

Trinity and San Jacinto River Basins and Galveston Bay  
Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)  
Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.  
San Jacinto River Authority Offices  
Conroe, Texas

**Minutes**

Copies of all the presentations made during this meeting will be available on the BBASC's website which can be found at the following location:

[http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water\\_supply/water\\_rights/eflows/trinsanjacgalbaystake.html](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/permitting/water_supply/water_rights/eflows/trinsanjacgalbaystake.html)

**Call to order**

Chairman Vance called the meeting to order and announced that the Committee had established quorum.

**Approval of meeting minutes**

Members approved the minutes unanimously.

**Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

**Update on BBEST Activities**

Bill Espey, Chair of the Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Basin & Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST), gave an overview of the BBEST meetings held to date. A handout was distributed outlining information presented and discussed at each meeting.

**Discussion on How to process BBEST recommendations when they are made**

Chairman Vance began this discussion by outlining the charges of the BBEST as stated in SB3. Members discussed potential management tools that might be used to meet environmental flow standards. Members discussed the need to consider policy and operational implications of strategies used to meet environmental flow standards. Members suggested that a discussion of potential tools for evaluating environmental flow recommendations would be appropriate for subsequent meetings.

**Suzanne Schwartz presentation regarding facilitation**

Suzann Schwartz, with the Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution, gave an overview of the Center provided a handout on who they are and what they do. She also distributed two handouts she felt might be useful for the group entitled "A Practical Guide to Consensus" and "A Practical Guide to Collaborative Governance."

**Discuss facilitation services**

Members discussed options for funding facilitation services and it was noted that an outside entity may be available to provide funding as the SB3 process does not allocate any funding for the BBASCs. A subcommittee was formed to further explore the issue.

**Legislative update**

The BBASC held a general discussion of current legislation that has been filed. Of note, there were two bills directly related to environmental flows: SB 2317 filed by Sen. Averitt, and SB 2328 filed by Sen. Hegar.

**Eddie Seidensticker resignation**

Members accepted the resignation of Mr. Seidensticker and unanimously approved the appointment of Scott Alford as his replacement.

**Region H Environmental flows report**

Mike Reedy, AECOM and BBEST member, gave a presentation detailing the Region H Water Planning Group Environmental Flows Study results. The presentation will be posted on the website referenced above, and additional information can be found at [www.regionhwater.org](http://www.regionhwater.org).

**Review and discuss BBEST Ground Rules**

The Committee reviewed the BBEST ground rules and confirmed that decisions or changes to decisions made to the group will be made on a consensus basis as stated in the ground rules.

**Public Comment**

No public comments were received.

**Agenda Topics for Next Committee Meeting**

Suggested agenda topics include:

- Water rights permitting
- Reservoir operations
- Facilitation subcommittee update
- LCRA Presentation
- Legislative update
- Groundwater/Surface water interaction
- BBEST Update