

MINUTES APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 13, 2008

10/02/2008 Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Basin and Bay Stakeholder (BBAS) Committee Meeting

San Jacinto River Authority, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Members Present: Danny Vance (Chair), John Bartos (Vice-Chair), Lloyd Behm, J.K. Brite, Glenda Callaway, Lori Gernhardt, William Goldston, Jace Houston, Kathy Jones, Jim Kachtick, Ken Kramer, Tom Michel, Ramon Miguez, Paul Nelson, Jim Oliver, Jim Parks, Edward Seidensticker, Adam Sinclair, Pudge Wilcox

The agenda, approved minutes, presentations and handouts from this meeting will be available on the TCEQ's Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Basin and Bay Stakeholder (BBAS) Committee web page at http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/water_rights/eflows/trinsanjacgalbay_stake.html

Call to Order

Danny Vance, committee chair, called the meeting to order.

Approval of meeting minutes

The Committee approved the meeting minutes from the August 27, 2008 meeting.

Discussion and Agreement on Agenda

The committee approved the agenda as drafted by TCEQ.

Chairman Vance requested that members submit future agenda suggestions to the chair and vice chair, as well to Cory Horan with the TCEQ. Mr. Vance also requested that TCEQ provide future draft agendas and meeting minutes to the committee in advance of upcoming meetings. TCEQ agreed to provide these items, along with other relevant documents, no less than five days prior to upcoming meetings.

Public Comment

Members discussed how to receive public comment. The committee unanimously agreed to allow five minutes for individual public comments with no overall time limit.

Chairman Vance then opened the floor to public comment; however, no comments were received.

Consideration of Replacement of member Jason Fluharty

Members discussed the process for replacing committee members. The committee agreed to submit nominees who are willing and interested in serving on the committee with biographical/professional background information. TCEQ will distribute this information to the committee for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

Discussion on Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) Nominations

Members discussed the draft BBEST nomination form and accompanying cover letter. The committee unanimously agreed that the "Home Address" field be revised to simply state "Address," as well as removal of the "Basin of Residence" field. TCEQ agreed to modify the form and submit to members after the meeting, as well as place on the committee website. Members agreed that use of the cover letter was only a suggestion, and that it could be tailored to individual preferences.

The committee set the deadline for BBEST nominations for October 30, 2008. TCEQ will forward individual nominations as they are received. Members agreed to discuss BBEST nominations at the next stakeholder meeting scheduled for November 13, 2008 and, if necessary, continue the discussion at the subsequent meeting to be held on December 18, 2008.

Report on Funding for Basin and Bay Expert Science Teams

Ruben Solis, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), gave a brief overview of funding available for the BBEST. TWDB has \$350,000 available for Fiscal Year 2009 for both the Sabine/Neches and Trinity/San Jacinto BBESTs. Members had several questions regarding these funds and TWDB will be providing additional information in response to members' questions.

Water Availability Modeling

Kathy Alexander, TCEQ, gave a presentation on TCEQ's Water Availability Model (WAM) and its use in water rights permitting and estimating instream flow requirements for the Trinity River Basin. The presentation will be made available on the Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Basin and Bay Stakeholder (BBAS) Committee web page at http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/water_rights/eflows/trinsanjacgalbay_stake.html

Committee Discussion on Agenda Topics for Next Meeting

Members discussed items to be addressed at the next meeting of the Committee. The following items were suggested:

- Discussion of BBEST nominees and objectives
- A presentation of the process utilized in establishing environmental flows in the Caddo Lake/Cypress River Basin
- A brief presentation on the status and general overview of the Region C and Region H water plans
- Address the process for replacing committee members. Member Jace Houston agreed to prepare a draft proposal for this process

Committee Member Alternates

Chairman Vance requested that members submit their alternates to Cory Horan of the TCEQ and the committee chair by October 10, 2008. Members agreed that the same

individual could serve as an alternate for multiple committee members, but would only sit for one member if other members were unable to attend. Members agreed that alternates be included in all committee related e-mails.

Public Comment

The floor was again opened for public comment; however, no comments were received.

Future Meetings

The next meetings of the Committee have been scheduled for November 13, 2008 and December 18, 2008. Both meeting will begin at 1:00 pm and will be held at the San Jacinto River Authority office in Conroe, Texas.