

**Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and  
Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays  
Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)**

Monday, March 1, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

San Antonio Water System, Customer Service Building/Tower II, Rm. C-145  
2800 U.S. Highway 281 North, San Antonio, Texas 78212

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order**

Committee Chair Suzanne Scott called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.

**Members Present:** Suzanne Scott, Dianne Wassenich, Bill Braden, Tyson Broad, Thurman Clements, David Crow, Velma Danielson, Paula DiFonzo, Dale Duhon, Ken Dunton, Garrett Engelking, Jay Gray, Chris Hale, Jerry James, Everett Johnson, Mike Mecke, Con Mims, James Murphy, Mike Peters, Robert Puente, West Warren, Walter Womack, Jack Campbell – Alternate for Kenny Finster, Jennifer Youngblood – Alternate for Brad Groves, Sam Helmle – Alternate for Scott Smith.

**Public Comments**

Myron Hess, National Wildlife Federation (NWF), gave a background of the BBEST categorization matrix and how it was used in the decision making process for the Colorado/Lavaca BBASC. Cory Horan, TCEQ, explained how the Guadalupe/San Antonio BBEST Subcommittee utilized the same matrix with several modifications to categories. He noted that unlike the Colorado/Lavaca BBASC, the BBEST subcommittee did not develop a recommended slate of BBEST candidates, only ranking each candidate according to the areas of expertise outlined in the categorization matrix.

**Discussion and agreement on agenda**

The BBASC reached consensus on agenda as presented with no changes.

**Approval of meeting minutes from January 11, 2010**

The minutes from the January 11, 2010 were approved unanimously.

**Overview of Water in the San Antonio Area presented by San Antonio Water System**

Steve Clouse, San Antonio Water System (SAWS), gave a presentation regarding water in the San Antonio area. He began by presenting background information on San Antonio water, noting that San Antonio is America's 7<sup>th</sup> largest city and that SAWS provides water and wastewater services to over 1.3 million people. He outlined the per capita water use over the last three decades, specifically mentioning an increase of 67% more customers, but a decrease in average water used. He discussed water demand in relation to conservation and identified several conservation programs currently in place. He gave an overview of SAWS aquifer storage and recovery project, wastewater discharge and the increase in effluent volumes by year, while noting that water reuse in the San Antonio area is the largest in the United States. He specifically discussed data on river flows at Falls City and gave an overview of flows from 1930 to present. He discussed the poor water quality conditions that occurred in the 1980s and the improvement to water quality since then, citing Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) scores that are all currently over 50, indicating increased biodiversity and improvements in water quality and habitat.

**Discussion and adoption of Meeting Rules**

The group began a discussion of draft meeting rules. Once small change was made to item 13 to clarify that the meeting rules may be amended by an affirmative vote of 75% of the full voting membership,

rather than the full voting membership present. The meeting rules were adopted as amended unanimously.

### **BBEST Appointments (to include a discussion of agency staff support)**

The committee began the process of selecting members to be appointed to the Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST). Cory Horan gave an overview of the previous meetings of the BBEST subcommittee, noting how the matrix had been populated and utilized. There was a total pool of 39 nominees that were evaluated and input to the BBEST categorization matrix. The BBASC appointed four nominees to the BBEST unanimously. After these four appointments the group discussed the remaining nominees and their areas of expertise but could not reach consensus on the remaining pool. Therefore, per the adopted meeting rules, the process went to a vote of the committee members. The members were polled by ballot and an additional five nominees were identified as potential BBEST members, however the group still could not reach consensus. A request was made to include nominees from GBRA, SAWS, and SARA as potential candidates. The committee continued to review the five candidates plus the three from the previously mentioned agencies. A motion was put forth to accept the five candidates identified by ballot, as well as one additional candidate from SARA as full voting members of the BBEST, with the two remaining candidates from GBRA and SAWS to be included as non-voting members of the BBEST. The motion was seconded and the committee voted to pass this motion. The motion passed by a greater than 75% vote of the members, and per meeting rules, was adopted by the committee. The group appointed the following nominees to the BBEST as follows:

#### **Voting Members**

- Tim Bonner
- Ed Buskey
- Mike Gonzales
- Thom Hardy
- Scott Holt
- Paul Hudson

- Norman Johns
- Warren Pulich
- Elizabeth Smith
- Sam Vaugh

#### **Non-Voting Members**

- Gregg Eckhardt
- Debbie Magin

It was noted that agency staff from TCEQ, TWDB, and TPWD can serve on the BBEST as non-voting members and could provide technical support to both the BBEST and the BBASC. It was encouraged that both groups utilize this resource. A motion was made and the group unanimously agreed to allow staff from these three agencies as non-voting members of the BBEST.

### **Report on the modified schedule for the completion of environmental flows recommendations**

It was noted that the letter requesting an extension of the environmental flows schedule was submitted to the Environmental Flows Advisory Group (EFAG). The extension request was for one full year, March 2010 to March 2011, to allow the BBEST to complete their tasks. A letter was also sent to the EFAG by the Science Advisory Committee in support of this request. No response or action has been taken as of yet.

### **Presentation of biographical information on BBASC members**

Vice Chair Dianne Wassenich distributed the biographical information she had received from many of the BBASC members. She noted that not every member had submitted information and the package was not complete, but that information on, as well as a picture, several of the members were included in the packet.

### **Public Comments**

No public comments were received at this time.

### **Set Schedule for Future Meetings**

The group agreed to attempt to have future meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month. It was agreed to hold future meetings in either the San Antonio area or the Victoria area, with the meetings alternating between these two general locations. The next meeting was scheduled for April 7, 2010 to begin at 10:00 in the Victoria area.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Suggested items for future agendas included:

- Discussion of alternates
- Review of maps of basin to familiarize members with the basin/bay system –
  - Where are water right impoundments/diversions, wastewater/stormwater dischargers, other informational detail, etc
- Overview of the Environmental Flows development process

### **Adjourn**