

Edisto River Basin Council

Meeting #18 (Hybrid)

December 15th, 2021

Edisto River Basin Council

December 15, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

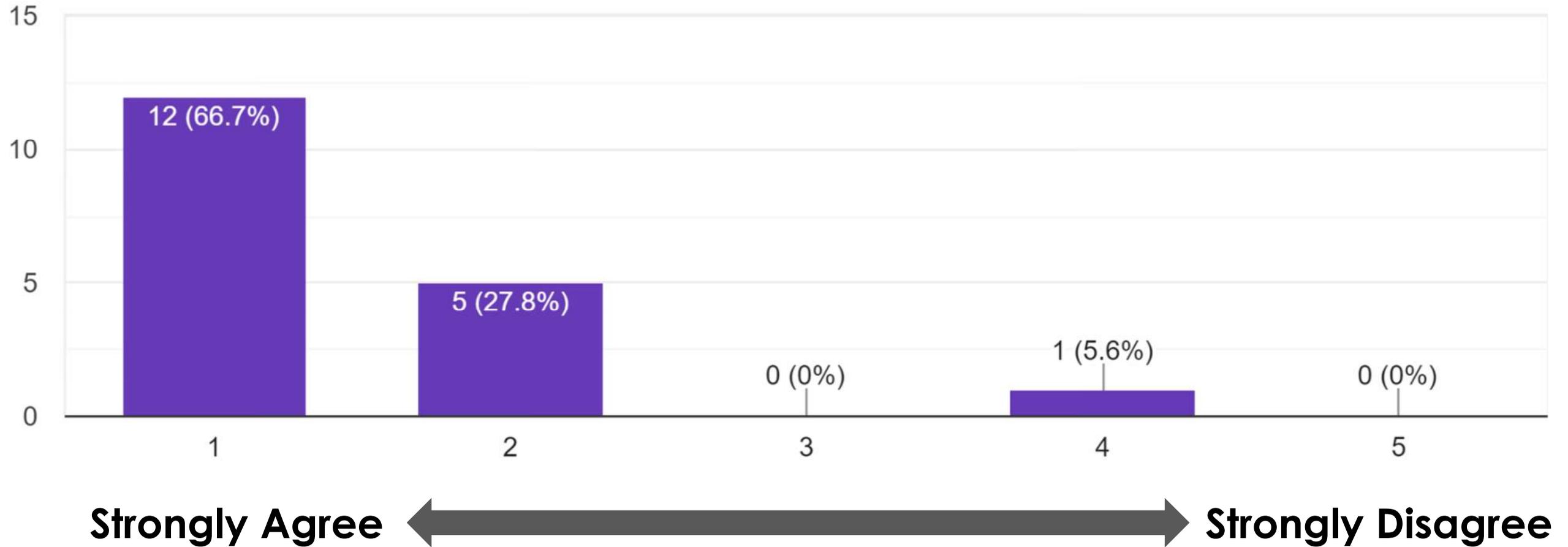
- 1) Review process metrics survey results
- 2) Review the effectiveness of demand-side surface water management strategies and select strategies for feasibility evaluation
- 3) Consider supply-side surface water management strategies and low flow strategy for effectiveness evaluation

1. Call the Meeting to Order (Hank Stallworth, RBC Chair) 9:00–9:10
 - a. Review of Meeting Objectives
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - c. Approval of November 17th Minutes and Summary
2. Public Comment (John Boyer) 9:10–9:15
 - a. Public Comment Period¹
3. Old Business / New Business – RBC Open Discussion Opportunity (Hank Stallworth and John Boyer, CDM Smith) 9:15–9:30
4. Process Metrics Survey Results and Discussion (John Boyer) 9:30–9:45
5. Effectiveness of Demand-side Surface Water Management Strategies and Selection of Strategies for Feasibility Evaluation (John Boyer) 9:45–11:15
6. *Break* 11:15–11:30
7. Review and Selection of Supply-side Strategies and Low Flow Strategy for Effectiveness Evaluation and Working Lunch (John Boyer) 11:30–12:45
8. Upcoming RBC Agenda and Schedule (John Boyer) 12:45–12:50
9. Meeting Conclusion (John Boyer and Hank Stallworth) 12:50–1:00

