

**MEETING OF THE NUECES RIVER AND CORPUS CHRISTI BAY AND
BAFFIN BAY BASIN AND BAY AREA STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE**

10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

APRIL 21, 2010

**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER
1619 GARNER FIELD ROAD
UVALDE, TEXAS**

MINUTES

Call to order, roll call, and review membership and authorize changes, as necessary

Chairman Mims called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken and a quorum was reached. A review of the current membership was discussed. Several members have not attended meetings. The members recommended that the chairs attempt to contact those who have not participated and request that they participate in the future. If they do not respond or wish not to serve they will be removed from the group membership. This recommendation was approved by consensus. The committee will consider replacing members if needed at future meetings.

Public Comments

Jace Tunnel, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) discussed freshwater inflows into Corpus Christi bay.

Sky Lewey, Nueces River Authority (NRA), discussed a basin riparian publication developed by the NRA. She also discussed upcoming riparian workshops.

Comments from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Cory Horan, TCEQ, discussed activities of other SB3 BBASCs. He noted that each had held a joint meeting with their respective BBEST after they were formed. He discussed the statutory delineations among each group. The members agreed that a joint meeting of the BBEST and BBASC would be appropriate.

Discussion and appropriate action on selection of Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) members

Vice chair James Dodson provided an overview of the BBEST selection subcommittee and explained the process which was used to evaluate BBEST candidates. The subcommittee has provided a list of potential candidates to serve on the BBEST. Members discussed the candidates and their field of expertise. The recommended candidates were:

- Tom Arsuffi, PhD Freshwater fisheries and ecology Tx Tech Univ – Junction
- Dave Buzan Freshwater and coastal ecosystems PBS&J Consulting

- Ken Dunton, PhD Estuarine ecology, botany & geochemistry UTMSI
- Rocky Freund Water quality, information systems & GIS Nueces River Authority
- Wayne Gardner, PhD Coastal/freshwater biogeochemistry UTMSI
- Ben Hodges, PhD Environmental fluid mechanic, modeling UT – Austin (CRWR)
- David Hoeinghaus, PhD Freshwater ecology & conservation biology University of North Texas
- Ryan Smith Freshwater fisheries and hydrology The Nature Conservancy
- Greg Stunz, PhD Marine fisheries and estuarine ecology TAMUCC (HRI)
- Sam Vaughn, P.E. Hydrology and hydrologic modeling HDR Engineering
- Lance Williams, PhD Stream ecology and fisheries UT – Tyler

By consensus, the group approved this list of candidates with the addition of Lonnie Stewart.

Presentation on Edwards Aquifer Authority activities (Tentative)

John Hoyt, Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA), provided an overview on the activities of the EAA. He discussed EAA operations, including regulatory programs, water quality and quantity programs, as well as data collection. He discussed current research projects, EAA participation in Region L water planning, and gave an overview of the types of recharge structures. He also discussed research enhancement studies.

Presentation on Environmental flows of the upper Nueces River Basin and relationship to Hill Country aquifers

Ryan Smith, Nature Conservancy, discussed the background and context of work being done in the upper reaches of the Nueces river watershed. He also presented an overview of the data available by individual disciplines.

Darwin Ockerman, USGS, gave a presentation on upper Nueces watershed streamflow measurements and preliminary results. He noted that the USGS had conducted gain/loss surveys and that a draft report of the project would be available in the fall of 2010.

Discuss time, location, and agenda items for next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Corpus Christi on July 21, 2010 at 10:00.

Potential meeting topics include:

- Discussion of SAC developed discussion paper
- Lower basin characteristics
- BBEST / BBASC interaction

Adjourn