GAC activities. (Staff Contact: Chuck Wemple)

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Commissioner Jami Clark
Mayor Dedrick Johnson, Sr.

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Mayor Cecil Willis, Stafford
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VACANT

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Council Member Susan Schwartz,
Bunker Hill Village
Mayor Joe Garcia, Pattison
Councilmember Teresa Vazquez-Evans, Kemah

ISDs

Trustee Rissie Owens, Huntsville ISD
Trustee Jennifer Key, Alief ISD

Note: Names of Alternates are indented

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