

Action Summary

Acadiana Watershed District (LWI Region 5) Board Meeting Minutes



10am-12pm, Thursday, November 7th, 2024
Rosa Parks Transportation Center
101 Jefferson St.
Lafayette, LA 70501



AGENDA, NOTES AND DECISIONS

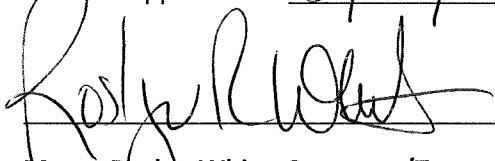
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME	The meeting was called to order at 10:05am by Vice Chair Rachel Godeaux. Opening Statement: " Welcome to this public meeting of the Acadiana Watershed District (also known as LWI Region 5). I am Rachel Godeaux, Vice Chair of the Acadiana Watershed District. Agendas are available at the room's entrance and were made available through the AWD email distribution list and online at planacadiana.org. The purpose of this public meeting is to consider items established by the agenda. For our records to reflect your attendance, please sign-in at the table or drop a message in the chat box listing your name and affiliation. The purpose of this public meeting is to consider items established by the agenda. Public input is welcome on these items. However, to ensure an orderly meeting, members of the public shall speak at the time designated. Each organization may be permitted one representative to speak for 3 minutes on its behalf and individual public members are permitted 3 minutes. For those wishing to speak in-person, complete a speaker card and present it to the APC staff. For members of the public participating online, please submit your comments and questions in the chat box. Comments/questions will be read aloud during the public comment period. Thank you."
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Vice Chair, Rachel Godeaux (Lafayette), led the Pledge of Allegiance and all stood and recited the pledge.
ROLL CALL	Roll call was taken by Kelia Bingham, Watershed Coordinator, to establish a quorum. A quorum was not present as only 8 Board members were in attendance.

VOTE TO APPROVE ACTION SUMMARY (MEETING MINUTES) FROM JUNE 13TH MEETING	Because a quorum was not present, the action summary approval will be delayed until the next Board meeting on February 27th, 2025.
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT OUT AND VOTE TO APPROVE NOMINATED AT-LARGE MEMBER OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)	TAC had its first meeting on October 28th, 2024. The committee viewed a draft AWD Mission Statement – group agreed to follow the goals and functions of the AWD and add to mission statement. It was also suggested that AWD also have a Vision statement that is more general, and the Mission statement will be more specific (the how). Regional Emergency Flood Coordination was also discussed. The TAC reviewed 2021 draft plan outline that was created by the Region 5 Steering Committee. The group agreed that water control entities and structure be identified in the district and that AWD would be an information source – communicator/collaborator during anticipated storm events. Regional Project Prioritization was then addressed. Draft criteria was created in 2021. Members reviewed the criteria and agreed that now with the models available that running a project through the model would be the first step. Additional criteria may be added. Also, the TAC wanted to further review the criteria with those at-large members of smaller municipalities. Mayor White nominated Richard Greig as an At-Large member for TAC. The nomination could not be accepted or voted on as there was no quorum. This item will be revisited at the next Board meeting on February 27th, 2025.
PRESENTATION OF THE TECHE-VERMILION FRESHWATER DISTRICT BY DONALD SAGRERA	Donald Sagrera, Executive Director of the Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District presented on the District, its history and its purpose of bringing fresh surface water to Acadiana improving surface water quality. The District supplies fresh water from the Atchafalaya River to Bayou Teche, the Vermilion River and connecting streams by means of a pumping station and a series of control structures and channels designed to divert, regulate and carry the flows. The Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District was legislatively created and officially established in 1969.
STATE GAUGE NETWORK	A State Rain and Flow Gauge Legislator Map was created by LDEQ personnel, Chuck Burger and Josh Riggins. The map is a tool that highlights which legislative districts that

	state LWI gauges are located in. Each Board member was encouraged to contact their legislator regarding the gauges and their importance to our state and watershed models.
2025 BOARD AND TAC MEETING SCHEDULE	• Thursday, February 27th at 10am • Thursday, May 15th at 10am • Thursday, August 28th at 10am • Thursday, November 13th at 10am
MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES	There have been two recently awarded grant projects to ULL and Tulane that will benefit the AWD. We are collaborating and partnering with these universities. The ULL project is funded by the National Science Foundation and the Tulane project is funded by NOAA. Each Board member will need to submit their state ethics training certificates by December 31st. Reminders will be sent out. Each Board member will need to submit their <u>Tier 2.1 Annual Financial Disclosure</u> by May 15, 2025. Reminders will be sent out.
PUBLIC COMMENT	There was no public comment.
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 11:51am.
MEETING DETAILS	
CONTACT	Kelia Bingham, LWI Region 5 Watershed Coordinator kbingham@planacadiana.org or (337) 446-0807
ADA/TITLE VI NOTICE	The Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) convenes public meetings in accessible locations. Meeting materials can be provided in accessible formats and in languages other than English upon request. If you would like accessibility or language accommodation, please contact the ADA/Title VI Coordinator via email at amoran@planacadiana.org; or by phone at 337-806-9364. If you wish to attend an APC function and require special accommodations, please provide at least 72 hours advanced notice.
ATTENDANCE RECORD	

ATTENDEES	<u>Delegates Present:</u> Acadia – Earl Garber Allen – Tyler Tullier Cameron – Kara Bonsall Lafayette – Rachel Godeaux St. Martin – Chris Tauzin Vermilion – Keith Roy Senate Committee on Natural Resources – Mayor Roslyn White of Abbeville <u>Others Present</u> Sara Gary - APC Kelia Bingham - APC Sean Reed – APC Jody White – CPRA Donald Sagrera - TVFWD Alex Guillory – Bluewing Civil Consulting Jessica Cornay – Lafayette Consolidated Government Amanda Blanchard – Sides and Associates Karen Hail – Bayou Vermilion District
ABSENTEES	<u>Delegates Absent:</u> Calcasieu – Terry Frelot Evangeline – Dirk Deville Iberia – Ben Langlinais Jefferson Davis – Kori Myers Iberville – John Clark Pointe Coupee – Nathan Cobb Rapides – Matt Johns St. Landry -Van Reed St. Mary – President Sam Jones Rep. Jacob Landry - House

Minutes approved on 2/27/2025 by the Acadiana Watershed District Board.



 Mayor Roslyn White, Secretary/Treasurer
 Acadiana Watershed District