Process Metrics Survey Results and Discussion



1. RBC meetings adhere to timelines



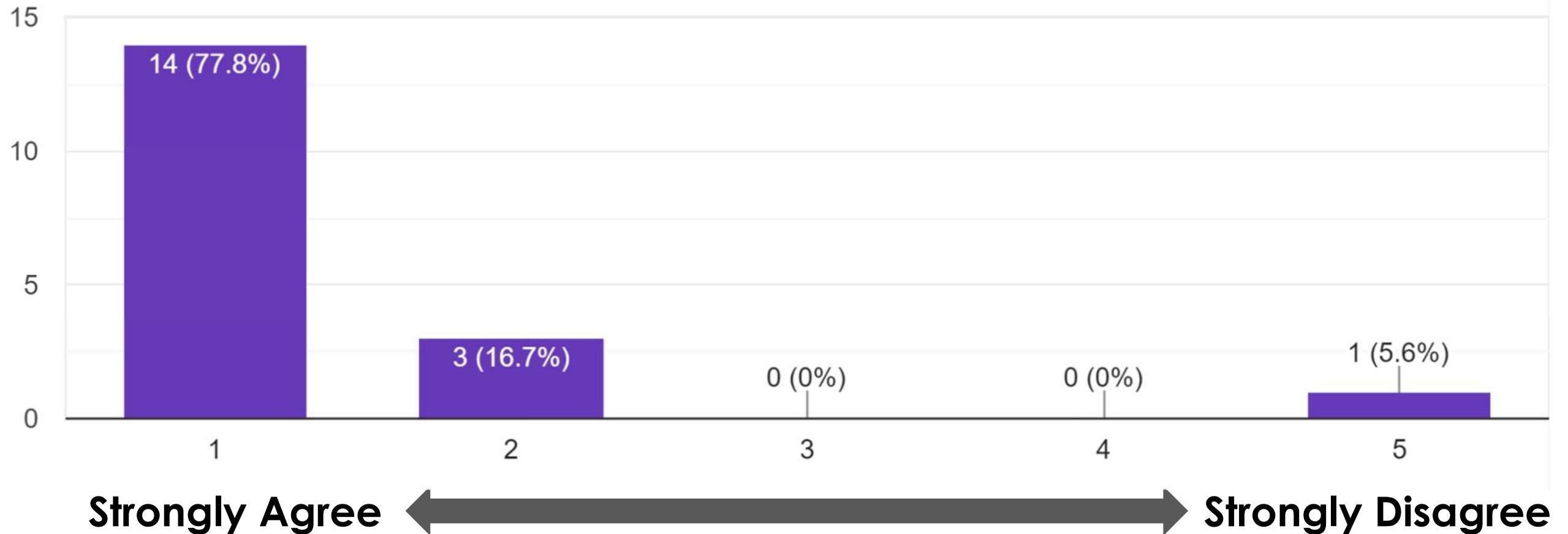


1. RBC meetings adhere to timelines

Responses

More time should have been allotted in prior meetings to leave more time to facilitate conversations, break out sessions, etc.

