

## Action Summary



### LWI Region 5 Steering Committee

10am-12pm, Thursday, October 21, 2021  
Rosa Parks Transportation Center  
Multipurpose Room 116  
101 Jefferson Street, Lafayette, LA 70501



## AGENDA, NOTES AND DECISIONS

| AGENDA ITEM  | DISCUSSION   |
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| <b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, &amp; COMMITTEE ROLL CALL</b> | <p>Mr. Donald Bergeron of the Evangeline Parish Police Jury called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance both in person and virtually via Zoom and Facebook Live at <a href="https://facebook.com/AcadianaPlanningCommission">facebook.com/AcadianaPlanningCommission</a>. The meeting was made available to the public via live stream on Facebook Live. The recording of the full meeting is available at <a href="https://planacadiana.org/watershed/lwi-region-5/">planacadiana.org/watershed/lwi-region-5/</a>.</p> <p>“Opening Statement: Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to this public meeting of the Region 5 Steering Committee. I am Donald Bergeron, representative of Evangeline Parish, and will lead the meeting today.</p> <p>Agendas are available at the room’s entrance and were made available through email and online at <a href="https://planacadiana.org">planacadiana.org</a>.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.”</p> |
| <b>ROLL CALL &amp; PUBLIC INTRODUCTIONS</b>              | <p>Kelia Bingham of Acadiana Planning Commission introduced Jacob Coco as the representative for Avoyelles Parish on the Region 5 Steering Committee. She then called roll for the steering committee members’ attendance. A quorum was present.</p>   |

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| <p><b>APPROVE MEETING MINUTES</b></p> <p><i>(formal action)</i></p>               | <p>A motion was made by Earl Garber and seconded by Jessica Cornay to approve the meeting minutes from the July 15, 2021 LWI Region 5 Steering Committee Meetings. The motion was approved unanimously.</p> <p>VOTE: 10-0-6:<br/> Yea –10;<br/> Nay – 0;<br/> Absent – 6</p> <p>Action summaries from the sub-committee meetings were distributed to the Region 5 Steering Committee members for their reference.</p>   |
| <p><b>LA WATERSHED INITIATIVE UPDATES</b></p>                                     | <p>Mr. Donald Bergeron introduced Mr. Bradley Spiegel with the Louisiana OCD for LWI updates. Mr. Bradley Spiegel announced the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Working with Nature Training Series Program</a> – October 2021-July 2022, One of the primary goals of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative is to leverage the state’s vast network of natural ecosystems to protect our communities and enhance our resilience to floods and other natural hazards. Next meeting is November 17.</li> <li>• <b>3 main deliverables from August LWI Council Meeting:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The council approved round 2 which will be a design support pilot project for the next round, an allocation of money for projects submitted in round one due to a need for technical assistance in round one.</li> <li>2. The council approved phase 2 of the \$800,000 regional capacity building grant that will continue to fund watershed planning activities over a period of the next 4 years.</li> <li>3. MUSM plan commentary period is open until October 25.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> |
| <p><b>LWI REGION 5 UPDATES</b></p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July - Final Governance Recommendation</li> <li>• July - Regional Round 1 Project Recommendations - \$40 million</li> <li>• September - Regional Round 1 Project Awards - \$40 million</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT OUTS</b></p> <p><b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM</b></p> | <p>Mr. Donald Bergeron recognized Mr. Earl Garber as the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Sub-Committee Lead.</p> <p>The CIP Subcommittee met on 09/30 to discuss project rounds of funding, FEMA’s Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC funding), and comments regarding the Model Use, Storage and Maintenance (MUSM) plan. The Regional Round 1 Project Recommendations were approved by the Council on 08/05. There are 3 projects. Those projects’ award letters were distributed last month.</p> <p>For Round 2, the state scoring committee is considering all unfunded projects that were submitted for Round 1. Round 2 Funding will be non-competitive and will give design support &amp; technical assistance. Projects will be selected by the state from the unfunded projects of Round 1. The Policies &amp; Procedures for Round 1 are forthcoming.</p>  |

