Guadalupe, San Antonio, Mission, and Aransas Rivers and Mission, Copano, Aransas, and San Antonio Bays Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee (BBASC)
Wednesday, April 19, 2011
Dunbar Recreation Center
801 MLK
San Marcos, Texas

MINUTES

Members Present: Suzanne Scott, Chair; Dianne Wassenich, Vice Chair; Bill Braden; Tyson Broad; Thurman Clements; David Crow; Paula DiFonzo; Ken Dunton; Jennifer Ellis (for Everett Johnson); Steve Fotiades; Jay Gray; Chris Hale; Rick Illner (for Karl Dreher); Jerry James; James Lee Murphy; Mike Mecke, Mike Peters; Robert Puente; Steve Rabbe (for Con Mims); Charlie Smith (for Jack Campbell); Kim Stoker; Walter Womack and Jennifer Youngblood.

I. and II. Introductions and Public Comment:
Roll call was taken. BBASC alternate Charlie Smith introduced several members of Aransas County government who were in attendance. Mr. Smith discussed the SB 3 process and also discussed impacts to SA Bay from continued permitting.

III. Discussion and Agreement on Agenda
The draft meeting agenda was approved by consensus.

IV. Approval of Minutes from the April 6, 2011 meeting
Minutes for the April 6, 2011 meeting were approved by consensus.

V. BBEST Chair Report – Sam Vaughn
BBEST Chairman Sam Vaugh reported on the remaining BBEST funds to assist the BBASC and potential funds that SAC may have available for further assistance. He presented a handout of the second round of preliminary comments on the BBEST report by a subcommittee of SAC members, and added that the comments will be finalized by the end of April. He discussed the process used to produce the comments, and highlighted points of special interest from the handout. He noted that the overall opinion on the instream analysis was the BBEST should have used more science available from the SB2 program, however the SAC responded favorably to the estuarine analyses. Steve Rabbe mentioned that the Texas Instream Flow Program will provide an interim report in June that could be used to assist the BBASC in their deliberations. Suzanne Scott will contact SAC member Dr. Ward and request a presentation to the BBASC on the final SAC comments. The next SAC meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2011.

VI. Report on Bay and Estuary Time Series Analysis, Part I – Norman Johns
Dr. Norman Johns gave a presentation on the bay and estuary time series analysis that was completed at the direction of the BBASC. He reviewed the estuary criteria, need for the time series evaluation, and the approach used for the evaluation. He discussed the results of the analysis with respect to attainment of criteria for rangia clams and oysters. Dr. Johns will perform the analysis and review of the findings including evaluating biological consequences of HDR’s work on Tasks I and II, and those preliminary results will be presented at the May 4, 2011 meeting. The final results of all of Dr. Johns’ analyses will be presented at the BBASC meeting on June 1, 2011. The final technical memo summarizing the findings of all analyses requested by the BBASC will include a review by the BBEST estuary committee with a tentative deliverable date in June. The resulting technical memorandum will be included as an appendix to the BBASC report.

VII. BBEST Recommendation Implementation Framework – Vaugh
BBEST Chairman Sam Vaugh gave a presentation on the implementation of the BBEST flow regime recommendations, and the specifics and details of how it works. He discussed how the recommendations might be applied using the BBEST flow regime recommendations for the San Antonio River at Goliad. The BBEST Goliad flow regime recommendation included a subsistence flow, three levels of base flow (based on hydrologic conditions) and five levels of pulse flows. BBEST Chairman Vaugh distributed and discussed an example application that included numerous scenarios including different seasons, hydrologic conditions, streamflow levels, the flow regime recommendations and how it may apply for a proposed diversion or impoundment of water.

VIII. HDR Status Report and Draft BBASC Report Table of Contents – Perkins
Brian Perkins, HDR, presented a status report on the work being done by HDR. He said the results of the analysis for Task I (the two large firm yield projects) and Task II (the six locations for a new run-of-the-river diversion of up to 10,000 acre-feet) will be presented in their entirety at the May 4, 2011 meeting. Mr. Perkins distributed a draft table of contents for the BBASC recommendations report. Members discussed the six major sections in the outline and proposed revisions to the table of contents.

IX. Presentation of Draft Work Plan Elements – Vaugh
BBEST Chairman Vaugh distributed handouts and presented the first draft of the table of contents for the work plan for adaptive management. He discussed the statutory directive for adaptive management and other guidance documents available to the BBASC. BBEST Chairman Vaugh will integrate BBASC work plan related topics and provide a budget estimate for the work assigned to the BBEST at the next meeting. BBASC Chairman Scott said any decisions on the subcommittee that will be formed to work on the work plan will be deferred until the May 4, 2011 meeting.

X. Set Next Meeting Date, Time and Location
The next meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 4, 2011 at GBRA River Annex. Members were asked to reserve Thursday, May 19, 2011 as a tentative meeting date.

Proposed Agenda Items:
- Presentation by Brian Perkins (HDR) on final results of Task I and Task II technical
- Presentation by Dr. Norman Johns on preliminary evaluation of HDR results on Tasks I & II
- Formation of the Work Plan subcommittee
- Presentation on the Work Plan Elements.
- Presentation by SAC members on the final comments on the BBEST report.
- Presentation by Watermaster on how special conditions may be implemented/operated

XI. Public Comment
Richard Bianchi stressed the importance of taking care of the bays and stated he appreciates the time and effort spent on this issue by the BBASC.

XII. Adjourn