2. Information used and generated during the planning process is shared openly, publicly, and is easily accessible





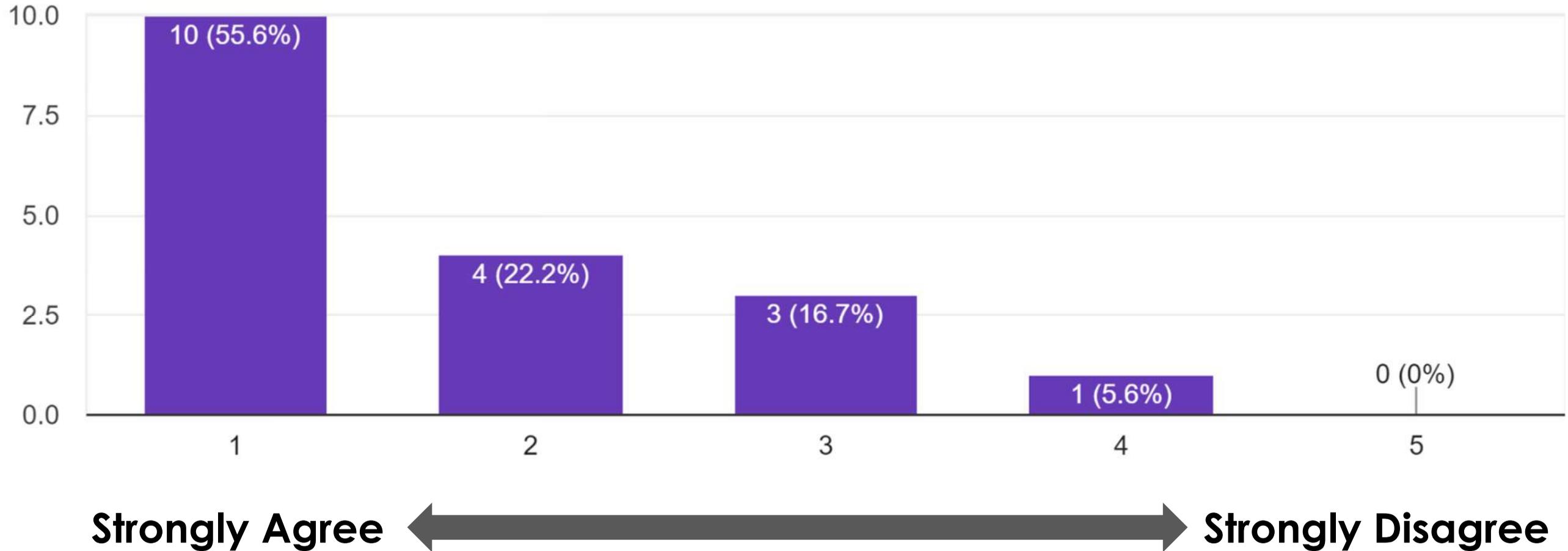
2. RBC meetings adhere to timelines

Responses

I find paper copies of docs easier to organize, keep on hand and view more than one doc at the time. Paper makes it is easier to make sense of complicated issues.

I appreciate that minutes, slide packages, and reports are available at the website. It might be helpful to establish some social media links to this information as well.

3. RBC meeting agendas are focused and promote efficient and productive meetings.



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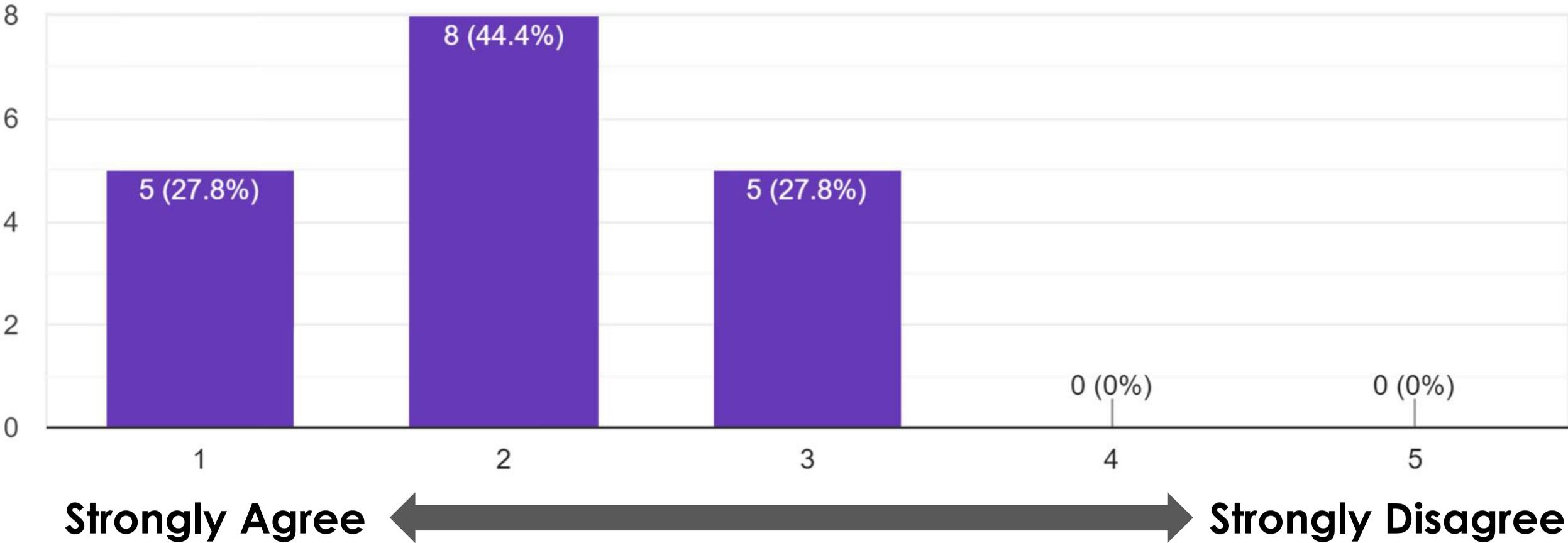
Responses

Need to cut down on the "why not" discussion that has nothing to do with putting a proposal on the table.

