

# LWI REGION 8 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING PACKET MARCH 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 February 21, 2021 Minutes

*(vote required)*

## IV. LWI Program Updates

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

## V. Outreach Discussion

## VI. Round 1 Selection Criteria Options

## VII. Public Comment

## VIII. Questions/Adjourn

*(vote required)*

# LWI Region 8 Steering Committee

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LWI Capacity Building Grant – Region 8 Regional Steering Committee Meeting  
February 25, 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

- Blaise Pezold
- Matt Falati
- Derek Boese
- Maggie Talley

- Jessica Dandridge
- Danielle Honor
- Ken Dugas

### Absent

- Stephanie Bruning
- Tyler Antrup
- Albertine Kimble
- Meagan Williams

## III. Approval of January 21, 2021 Minutes

a. Moved by: Maggie Talley; Seconded by: Derek Boese

b. 100% in favor to approve the January 21, 2021 minutes.

## IV. LWI Program Updates

a. Updates from the state:

- Round 1 full application has been extended to March 12th due to the winter weather events. The extended application deadline should not delay the projected review time.

b. Updates from the RPC:

- The state will be selecting \$60 million of projects from Round 1 full applications. Each region will be allocated \$5 million to select projects from the qualified projects list. Project selection criteria needs to be submitted to the state by April 16th. Three selection criteria options includes:
  1. Use the state's scores and simply select the highest-ranking projects.
  2. Create our own selection criteria based on our region's priorities.
  3. Take the state's scores and apply weights to each score based on our own regional priorities. The priorities approved by RSC and sent to LWI by 4/16/21.

### RSC Feedback:

- Maggie Talley- Using option 3 will help the region to have its own voice in the process.
- Derek Boese- The region should use option 3. The region could have some disagreements with the state's selection because projects might not impact 2016 flood-affected areas.
- To meet the deadline, the RPC staff will set up individual meetings with RSC members then vote on regional priorities at the March 25th meeting.

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## V. Other LWI Region Recommendations

### a. General Statewide Consensus on coalition responsibilities

- Coalitions need to be enabled by state legislation.
- Coalitions need to be able to maintain funding sources from bonds, grants, taxes, etc.
- Watershed boundaries should be able to be changed via a public process.
- Coalitions should develop & adopt regional plans.
- Serve as an information clearing house
- Conduct public outreach
- Provide model use, storage, and maintenance
- Coalitions should be a source of technical support

### b. Region 1

**Local Authority:** Coordinating & Devel. Corp. & Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments

**Technical Support:** Technical Advisory Committee

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Technical Advisory Committee members cannot be coalition members

### c. Region 2

**Local Authority:** Kisatchie-Delta Regional Planning & Development District Rapides Area Planning Commission

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Ensure capacity for smaller jurisdictions or rural areas.

### d. Region 3

**Local Authority:** Ouachita Parish Police Jury

**Technical Support:** North Delta Regional Planning & Development District

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Coalition will have a Board of Representatives

### e. Region 4

**Local Authority:** Imperial Calcasieu Regional Planning & Development District

**Technical Support:** Technical Advisory Committee

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Technical Advisory Committee members cannot be coalition members

### f. Region 5

**Local Authority:** Acadia Planning Commission

**Technical Support:** UL LA Watershed Flood Center & Vermilion Fresh Water District

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Maintain a regional gauge network & 2 levels of coalition memberships

Level 1: Watershed Management District – this level of representation includes full representation, full voting rights, participation in the financial sustainability of the region, RSC5 permitting oversight, project benefits, etc. (12 Parishes)

Level 2: Watershed Planning District- this level of representation includes parish representation, proportional voting rights, non-financial participation, project benefits dependent on project impact on the entire region. The following areas are characterized as greater impact in a neighboring region and a lack of population in Region 5 (4 parishes)

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## g. Region 6

**Local Authority:** South Central Planning District

**Coalition Membership:** Primarily public entities

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Implement regional project O&M Plan

## c. Region 7

**Local Authority:** Capital Area Regional Planning Commission

**Coalition Membership:** Combination of public & private partners

**Unique Coalition Traits:** Currently a part of a technical study that will be released next year.

## VI. Coalition Outreach Plan

### a. Goals

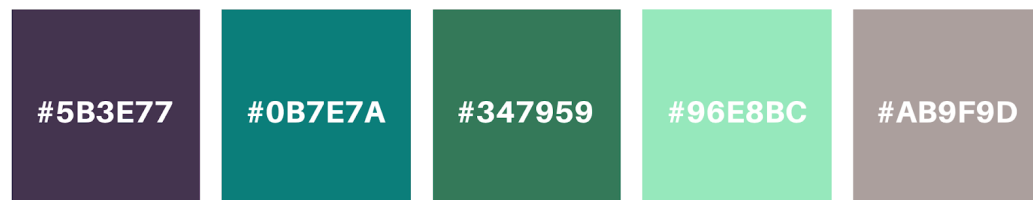
- Establish connections among entities that do similar work to enable leveraging of resources and prevent duplication
- Increase public awareness and understanding of watershed issues, water management, and the Louisiana Watershed Initiative
- Educate public sector decision-makers, stakeholder groups, and the general public on the value of regionalism in reducing the devastating effects of flooding.
- Gain feedback and “buy-in” from community members who represent a wide variety of backgrounds and interests.
- Develop provisional recommendations with the communities within the region; communicate recommendations in a clear and transparent format

### b. Branding Strategy

- Detailed Region 8 branding kit including logo
- Template Message Materials i.e. press releases & public announcements
- Branding Materials i.e. presentation templates, letterheads, boilerplate

### c. Branding Kit

- Brand Typography: Arial (for PC & online formats) Aileron (typically Adobe products)
- Brand Colors



- Potential Logos



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## d. Water Resource Network

- Develop asset maps & databases
- Point of contact database
- Develop communication structures
- Organization presentations

### RSC Feedback:

- Maggie Talley- Currently the Float Group has a program of project implementation for parishes around the lake. This provides a starting point for databases.
- Jessica Dandridge: Make sure to avoid meeting fatigues and partner with existing meetings.

## e. Community Outreach

- Building a community contact list that includes cross-sectional segments of the population
- Develop tailored messaging strategies that focus on issues and effects on various segments of the population
- Creation of a centralized platform of water resource network and presentations
- Development of a media plan that emphasizes not just the goals of LWI but the water resource network to help get the word out about events
- Emphasis on environmental justice

### RSC Feedback:

- JP & CRS users group - a program for public info that has completed much of this work and is implementing now - can reference and pull from those plans.
- Make outreach relatable to people's day to day lives; make it relevant to people on the ground (flood insurance is one example of real-world impact)
- Trauma-related to water and climate offer a unique and personal perspective, an opportunity to relate directly to people's experience - this is a good way to lead the conversation. Lead with empathy, understanding of prior experience.

## VII. Potential Speaker Topics

### a. RPC Suggestions:

- Local municipalities current water management efforts
- Climate change experts
- Wetland experts
- local water groups

### RSC Feedback:

- Trauma-informed policymaking
- Regional Projects
- NFIP updates that go into effect in October

## VIII. Public Comment

- a. None

## IX. Question/Adjourn

- a. Moved by: Maggie Talley; Seconded by: Derek Boese

- b. 100% in favor to adjourn