

Current Consortium Executive Committee participants are:

- Renee McPherson, Chair, The University of Oklahoma
- Jennie Mosely, The Chickasaw Nation
- Clint Willson, Louisiana State University
- Nelia Dunbar, New Mexico Tech
- Scott Loss, Oklahoma State University
- Ali Fares, Prairie View A&M
- Roel Lopez, Texas A&M – College Station
- David Hewitt, Texas A&M – Kingsville
- Natasja van Gestell, Texas Tech University
- Renia Ehrenfeucht, University of New Mexico
- Steph Courtney, United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
- Emad Habib, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- Emma Kuster (Committee Secretary), The University of Oklahoma*
- VACANT (Consortium Associate Director), The University of Oklahoma*
- Kristine Metzger, US Geological Survey*

*non-voting

South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center (CASC)

Executive Committee Bylaws

FINAL VERSION February 21, 2013 (Revised September 21, 2026)

Section I – Committee Charge

The South Central CASC Consortium Executive Committee consists of representatives of each of the twelve members that comprise the South Central CASC consortium** and exists to enhance the broader Climate Adaptation Science Center enterprise within the South Central region. The Consortium Executive Committee will meet annually to review past year activities and research and provide recommendations on the future direction of the consortium portion of the South Central CASC. Additionally, the Consortium Executive Committee will, throughout the year, provide input and direction on specific program activities as they occur to ensure that our team is meeting the needs of natural and cultural resource managers through actionable science.

** The University of Oklahoma; Texas Tech University; Louisiana State University; The Chickasaw Nation; Oklahoma State University; University of New Mexico; New Mexico Tech; Prairie View A&M; United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.; Texas A&M – College Station; Texas A&M – Kingsville; and University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Section II – Committee Membership

The Lead PI for the South Central CASC cooperative agreement serves as the Consortium Executive Committee Chair. The Chair shall preside at the Annual Meeting and represent the Consortium Executive Committee at public meetings. The Chair may choose to invite non-voting guests to attend the Annual Meeting

as needed to address proposed agenda items. Committee membership and voting rights are extended to the lead PI for each consortium member.

The Consortium Assistant Director for the South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center serves *ex officio* in the non-voting position of Consortium Executive Committee Secretary. The Committee Secretary will be responsible for preparing meeting agendas and logistics as well as maintaining minutes of the Annual Meeting, the outcome of any votes, and a record of Executive Committee membership.

The Consortium Associate Director for the South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center serves *ex officio* as a non-voting participant of the Consortium Executive Committee. Either the Consortium Associate Director or Consortium Assistant Director will stand in for the Lead PI if they are unavailable for any reason.

The Regional Administrator and Assistant Regional Administrator for the South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center serve *ex officio* as non-voting participants of the Consortium Executive Committee. They will act as a liaison between the US Geological Survey and the South Central CASC consortium.

Voting participants may confer voting rights to a designated alternate on an as-needed basis. At the discretion of the Chair, voting participants may request to conduct closed-door discussions that exclude non-voting participants. The results of closed-door votes must be disclosed. Secretarial duties will be taken over by another committee participant during closed-door discussions.

Section III – Annual Meetings

Annual meetings may be conducted either face-to-face or through remote conferencing capabilities (e.g., Zoom). Barring exceptional circumstances, all committee participants must be present or send a designated alternate in their place or provide a formal written response declining to participate.

At the Annual Meeting, the Consortium Executive Committee shall have the responsibility for providing oversight on the:

- a) scope and excellence of the Center's research and educational programs;
- b) dedication of the Center to nurturing a collaborative and inter-disciplinary enterprise within the South Central region;
- c) organizational structure of the Center and the Center's internal and external management and communications policies;
- d) agenda of the annual Actionable Climate Science and Adaptation Meeting;
- e) membership of the Climate Adaptation Ambassadors program to ensure alignment with the goals and mission of the Center.

In addition, the Consortium Executive Committee will evaluate the annual performance of consortium-led Center activities and provide recommendations on any corrective measures. The Consortium Executive Committee will also provide feedback on both the Center's activities as well as related activities at

their individual institutions, organizations, or Tribes to be incorporated in the annual report.

Section IV – Regular Meetings

Regularly scheduled calls will be held to provide ongoing input and direction on specific program activities. All PIs and Co-PIs associated with academic institutions, tribal organizations, or Tribes receiving funding from the Host Agreement will meet at least monthly. All PIs and Co-PIs associated with any Consortium member will meet on a quarterly basis. Discussions that require that a vote be taken cannot be conducted during the regularly scheduled calls without at least a week's notice to Consortium Executive Committee participants.

Consortium Executive Committee participants or a designated alternate must make a good faith effort to maintain regular attendance at these calls.

Section V – Voting Procedures

Each Consortium Executive Committee voting participant may cast only one vote per voting item. Voting may be carried out during face-to-face, teleconferenced or video-conferenced meetings where all committee participants are either present, have a designated alternate present, or provide a formal written response declining to participate. Valid votes may also be cast via email as long as every participant of the Consortium Executive Committee is copied on the email containing the vote.

A measure will be considered passed through an affirmative vote by a majority of the Consortium Executive Committee. The Secretary will maintain a record of all votes.

Section VI – Formation of Temporary Subcommittees

Temporary subcommittees will be established by a majority vote of the Consortium Executive Committee. The measure for vote shall identify the subcommittee Chair, a specific charge or duty for the subcommittee, and a deadline by which the subcommittee must report back in written form to the Consortium Executive Committee.

The subcommittee Chair must be either a Consortium Executive Committee participant or an individual who has acted as their designated alternate. The subcommittee Chair will be responsible for identifying and recruiting other participants of the subcommittee, coordinating any communication, convening any necessary meetings, and summarizing the findings in written form for the Consortium Executive Committee.

Section VII – Amendments to Bylaws

These bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted through a majority vote of the Consortium Executive Committee.