I think perhaps we are spending too much time going too deep on the learning. We have experts that can help with those questions. It is good to have a high-level understanding of issues and hydrology but that is probably sufficient, at least initially.

Would be ideal if the agenda and meeting material was provided more in advance than the day before the meeting.

4. RBC members can effectively consider, digest, and understand technical information through presentations, discussion, and self-study.



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Responses

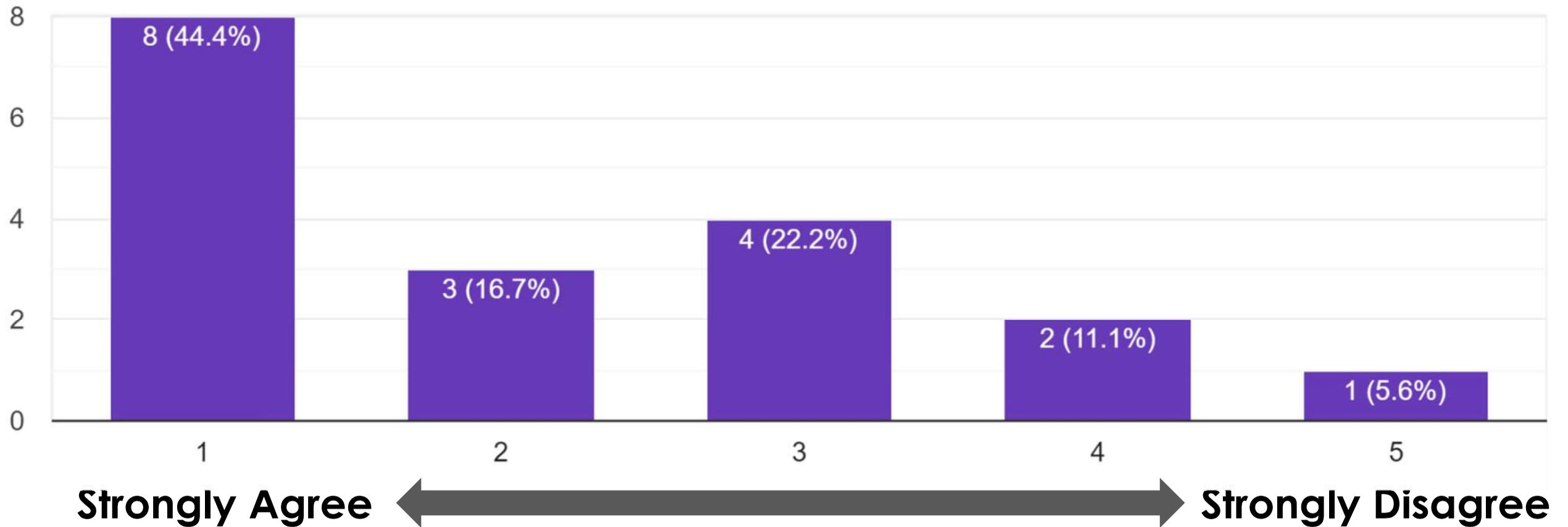
The technical info can be difficult to understand, but it is needed. The hard part will be management recommendations that will be acceptable to all.

Basin planning requires review and understanding of a lot of technical information. Based on some of the responses from the RBC members during meetings, earlier presented material was either not understood at that time or may not have been retained. Members may not fully understand all the technical information or how it may relate to their and other stakeholder interests.

A synopsis that is as simplified as possible sent out after the meeting could help explain the more scientific and/or difficult subjects. Similarly, a preview that is sent out several days to a week ahead of the upcoming meeting might be helpful.

Self study is essential, but that is not something the process can dictate. Also, paper copies of materials [would help].

