

MEETING SUMMARY
NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 1, 2025

The May 1st meeting of the Natural Resources Advisory Committee was held as a hybrid event both in-person at 3555 Timmons Lane in Houston, Texas and virtually via Zoom. The meeting began at approximately 1:30 PM.

NRAC members present (17 voting, 3 advisory*):

Andrew Isbell	Claudia Sandoval	Latrice Babin
Bill Balboa	Deborah January-	Lisa Marshall*
Bob Stokes	Bevers	Robert Pechukas
Brian Koch	Gabriela Sosa*	Richard Zahn
Brian Shmaefsky	Jonathan Holley	Scott Jeansonne
Christopher	Katie Wilson	Scott Saenger
Hunniford	Kelli Gallagher	Tom Douglas
	Kelli Ondracek*	

Phone numbers not connected to a Committee Member weren't counted as present. Apologies for any inconvenience. If you were present via call-in and it isn't marked here, [please let Rachel Windham know](#).

NRAC members not present (19 voting, 3 advisory*):

Adeel Malik	Denae King	Mel Vargas
Ayanna Jolivet Mccloud	Dennis Cote	Mac Martin*
Brittani Flowers*	Ellis Pickett	Phyllis Frank
Carol Guess	Glenda Callaway	Shane Porter
Cathy Rogers-McCoy	Hien Pham	Troy Harrison
Charles "Chuck" Rogers	Jin Ye*	Upendra Sahu
Christina Moore	Ken Barnadyn	William Hajdik
	Leroy Cerny	

Current Vacancies:

Current vacancies include:

- Power Generation or Transmission Utility

H-GAC Staff Present (9):

H-GAC staff present included Andrea Tantillo, Bill Ervin, Cornell Evans, Jr., Erica Underwood, Erin Livingston, Jenny Oakley, Jessica Casillas, Justin Bower, and Rachel Windham.

Welcome and Roll Call

Chair Deborah January-Bevers welcomed those present for the official start of the meeting and roll was called.

Certify Quorum and Approve Meeting Report

After quorum was confirmed, Ms. January-Bevers called for review and comment on the February 6th Meeting Minutes. Ms. January-Bevers moved to approve the August and November Meeting Minutes, and Tom Douglas seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

Membership

The majority of both county and NRAC appointed member terms have lapsed. Ms. Windham is coordinating with the governmental affairs department at H-GAC to coordinate county appointed positions. Two county appointed positions are currently vacant and will also require coordination with the governmental affairs department to be filled. Ms. Windham will reach out to current NRAC appointed members to assess interest in term renewal. One NRAC appointed position (Power Generation or Transmission Utility) also remains to be filled. H-GAC will reach out to internal contacts for leads. Other suggestions fill vacancies or recommend replacements for current positions can be brought forward by members of the NRAC to Ms. Windham at rachel.windham@h-gac.com.

Environmental Committee Highlights

- **Regional Flood Management Committee**
On behalf of Amanda Ashcroft, Ms. Windham provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Meetings of the Regional Flood Management Committee are scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).
- **Solid Waste Management Committee**
Erin Livingston provided information on activities and updates from the past quarter. Solid Waste Management Committee meetings are scheduled on the fourth Wednesday of the month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the months of January, April, July, and October. Meetings are held at the H-GAC offices. Learn more by visiting the committee's [website](#).

Environmental Program Highlights

- **Clean Rivers Program**

Jenny Oakley gave an update on H-GAC's Clean Rivers Program events including:

- Developing 2025 Basin Highlights Report storymap draft
 - Updating and redesigning the Water Resources Information Map (WRIM)
 - H-GAC requesting participation in a WRIM user survey to improve functionality
- **Trash Bash 2025**

On behalf of Kendall Guidroz, Ms. Windham provided an overview of the metrics from this year's Rivers, Lakes, Bays n' Bayous Trash Bash event. More information can be found at <https://www.trashbash.org/>.
- **Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs)**

Ms. Windham provided updates on projects including the East Fork San Jacinto River WPP, the Greens Bayou WPP, and the West Lake Houston WPP Implementation project which will cover the watershed areas of Cypress Creek, Spring Creek, Lake Creek, and the West Fork of the San Jacinto River. Additionally, H-GAC expects to begin public meetings on a project developing a WPP for the Brays and Sims Bayou watersheds in the early winter. Lastly, Ms. Windham shared that a proposal for WPP development in the Lake Conroe watershed was selected for funding. H-GAC expects to receive the contract for this work in fall 2025.

Information on WPP projects can be found on H-GAC's watershed-based plan [project website](#), and more information can be provided by Ms. Windham (rachel.windham@h-gac.com).
- **Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)**

Ms. Windham provided an overview of elements to be included in the annual update of the WQMP for the Houston-Galveston region. She shared the projected timeline for completion of the first draft, submission for public comment, close of public comment, request of NRAC approval, request of H-GAC Board of Directors approval, and final submission. As the NRAC's approval of the draft WQMP will be requested at the August 7th meeting, Ms. Windham encouraged attendance at the next meeting to assure quorum.
- **Parks & Natural Areas (PNA) Roundtable**

Andrea Tantillo shared information on activities and updates from the PNA roundtable including an overview of the field trip to Willow Waterhole on March 20th and an invitation to join their next meeting on July 14th. Additionally, the Parks and Natural Areas Awards application portal will open in late August, and the roundtable is seeking judges. For additional information, visit the [PNA website](#).

Subcommittees

- **Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) Awards**

Ms. Windham shared that nine applications had been received and called for committee members to recommend or volunteer to serve as judges for the 2025 program. For additional information on this subcommittee and awards program, visit the [WISE award website](#).

Topic of the Day

- 1) The H-GAC Government Relations team provided an update on environmental legislation related to the committee's interests.
- 2) Sam Hill, Woodland Ecologist with the Texas A&M Forest Service, presented an overview the use of forestry practices as implementation for watershed-based plans.

Roundtable Discussion

Members shared updates about upcoming events.

Public Comment

No public comment was made.

Next Meeting Date

Unless otherwise notified, the next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, August 7, 2025 from 1:30–3:30 p.m.**

Adjourn

Ms. January-Bevers adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.