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| <p><b>GOVERNANCE AND<br/>LONG-TERM<br/>SUSTAINIABILITY</b></p> | <p>A presentation on the BRIC program was given by FEMA. Projects to be potentially considered for BRIC funding, a project list (combined Region 5 project inventory and unfunded projects from Round was created. Please refer to your agenda packet as this is a segue to the next agenda item.</p> <p><b><u>FEMA BRIC Funding Application</u></b></p> <p>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) applications are due Friday, 01/28/22 at 2pm. The typical projects that are prioritized by BRIC are nature-based solutions, statewide benefit, lifelines (e.g., transportation), improving community equity for small, impoverished, economically disadvantaged communities. Multiple project partners are encouraged, but there is only one applicant (main Point of Contact).</p> <p><b><u>Region 5 MUSM Comments – FORMAL ACTION</u></b></p> <p>Region 5 held a webinar on the MUSM specifically for the Region 5 on August 19. Region 5’s draft collective comments are to be voted on and officially submitted to the state on or before October 25. Comments were reviewed by committee members during the meeting.</p> <p><b>A motion was made by Earl Garber and seconded by Karl Aucoin to submit the MUSM comments to LWI as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.</b></p> <p><i>VOTE: 10-0-6:<br/>Yea –10;<br/>Nay – 0;<br/>Absent – 6</i></p> <p>Donald Bergeron announced he will be reporting the Governance and Long-term Sustainability activities in the absence of Matt Johns.</p> <p>The Governance &amp; Long-Term Sustainability Subcommittee met on September 16. The Region 5 Final Governance Recommendation was submitted to LWI and presented to the Council on Watershed Management on August 5. The Regional Capacity Building Grant has been extended an additional four years until 2025.</p> <p>Subcommittee members were asked if there was any feedback on what they’d like to see happen in the next four years (RCBG)?</p> <p>At the September 16 Region 5 governance Subcommittee meeting, a regional flood coordination plan was discussed. The next step is to draft a formal letter for each parish (e.g., MOU/MOA) for open dialogue and communication to let the public know what is being done by the parish during such an event.</p> <p>Dr. Emad Habib presented on the Vermilion River Forecasting Tool. The forecasting system provides near real-time forecasts of flood elevations along the Vermilion River ahead of and during storms.</p> |
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|   | <p>Legislative Action – Committee Discussion</p> <p>The state will have a legislative packet (possibly from the Governor’s Office) by this November that will be presented at the 2022 Legislative Session (March 14 – June 6). The goal is to become enabled by the state to become regional watershed coalitions. Subcommittee members comments included: 1) Have a state legislator to co-sponsor the bill, 2) Have a legislative roundtable beginning in 2022 and this could be a collaborative effort with all the regional steering committees (in February, get assistance from LWI), 3) Discuss contingency plan if not enabled, 4) Reminder of Senator Mills’ bill last year. Are there any existing bills that could interfere with this legislation?</p> |
| <b>SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MEETINGS</b>            | <p>All meetings will be held in the same format. R5SC members may participate in-person and the public is encouraged to attend online.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIP Subcommittee Meeting, Thursday, November 4, 10am – 12pm</li> <li>• Governance &amp; Long-Term Sustainability Meeting, Tuesday, November 9, 10am – 12pm</li> <li>• Regional Steering Committee Meeting, Thursday, December, 10am – 12pm</li> </ul>   |
| <b>MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES</b>                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2022 LWI Region 5 Meeting Schedule – a list of proposed dates were provided to committee members.</li> <li>• The LWI Nature Based Solutions Webinar Series started on October 20. The series will be from October 2021 to July 2022. There will be a total of 9 modules. Visit watershed.la.gov for more information and to register for upcoming modules.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>                           | There was no public comment.  |
| <b>MEETING ADJOURNMENT</b>                      | <p><b>A motion was made by Jessica Cornay and seconded by John Clark to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.</b></p> <p><i>VOTE: 10-0-6:<br/>Yea –10;<br/>Nay – 0;<br/>Absent – 6</i></p>  |
| <b>MEETING DETAILS</b>                          |   |
| <b>CONTACT</b>                                  | <p>Kelia Bingham, LWI Region 5 Watershed Coordinator, (337) 446-0807</p> <p>Rachel Godeaux, APC Meeting Facilitator, (337) 806-9373</p> <p>Kade Jones, APC Meeting Facilitator, (337) 806-9376</p>  |
| <b>NEXT REGION 5 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING</b> | December 9, 2021 at 10am  |

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| <p><b>ADA/TITLE VI NOTICE</b></p> | <p>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 clacomb@planacadiana.org; or by phone at 337-806-9370 (voice), 337-866-7081 (fax). If you wish to attend an APC function and require special accommodations, please provide at least 72 hours advanced notice.</p>   |
| <p><b>ATTENDANCE RECORD</b></p>   |  |
| <p><b>ATTENDEES</b></p>           | <p><b><u>Delegates Present:</u></b><br/> <b>Acadia Parish</b> - Earl Garber<br/> <b>Allen</b> - Gardner Rose<br/> <b>Avoyelles</b> – Jacob Coco<br/> <b>Calcasieu</b> - Terry Frelot<br/> <b>Cameron</b> – Scooter Trosclair<br/> <b>Evangeline</b> - Donald Bergeron<br/> <b>Iberville</b> - John Clark<br/> <b>Lafayette</b> –Jessica Cornay<br/> <b>St. Landry</b> - Karl Aucoin<br/> <b>St. Mary</b> - Tim Matte</p> <p><b><u>Others Present</u></b><br/> <b>Monique Boulet</b>, APC<br/> <b>Rachel Godeaux</b>, APC<br/> <b>Kelia Bingham</b>, APC<br/> <b>Alicia Wiltz</b>, APC<br/> <b>Kade Jones</b>, APC<br/> <b>Alex Guillory</b>, Blue Wing Consultants, Lafayette Parish</p> <p><b><u>Others Present Virtually</u></b><br/> <b>Bradley Spiegel</b>, OCD-LWI<br/> <b>Sara Gary</b>, APC</p> |
| <p><b>ABSENTEES</b></p>           | <p><b><u>Primary Delegates Absent:</u></b><br/> <b>Iberia</b> – Larry Richard<br/> <b>Jefferson Davis</b> – John Marceaux<br/> <b>Pointe Coupee</b> – Mark Ward<br/> <b>Rapides</b> – Matt Johns<br/> <b>St. Martin</b> – Chester Cedars<br/> <b>Vermilion</b> - Ralph Libersat<br/> <b>APC Appoint</b> - Donald Sagrera<br/> <b>APC Appoint</b> - Pamela Granger<br/> <b>APC Appoint</b> – Dr. Emad Habib</p>   |

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