5. Decisions are made using best available scientific, technical, legal or other objective criteria.





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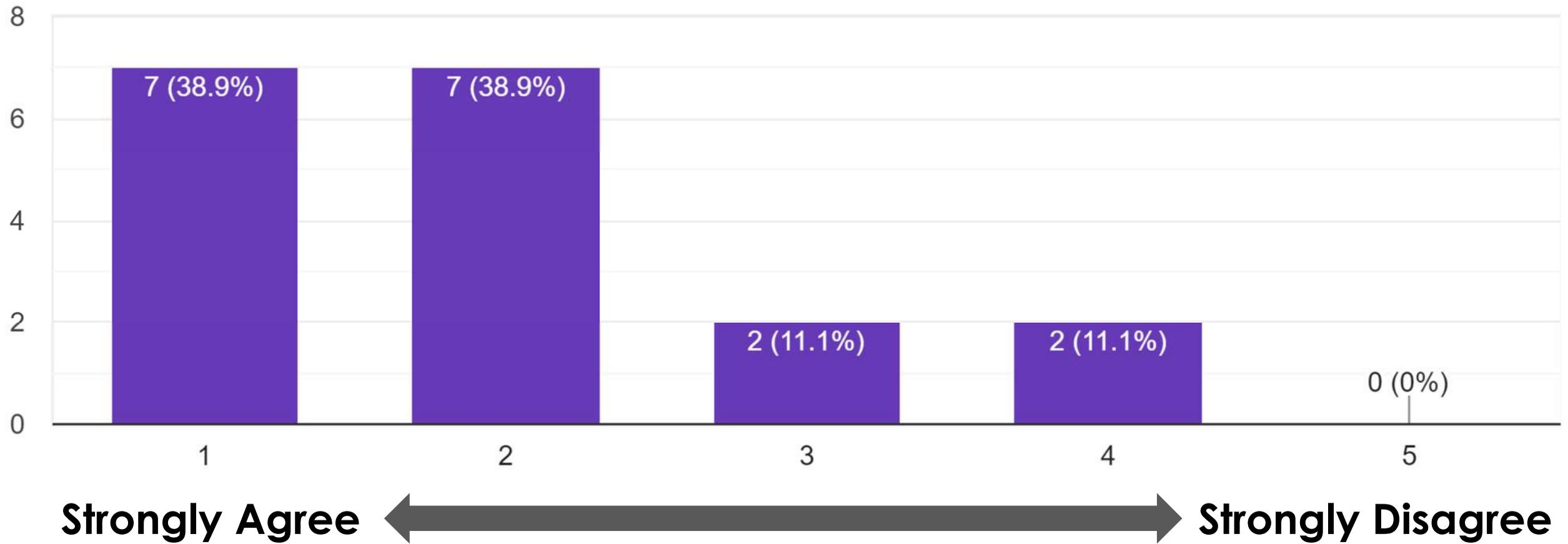
Responses

No decisions have been made. Its time to put something forward and vote on it.

We haven't really made any decisions yet.

Decisions can be made this way. That's not to say they are.

6. Controversial issues are discussed openly in a respectful manner, and multiple options for resolution are considered.



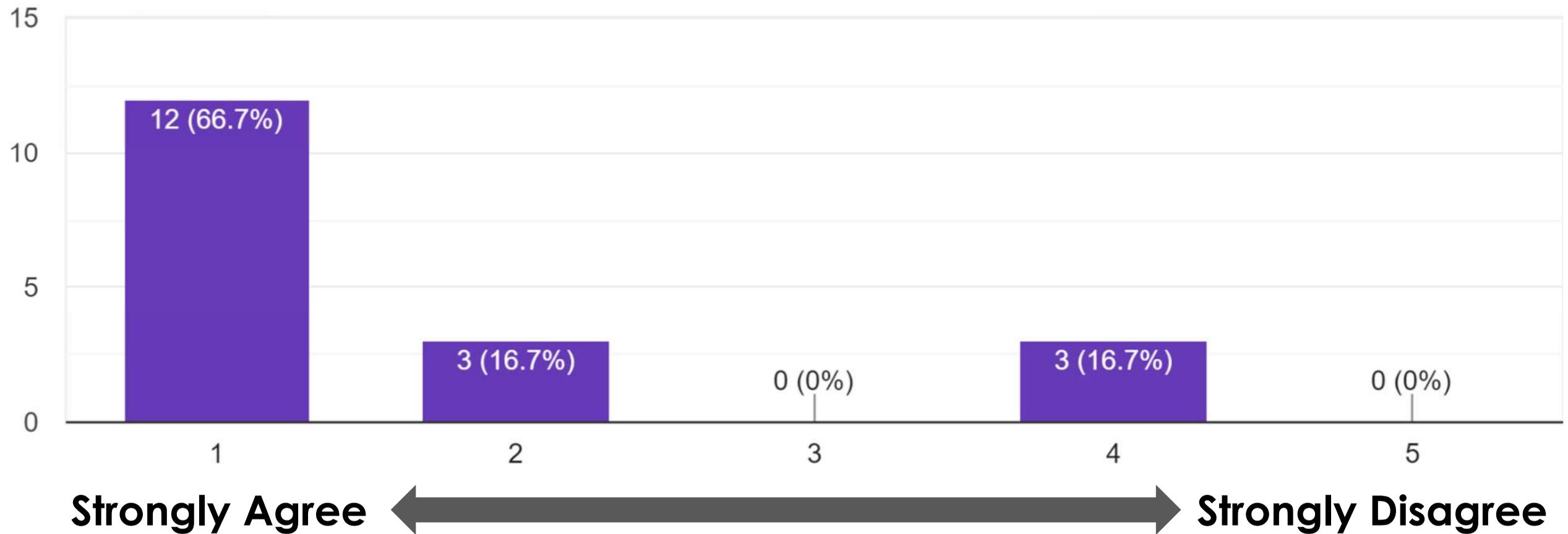


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Responses

The recently presented decision tree may help resolve issues going forward. Previously, it wasn't clear whether a majority or consensus was needed. For future votes, it may be necessary to remind the members what the bylaws say regarding voting, etc.

7. Information is presented in an unbiased manner.



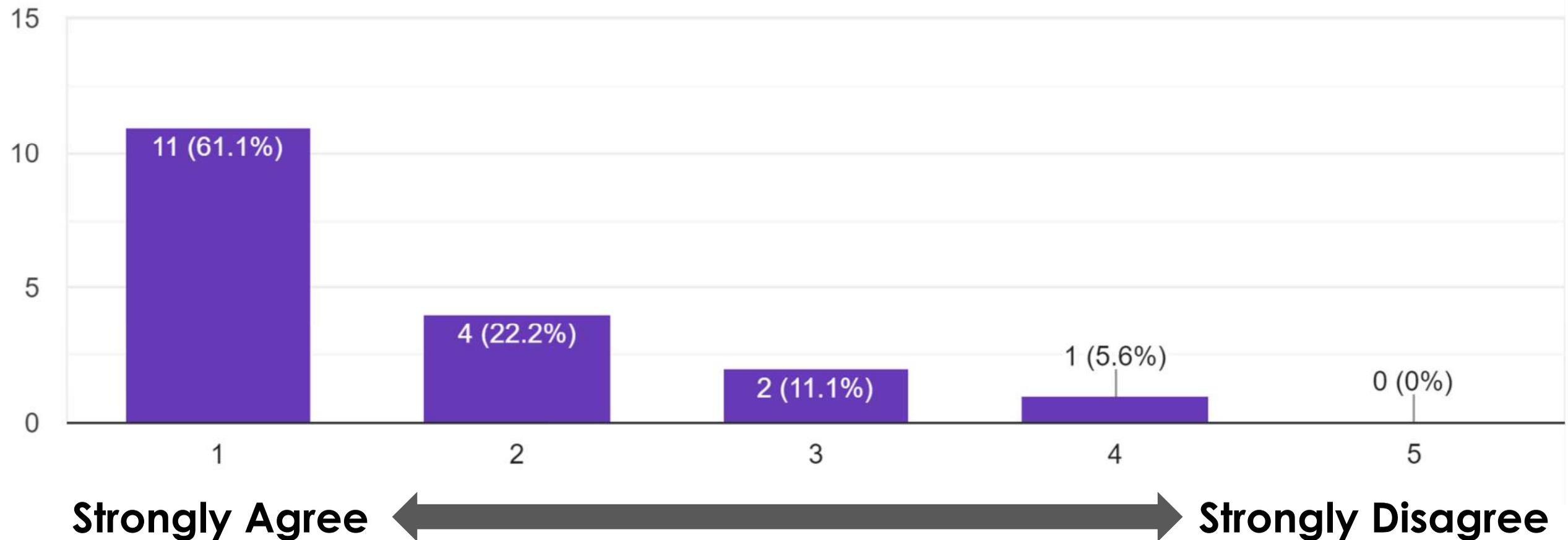


7. Information is presented in an unbiased manner.

Responses

None

8. RBC members are provided equal opportunity to be heard and express their interests, ideas and concerns.



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Responses

Everyone certainly has an equal opportunity to speak; however, [it can be frustrating at times] when only the same few RBC members consistently raise their hand to comment.

