

**Brazos River and Associated Bay and Estuary System
Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)
Organizational Meeting
Friday, February 25, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.
Brazos River Authority Offices
Waco, Texas**

MINUTES

Introductions

Committee Chair Dale Spurgin welcomed members to the meeting. Members introduced themselves and noted the interest group they represented.

Chairman Spurgin discussed the nomination process, and the steps that will be used to rank nominees and ensure proper representation in the final selection of members of the BBEST. He added that once the science team is chosen, there would be a discussion on the ground rules for the committee and dates for future meetings.

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 21, 2011 meeting were approved by consensus.

Overview of Environmental Issues within the Basin- Brazos River Authority (BRA)

Brazos River Authority staff presented an overview of the Brazos River Authority and its water supply system throughout the basin. They discussed BRA's sources of water including water rights, supply contracts, reservoirs in the system, as well as BRA's customer base and usage. They discussed environmental programs, water quality issues in the basin, and future water needs. They mentioned BRA's system operations permit and explained the use of statistical modeling that incorporates hydrologic data.

Cory Horan, TCEQ, said that meeting presentations and handouts will be posted to the committee website.

Report on BBEST Funds – TWDB

Ruben Solis, TWDB, discussed funding available for the Basin and Bay Expert Science Teams (BBESTs) and how the funding is distributed among the committees. He discussed the status of current SB3 funding, noting that \$148,000 was set aside for the Brazos BBEST through the end of August, 2011. An additional \$80,000 was requested for the next fiscal year. However, it will not be known until the legislative session ends whether those additional funds will be available. He stressed the importance for the BBEST to work with TWDB to establish a schedule for expenditures.

Review of Basin and Bay Expert Science Team Nominees

Members agreed to list nominees according to areas of expertise, and rank nominees within each discipline. Areas of expertise were derived from the background information provided by each nominee. Nominees present at the meeting were identified and asked to make a short presentation on

their qualifications. Each nominee was introduced by the individual who nominated them prior to their presentation. A motion was made to tentatively set the number of BBEST members to 9 with the knowledge that the number could be increased. The motion was approved with one dissenting vote.

Members reviewed the complete list of BBEST nominees and discussed individual qualifications. By consensus, it was agreed that each member would indicate their first 9 choices, votes would be tallied, and nominees ranked for further evaluation. Members evaluated the areas of expertise of the top candidates and determined all areas of discipline were represented. Members discussed potential groundwater influence in the basin and whether the top candidates had adequate groundwater expertise.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the top 9 nominees who will be contacted to make sure they are able to serve with the present funding constraints. Substitution for any withdrawals from the top 9 will be from the next 4 in the BBEST ranking (those with 8 votes each) with similar expertise. BBASC Members will be notified if an alternate from the additional 4 nominees is needed. The motion was approved with one dissenting.

Cory Horan will contact perspective BBEST members notifying them of their appointment. Upon acceptance their first meeting will be scheduled.

Formalize Ground Rules/Operating Procedures

Formalizing ground rules and operating procedures was delayed until next meeting. Members were asked to review the draft documents prior to the next meeting.

Set Next Meeting

There was a general consensus to schedule meetings on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Meetings will be scheduled for every other month. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on April 26, 2011 at the Waco BRA offices.

Proposed Agenda Items:

- Group consensus building
- SAC Chairman Huston will make a presentation on the SAC
- Locations for future meetings

Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjourn