

**MEETING OF THE NUECES RIVER AND CORPUS CHRISTI BAY AND
BAFFIN BAY BASIN AND BAY AREA STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE
(NUECES BBASC)
10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
LIBRARY/COMMUNITY CENTER, 1101 CAMPBELL AVENUE,
JOURDANTON, TX
JULY 25, 2012**

MINUTES

Members Present: Con Mims, Chair (Proxy for Mike Mahoney); James Dodson, Vice-Chair; Ray Allen; Richard Bowers; Wes Tunnell (Proxy for Ed Buskey); Paul Carangelo; Gus Gonzalez; Don Roach (Proxy for Tom Ballou); Carola Serrato; Teresa Carillo (Proxy for Pat Suter); Buddy Stanley; Timo Hixon; Joel Pigg; Susan Lynch; Scotty Bledsoe.

Call to order

Chairman Con Mims called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken and a quorum was reached.

Public comment

There were no public comments at this time.

Approve Minutes

Approval of meeting minutes for the May 23, 2012 and June 20, 2012 was postponed.

Comments from SAC liaison

There were no SAC comments at this time.

Comments from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Cory Horan, TCEQ, informed the members that the proposed rules regarding environmental flow standards for the Guadalupe/San Antonio and Colorado/Lavaca basin and bay systems are scheduled for approval by the TCEQ Commissioners on August 8, 2012.

Activities of the Public Information/Education Program Subcommittee and the BBASC's public information consultant

The members discussed the public outreach flier developed by Don Rodman entitled: "Water for Flowing Rivers and Productive Bays." The corresponding website was also discussed. Members provided minor comments and the flier was approved. The flier will be sent out electronically to members and individuals associated with the BBASC and will include a request to distribute beyond the BBASC e-mail list. The document will also be available on the Nueces BBASC outreach website: www.NuecesSB3.org.

Schedule and responsibilities for drafting the BBASC's Recommendations Report

Jace Tunnell provided an update on the status of the BBASC recommendations report. He noted that only section 4.4 is incomplete. All report sections to date have been posted to the Nueces River Authority ftp site. A draft report will be distributed to the

BBASC members on August 1, 2012. All comments on the draft report are to be sent to Cory Shockley, HDR by August 8, 2012. Comments will be distributed to the primary authors and their responses will be returned to HDR by August 15, 2012. HDR will incorporate all comments and deliver a final version of the report to the BBASC members on August 22, 2012. HDR will then submit the final recommendations report to the Environmental Flows Advisory Group (EFAG) and the TCEQ on or before August 31, 2012. Cory Shockley also reviewed the process for addressing any remaining comments and how these should be submitted by the members and target dates for completion.

Activities of the Modeling Subcommittee and technical presentations on modeling funded by Texas Water Development Board and/or City of Corpus Christi

There was nothing to report at this time.

Work Plan and adaptive management (Section 6–Status of Work Plan and Adaptive Management)

Chairman Mims discussed the latest version of the work plan for adaptive management which was distributed to the members. He clarified that this draft is not the final work plan which will be completed after September 1, 2012. This draft was provided to give the members an indication of the types of things likely to be considered for the work plan. The members reviewed section 6.0, status of work plan and adaptive management, providing comments and making revisions to the document per discussion. After discussion the members agreed by consensus to a 5-year review cycle for revisiting and evaluating the work plan. The 5-year review cycle will begin on the date TCEQ adopts environmental flow standards. By consensus section 6, status of work plan and adaptive management, was approved including revisions made and agreed upon per discussion.

Comments on Recommendations Report

Jennifer Ellis, National Wildlife Federation, explained that some issues have come up in other basin activities regarding the way TCEQ models and assesses water availability in their permitting process. She explained that TCEQ's WAM run 3 is done in a monthly time step while some of the BBASC work is done on a daily time-step basis. As other SB3 groups have evaluated modeling processes they have found that this difference between daily and monthly may be significant. Recommendations have been made to TCEQ to consider using daily time step. She suggested that reports and recommendations like those that come out of the BBASC process can influence and encourage TCEQ toward this direction.

Chairman Mims proposed that section 4.4 could reflect comments from the BBASC members and from those entities or individuals who have been involved in the process but are not part of the BBASC members. After discussion the members agreed to allow outside comments which will be included in the appendix to section 4.4. These comments must be provided to Cory Shockley at HDR by August 8th, 2012.

Future activities and responsibilities of the BBASC

At the August 22, 2012 BBASC meeting the members will approve their environmental flows recommendations report for submittal to the TCEQ and EFAG. A BBASC Work Plan subcommittee will be appointed to develop a draft work plan for consideration by the full BBASC.

Public comment

Jennifer Ellis stated that the Science Advisory Committee (SAC) had met to discuss their review of the Guadalupe/San Antonio and Colorado/Lavaca work plans. Their review is not complete but the SAC agreed that the Guadalupe/San Antonio work plan was a very good document. She suggested the BBASC use their work plan as a template. Chairman Mims agreed.

Adjourn