

# LWI REGION 8 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING PACKET FEBRUARY 25, 2021

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LOUISIANA  
**WATERSHED**  
INITIATIVE

# LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, & St. Charles Parishes

## I. Regional Steering Committee Introductions

## II. Roll Call

## III. Approval of January 21, 2021 Minutes

*(vote required)*

## IV. LWI Program Updates

- a. Updates & Comments from LWI state representatives
- b. Updates from the RPC

## V. Other LWI Region Recommendations

## VI. Coalition Outreach Plan

## VII. Speaker REcommendations

## VIII. Public Comment

## IX. Questions/Adjourn

*(vote required)*

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LWI Capacity Building Grant – Region 8 Regional Steering Committee Meeting

January 21, 2021 9:00 AM – 10:45 AM

## I. Regional Steering Committee Introductions

a. Online meeting etiquette: Microphones/Phones on mute unless you are speaking

Questions may be asked via the question box

Votes: Motion, second, & online poll or voice/email tally (committee members only)

Public comments will be at end of meeting, notify staff via question box or verbally

## II. Roll Call

### Present

- Stephanie Bruning
- Matt Falati
- Albertine Kimble
- Maggie Talley
- Jessica Dandridge
- Danielle Honor
- Tyler Antrup
- Meagan Williams

### Absent

- Ken Dugas
- Derek Boese
- Blaise Pezold

## III. Approval of December 17, 2020 Minutes

a. Moved by: Maggie Talley; Seconded by: Tyler Antrup

b. 100% in favor to approve the December 17, 2020 minutes.

## IV. LWI Program Updates

a. Updates from the state:

- None

b. Updates from the RPC:

- None

## V. Coalition Recommendations

a. The complete recommendation sent to committee members are located in the meeting material after the meeting minutes.

1. Planning, Implementation, Data, & Outreach Activities:

- Guidance and technical assistance
- Develop plans: Region-wide & sub-area; transferrable; cross-jurisdictional, ID needs, goals, and solutions, Multi-faceted & innovative

2. Required Authorities:

- Act on behalf of local governments with planning, project programming, evaluation, prioritization, data housing & management, and outreach
- Receive, manage, and allocate funds for expenses like staff & administrative costs, project funding, and fund other entities to complete coalition tasks

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3. Recommendations for State:
  - Strategy: Coordinate with regions; Acknowledge fiscal & political constraints; Find allies & champions
  - Structure: Partnership model; Regional flexibility; Stable & equitable funding
  - Coordination: Local, regional, and state
- b. Committee Comments
  1. At the end of point 9 add "in the watershed"
  2. What is happening on the state's side? (Comments by Alex Carter)
    - Working with state agencies to learn how the initiative would affect their roll
    - They aren't currently asking people to lobby for specific legislation
    - Creating a communications plan to spread awareness on the benefits of the LWI program
  3. Maggie Talley: "Is it possible to hire people part-time for the project?"
    - (Response from Tom Haysely) in the partnership model, we can consultants, non-profits, or government agencies
    - We didn't name agencies because there isn't authority or stable funding
  3. Stephanie Burning: "Are other committees/planning districts looking to take on the long-term responsibility?"
    - (Response from Alex Carter) Other agencies have taken the lead for right now but are still looking depending on longterm funding
    - The state is currently working on a white paper for long term funding
- c. Vote to approve coalition recommendations to pass to the state  
Moved by: Maggie Talley; Seconded by: Stephanie Bruning  
100% in favor to approve the coalition recommendations.

## VI. RPC Next Steps

- a. The complete next steps recommendations are located after the coalition recommendations.
- b. Grant-funded tasks covered in LWI NOFO
  - Project list
  - Funding resource compilation
  - Develop watershed management policies
  - Land use/drainage review
  - Community outreach
- c. Potential next steps identified in Region 8 application
  - Regional Watershed Coordination
  - Resource Sharing & Best Practices
  - Strategy Evaluation
  - Stakeholder & Public Outreach

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## d. Hand Off Plan

- Identify agencies to take over in multi-sectors
- Create binders & jump drives of all materials
- Meet with agencies to go over materials

## e. Committee Comments

- Grant ends April 2022
- Establish public access to the working document and make sure to be transparent to the public.
- A Region 8 specific branding needs to be clear & concise especially with robust public outreach i.e. local funding education especially for the value of watershed with a branding situation.
- (Comments from Alex Carter) Other agencies have taken the lead for right now but are still looking depending on longterm funding
  - The state is currently drafting a summary of the work conducted in the first year of the RCBG.

## f. RPC Steps moving forward

- Look into housing for working documents ie the state LWI website.
- Creating a region 8 specific website especially stress unique risk.
- Develop outreach strategy & work plan.
- Develop round 1 selection criteria

## VI. Public Comment

### a. How long will the steering committee meet?

- The RPC will send out an official request for more committee member time.

## X. Question/Adjourn

a. Moved by: Albertine Kimble; Seconded by: Tyler Antrup

b. 100% in favor to adjourn