

**Brazos River and associated bay and estuary system
Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)
Organizational Meeting
Friday, January 21, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.
Brazos River Authority Offices
Waco, Texas**

MINUTES

Introductions

The BBASC members introduced themselves and provided information on their background and affiliations.

Overview of SB3 and role of the Basin and Bay Area Stakeholders

Cory Horan, TCEQ, discussed Senate Bill 3, the environmental flows program, and the charge of the basin and bay area stakeholder committee (BBASC). He noted that the group was to establish a basin and bay expert science team that will:

- Develop environmental flow analyses and a recommended environmental flow regime
 - Consider all reasonably available science
 - Collaborative process designed to achieve consensus
- Submit those recommendations to the BBASC, the TCEQ, and the Environmental Flows Advisory Group (EFAG).

In discussing the role of the BBASC he noted:

- The BBASC is to establish their BBEST by March 1, 2011
- The BBASC will review the BBEST recommendations and will consider them in conjunction with factors beyond just science and
- The BBASC must submit its comments on and recommendations regarding the BBESTs recommendations by September 1, 2012

He also noted that staff from the resource agencies, TPWD, TWDB, and TCEQ, were available to provide both technical and administrative support to both the BBASC and BBEST.

Mr. Horan also discussed the Texas Environmental Flows Science Advisory Committee, noting that their role was to provide guidance and direction to the state's BBESTs.

Discuss nominations process for Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST)

The BBASC members discussed the role of the BBEST and the nomination and selection of BBEST members. The members agreed by consensus to receive nominations from all BBASC members. Mr. Horan discussed the makeup and background of individuals that have served on BBESTs for other basin and bay systems. He reviewed the various disciplines necessary in the development of an environmental flow regime.

The members requested that TCEQ provide a nomination form for BBEST candidates that will include the following requests for information:

- Does the candidate serve on other BBESTs
- Discussion of the candidate's experience and background as it relates to environmental flows
- Discussion of the candidate's knowledge of the Brazos basin and bay system
- Candidate affiliation

The TCEQ will develop and distribute a BBEST nomination form, as well as a solicitation cover letter that members can use/revise as they see fit. The group agreed that solicitations for BBEST candidates should be published to the group's website.

Nominations for BBEST candidates will be accepted through Friday, February 4, 2011 at which point the TCEQ will provide a matrix of the BBEST nominees that reflects their areas of expertise as it relates to the development of environmental flows. The members will select their BBEST at the February meeting.

At the February meeting members should be prepared to speak to the background and qualifications of individuals which BBASC members submit for BBEST consideration. The group agreed that BBEST candidates are not required to attend the February meeting.

Elect Committee chair

After discussion the members nominated Dale Spurgin as committee chair and Tom Michel as committee vice-chair. These nominations were approved by consensus.

Set ground rules/operating procedures

- Meetings are public. (TWC §11.02362(h))
- Organizational structure / group coordination?
- Quorum/Consensus
- Decision making process?
- When will public input be taken at meetings?
- Communication between meetings?
- Alternates/Vacancies?
- Schedule for completion of BBASC tasks
- Elect officers
- Role of the BBEST

The members discussed options for meeting rules and by consensus agreed that:

- General majority (13 members) would constitute a quorum
 - This would include members participating via teleconference
- Public input at meetings will be limited to 3 minutes
- Communication between meeting will occur via e-mail; other options can be explored as necessary
- Other meeting rules will be discussed at the February meeting

Set next meeting

The next BBASC meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 25, 2011 at the Brazos River Authority in Waco, TX. Future meeting locations will be evaluated.

Potential agenda topics discussed include:

- Presentation by member of the Science Advisory Committee
- Overview of environmental issues in the basin – BRA
- Regional water planning needs
- Agency staff presentation

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjourn