

BACKGROUND

SOUTHEAST TEXAS FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Organization:

Southeast Texas Flood Control District, Lgc is a Texas Domestic Non-Profit Corporation filed On March 24, 2020. The company's filing status is listed as In Existence and its File Number is 0803582183.

The Registered Agent on file for this company is Jeff Branick and is located at 1149 Pearl St., 4th Floor, Beaumont, TX 77701. The company's principal address is 1149 Pearl St Fl 4, Beaumont, TX 77701-3638.

The company has 8 contacts on record. The contacts are Jacques L. Blanchette from Kirbyville TX, Jay H. Knight from Liberty TX, Jeff Branick from Beaumont TX, Jimmy Sylvia from Anahuac TX, John Gothia from Orange TX, Kenneth Weeks from Newton TX, Mark Allen from Jasper TX, and Wayne Mcdaniel from Kountze TX

PURPOSE

- The resolution passed states that the SE TX Flood Control District is to “engage in planning concerning disaster mitigation and other projects or programs to protect the residents of our community, infrastructure, industry, businesses and housing against flooding; to design, develop, construct, operate, manage, repair, maintain, finance, equip, improve, enlarge, extend, acquire and improve integrated flood damage reduction systems; and to conduct any and all other lawful business and perform any other related function or operation.” Eight counties are part of the SE TX Flood Control District. They are Jefferson, Hardin, Orange, Jasper, Newton, Chambers, Tyler, and Liberty counties.
- Former Harris County Judge Robert A. Eckels, Husch Blackwell partner and senior counsel, is the legal counsel for the SE TX Flood Control District. “It needs to be noted that the SE TX Flood Control District is not a taxing entity,” said Eckels. “It will be funded through grants. Eckels said that the flood control district will apply for grants and funds as a single entity instead of the counties applying singularly.” “Its purpose is to coordinate the efforts of its entities. It is a coordinating entity.” He emphasized, “It is a regional government corporation. Flooding mitigation will be looked at regionally, no longer by county lines.” “The flood control district will study watersheds in their entirety, not just flooding issues in one county,” added Eckels. “And we will ensure that solving issues upstream will not adversely affect those downstream.” Even though drainage districts in the eight counties are not “sponsors” of the flood control district, Eckels stated that all drainage districts within the eight counties will have a member on its board. The agencies Eckels anticipates working with include the US Army Corp of Engineers, Texas Water Development Board, and HUD among others.

Orange County: Approves Articles of Incorporation

DEC 3, 2019

<https://kogt.com/county-joins-flood-control-district/>

- Orange County will be joined by Newton, Jasper, Jefferson, Hardin, Chambers, Tyler, and Liberty counties in the new corporation. Each county is approving the articles of incorporation and the bylaws to be part of the corporation. Initially the county judges will serve as the board of directors. That is expected to change and will eventually include members from municipalities and drainage districts in the different counties.
- The first goal is to apply for funding from the state on a drainage project between Orange, Jasper, and Newton Counties. Submitted projects will be scored by state officials in January 2020.
- Tuesday, December 3, was the deadline for registering with FEMA for disaster assistance at the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) at the Orange County Convention and Expo Center. Last week 65 individuals visited the DRC which is less than half of what has been the weekly average. The center was closed one day for the Thanksgiving holiday. FEMA has stated it expects to close the local DRC next Tuesday, December 10.

Tropical Storm Imelda

- According to the Harris County Flood Control District, Harris and adjoining counties have suffered through three “500-year flood events” in recent years including Memorial Day floods in 2015 and 2016, followed by Hurricane Harvey’s torrential rains in late August of 2017 when the tropical system dropped over 50 inches of water over a seven-day period in some areas of the region.

Tropical Storm Imelda: September 17 -19

And just two years later, according to another report by the National Hurricane Center (Latto and Berg 2020) Tropical Storm Imelda brought more devastation to Southeast Texas from September 17th to 19th 2019, with possibly the highest peak 12- hour intensity ever recorded as:

“The highest rainfall total was 44.29 inches recorded 2 miles south-southwest of Fannett, Texas. Also noteworthy about the Fannett rainfall total is that 31 inches fell in 12 h. This rainfall caused devastating flooding along the I-10 corridor from Winnie eastward to Fannett, Beaumont, Vidor, and Orange, Texas.....The 44.29-inch peak rainfall total makes Imelda the 7th-wettest tropical cyclone (in terms of highest rainfall total for a tropical cyclone) to impact the United States, the fifth wettest in the contiguous United States, and the fourth wettest in the state of Texas since 1940.”

Senate Bill 7

- <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/FIF/index.asp>
- Passed by the 86th Texas Legislature and approved by voters through a constitutional amendment, the Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) was created to provide funding for flood mitigation projects. The purpose of the FIF, as outlined in Senate Bill 7, is to assist in financing drainage, flood mitigation, and flood control projects.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS FLOOD COORDINATION GROUP

Southeast Texas Flood Coordination Group

- A group of local flood control experts, emergency responders, water managers, university researchers (LAMAR UNIV AND UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS), and others, known as the Southeast Texas Flood Coordination Group have been meeting for the last two years to try to improve the area's resiliency to flooding. USGS has seen this as an opportunity to test out some concepts for the 3D National Topography Model (3DNTM) and is undertaking two related pilot projects in the area.

<https://www.usgs.gov/news/southeast-texas-flood-coordination-study-setxfcs>

<https://www.setxfloodcoordstudy.org/partners-sponsors.html>

Southeast Texas Flood Coordination Study

WEB SITES

- <https://lamar-university.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=d307b159c3244fd9a14a46c97f206b1e>
- <https://www.setxfloodcoordstudy.org/partners-sponsors.html>