

Action Summary

Acadiana Watershed District Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes



10am-12pm, Thursday, July 17th, 2025
Rosa Parks Transportation Center
101 Jefferson St.
Lafayette, LA 70501



AGENDA, NOTES AND DECISIONS

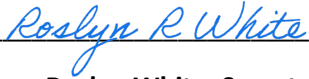
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME	The meeting was called to order at 10:07am by Kelia Bingham, APC Watershed Coordinator. Opening Statement: <i>" Welcome to public meeting of the Acadiana Watershed District's Technical Advisory Committee Meeting. I am Kelia Bingham, Watershed Coordinator for the District.</i> <i>Agendas are available at the room's entrance and were made available through the AWD email distribution list and online at planacadiana.org. For our records to reflect your attendance, please sign-in at the table and any Board or TAC members online, please add your name to the chat box.</i> <i>The purpose of this public meeting is to consider items established by the agenda. Public input is welcome on these matters. For those wishing to speak in-person, please complete a speaker card and present it to the APC staff. Comments/questions will be read aloud during the public comment period. To ensure an orderly meeting, members of the public will 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. This will be strictly enforced. Thank you."</i>
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	Kelia Bingham led the Pledge of Allegiance, and all stood and recited the pledge.
ROLL CALL	Roll call was taken by Kelia Bingham.
MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL FROM APRIL 17TH	Minutes were accepted but not approved as there was no quorum. VOTE: YEA – NAY – ABSENT -

REGIONAL PROJECT CRITERIA	The TAC reviewed the regional project prioritization questionnaire and made several edits including adding the concept and purpose of the project as well anticipating permits and status and if any landowners would be involved. The TAC then reviewed the scoring criteria. Additional criteria such as flood risk improvements or flooding reduction and co-benefits were considered. The 10-year storm was added to the priority descriptions. The 100-year storm can be considered for coastal areas and tributaries and for extra points should a competitive application arise. The Co-Benefits category was decided to be optional as way for applicants to obtain extra points. These changes will be made and presented to the AWD Board for their review, edits, and approval.
UPDATES	LWI Region 5 Watershed Model Training took place on June 12 - The state will be following up on the training summary and log in information. Alexandria to the Gulf Study - Federal Agency is USACE & NFSs are DOTD & CPRA - Fiscal Year Funding expected to be FY26 LWI Gauges - Now under DOTD - 83 locations included flow calculations, but that has been reduced to about 41 locations. LDEQ is continuing the USGS gauge contract USGS Gauges – Mr. Donald Sagrera stated that the Vermilion River at Surrey & Vermilion River at Perry gauges are back in operation Acadiana Regional Gauge Network Project - Working on updating and completing the CUP as well as a USACE permit. Re-engaging parishes about O&M of gauges. Once all the above is complete, will complete RFP for advertisement for construction/installation phase. AWD Sustainable Funding – Board to make decision on path to sustainable funding. This could take multiple steps as well as an education/information campaign. The elements below depend on actively pursuing and achieving this funding. <i>The following will be postponed until a sustainable funding solution path is determined:</i> Increasing CRS Participation & Reviving the local CRS User Group, RAIN - Education/information campaign to all elected officials in the AWD – will be a long task, but will work with LWI, DOTD and UNO CHART (Center for Hazards Assessment, Response & Technology Regional Flood Communication System (facilitate communication only) - To facilitate communication and provide flood related points of contact to gather information prior to an anticipated flood event for regional flood coordination to protect life and property in the Acadiana Watershed District. The AWD can be a connector for the parishes in the District during such an event. This can be done by AWD being a notification center via email. The efforts could act as a decision support tool as well as sharing information between parishes.
MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES	Allie Olsonoski, Project Manager (Coasts & Watersheds) with the Environmental Defense Fund, presented on the Southwest Coastal Louisiana Project Home Elevations Program. This is through the USACE, Restore the Mississippi River Delta, UNO CHART

	and Fenstermaker. It is 100% voluntary and there is NO cost share. Flood insurance is not required. The project focuses on the following parishes: Cameron, Calcasieu, and Vermilion. Ms. Olsonoski submitted handouts on the project and will be presenting to the AWD Board in November. For more information, contact aolsonoski@edf.org .
NEXT MEETING	October 16 th at 10am
PUBLIC COMMENT	There was no public comment.
ADJOURNMENT	Jessica Cornay made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Donald Sagrera seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting ended at 11:37am.
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 accommodation, please provide at least 72 hours advanced notice.
ATTENDANCE RECORD	
ATTENDEES	<u>Delegates Present:</u> Teche-Vermilion Freshwater District – Donald Sagrera USAD/NRCS – Andrew Coombs CPRA – Dion Broussard At-Large Member (>30K) – Jessica Cornay At-Large Member (>30K) - Cassidy Lejeune <u>Others Present</u> USACE – Isaac Mudge Cameron Coastal Restoration - Rene Escuriex EDF/MRD – Allie Olsonoski U.S. Senator John Kennedy – Jake Benoit APC – Sara Gary APC – Kelia Bingham APC – Sean Reed CPRA – Ivy Thibodeaux

ABSENTEES	<u>Delegates Absent:</u> LA SWCD IV – Chris Vosburg UL Watershed Flood Center – Emad Habib DOTD – Brent Domingue At-Large Member (<30K) – Richard Greig
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Minutes approved on **August 28, 2025,** by the Acadiana Watershed District Board.



**Mayor Roslyn White, Secretary/Treasurer
Acadiana Watershed District**