[it seems] we barely have a quorum during many of the meetings. An attendance requirement should exist such that if members from one stakeholder group are not consistently present to represent their stakeholder group, their position can be freed up and given to another stakeholder within their group to represent that group.

It is important to open a council such as the RBC with a prayer. More ethnic representation is needed.

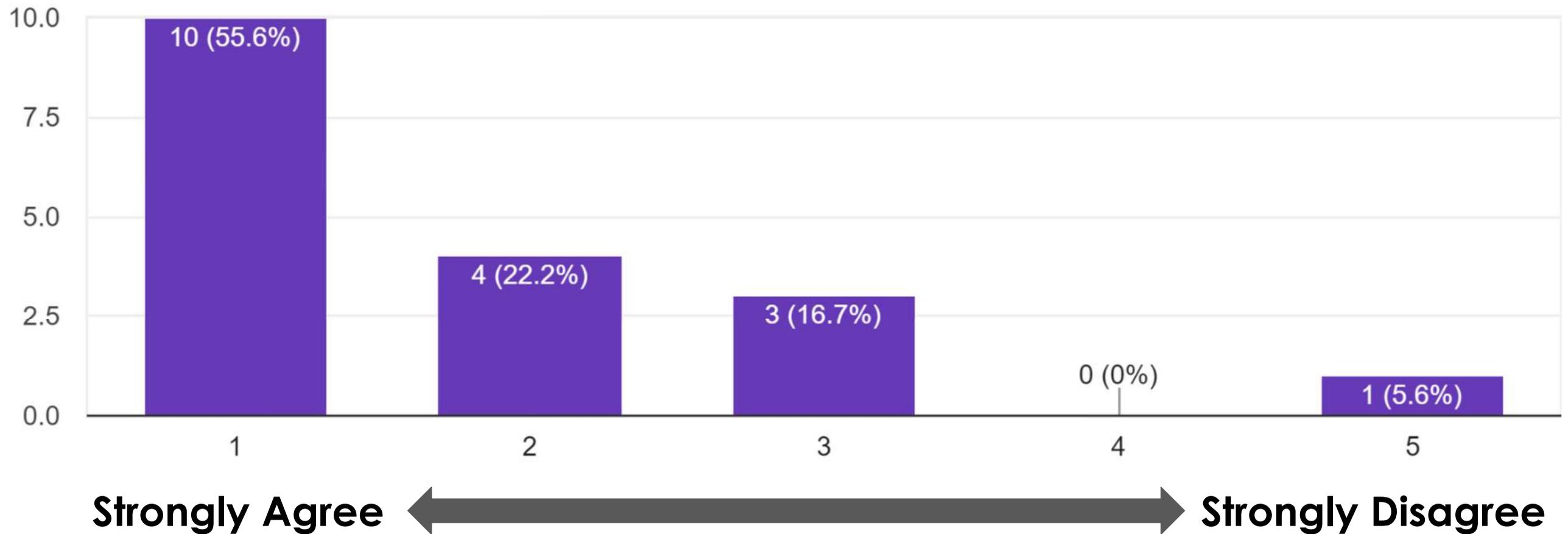
[Some members] don't take advantage of the opportunity to speak. Being more prepared for the meetings [may help]

All members enjoy equal opportunity to participate, yet, as in most groups, there is a spectrum of participation, with some vocal members and some quiet members.

RBC Attendance Summary through Nov 2021 (19 Meetings)

- **9 Members** with perfect attendance (Member or Alternate present)
- **10 Members** with 1 absence (and no Alternate attended)
- **4 members** with 3 to 7 absences (and no Alternate present)

9. The use and outcomes of models and other tools to assess water availability and evaluate strategies are appropriately documented.





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Responses

None