

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

Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at 10:00 am
Cibolo Nature Center
140 City Park Road
Boerne, TX 78006

MINUTES

Members Present: Suzanne Scott, Chair; Dianne Wassenich, Vice-Chair; Bill Braden; Tyson Broad; Jack Campbell; Thurman Clements; Paula DiFonzo; Rick Illgner (for Karl Dreher); Ken Dunton ; Garrett Engelking; Steven Fotiades; Josh Gray (for Jay Gray); Chris Hale; Jerry James; Everett Johnson; Mike Mecke; Con Mims; James Lee Murphy; Robert Puente; Scott Smith; West Warren; Walter Womack; Brad Bredesen (for Mike Peters)

Introductions and Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Discussion and agreement on agenda

The members agreed to proceed with the agenda as drafted.

Approval of meeting minutes for December 1, 2010

Revisions were requested on the minutes from the December meeting. Walter Womack requested a section to be added to under the BBEST update to reflect the BBASC discussion on the BBEST selection of projects for analysis purposes of the environmental flows recommendation. Other slight editing revisions.

Suzanne Scott stated that approval of both the December and January meetings would be placed on the agenda for approval at the February meeting.

Replacement of BBASC member Brad Groves

Jennifer Youngblood, serving as alternate to Brad Groves, was the sole candidate nominated to fill the vacancy created by the passing of member Brad Groves. d Micah Voulgaris General Manager of the Cow Creek Groundwater District was in attendance and expressed interest in serving as the replacement. . After discussion the members selected Jennifer Youngblood to fill the vacancy with Mr. Voulgaris serving as an alternate to Ms. Youngblood.

Resignation of member Scott Smith

BBASC member Scott Smith has notified the BBASC chairs that he intends to resign from the committee. He has recommended Kimberly Stoker as his replacement. After discussion the members voted and approved Kimberly Stoker to replace member Scott Smith. Ms. Stoker will name her alternate at a later date.

BBEST Update

BBEST Chair Sam Vaugh presented maps to the BBASC that geographically represent existing gauge locations, average streamflow or freshwater flow throughout the basin, major water rights and consumptive uses, and major discharges of treated effluent.

He then gave an update on recent activities of the BBEST. He discussed analysis being conducted by the three BBEST subcommittees: Instream, Estuary, and Hydrology. BBASC member Walter Womack indicated that he is concerned that science based recommendations might be “massaged” when the impact of hypothetical water supply projects is considered. Both Sam Vaugh and BBEST vice-chair Norman Johns stated that the BBEST had discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the BBEST conducting hydrological time series analysis in development of its recommendations and concluded that these analysis are part of an accepted methodology by the Scientific Advisory Committee for the BBEST to conduct.

Discussion on identified factors and what success will look like from Dec. meeting

Chair Suzanne Scott opened the discussion of factors and successes. It was noted that not all concerns would be able to be addressed in the BBASC recommendations but they could be addressed in the work plan for adaptive management. The BBASC will also have an opportunity to revisit their final recommendations through the work plan. The group agreed that a protocol for reviewing the BBASC recommendations will need to be developed. Members discussed options for consideration in the development of the work plan.

Discussion on potential Technical and Facilitation Assistance

Steve Raabe, San Antonio River Authority (SARA), began a discussion of potential technical and facilitation assistance to aid the BBASC in the development of their final recommendations. He presented draft requests for qualification (RFQ) for both assistance tasks. Members discussed the draft technical RFQ and identified factors that need to be included in the draft. The group discussed the need for a subset of members to evaluate respondents to the RFQs.

By consensus the group agreed to move forward with the technical scope of work for the purposes of initiating the solicitation of professional services as discussed with the caveat that required tasks to be negotiated with a selected consultant be further developed with the BBASC upon review of respondents to the technical RFQ.

Members discussed the draft RFQ for facilitation and agreed by consensus to move forward with this process and decide if a facilitator is necessary based on the respondents to the RFQ. The BBASC requested that the scope of work for facilitation services recently released by the Lower Colorado BBASC be reviewed and incorporated, as appropriate.

Members Tyson Broad, James Lee Murphy, Paula DiFonzo, Steve Clouse (alternate to Robert Puente), Jerry James, Suzanne Scott, Kimberly Stoker and Steve Fotiades agreed, and the group approved, to serve as a workgroup to review and evaluate respondents to the RFQs. Comments on both scopes will be accepted prior to the February meeting.

Options to solicit funding from members to support the technical and facilitation assistance will be explored.

Riparian Zone Presentation

Steve Nelle, NRCS, gave a presentation on the ecology, function, and importance of riparian zones. He discussed components of a properly functioning riparian system, the benefits of floodplains, and the role of flooding and sediment transport in riverine ecology.

Field Tour

Jennifer Ellis discussed the afternoon's field tour schedule. Chad Norris, TPWD, discussed research performed on the Cibolo Creek headwaters prior to the tour of Cibolo Creek.

Set next meeting

The next meeting will be held on February 2, 2011 in the Rockport/Fulton area and will include a tour of the surrounding bay and estuary. SAC member George Ward will also present at the February meeting.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjourn