

**Brazos River and Associated Bay and Estuary System
Basin and Bay Stakeholder Committee (BBASC) Meeting
Thursday, January 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.
Texas Farm Bureau Convention Center
7410 Fish Pond Road, Waco, TX 76702**

Minutes

Members Present: Dale Spurgin, Chair; Tom Michel, Vice Chair; Ned Meister; Brian Hays; Curt Mowery; Lloyd Huggins; Gena Leathers; Dan Loomis; Tom Conry; Horace Grace; Eddie Saucedo; Ken Kramer; Cindy Bartos; Tyson Broad (for Patrick Riley); Ed Lowe; Tommy O'Brien; SuEllen Staggs; Gary Spicer; Phil Ford.

Call to order

Chairman Dale Spurgin called the meeting to order and the members introduced themselves.

Public comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Financial Update

A brief update on the group's finances was provided. There is \$18,036.98 left in the group's budget.

TCEQ Update

Cory Horan, TCEQ, briefly discussed the meeting of the Environmental Flows Advisory Group (EFAG) held on January 15, 2013, noting that the EFAG granted TCEQ an extension for developing environmental flow standards for the Nueces, Rio Grande, and Brazos basins. The new date for development and adoption of environmental flow standards is March 1, 2014.

Environmental Flows Advisory Group Update

Chairman Spurgin gave an update on his testimony to the EFAG at their January 15, 2013 meeting. He provided a review of the BBASC recommendations and noted that the group had begun development of the work plan.

Status of Vice-Chair Tom Michel

Vice-Chair Tom Michel informed the group that he had resigned his position with the Harris-Galveston Subsidence District and was now working at the San Jacinto River Authority. He was concerned that there might be a conflict of interest and wanted to group to consider this change. The members agreed that there was no conflict of interest and Mr. Michel was unanimously asked to remain as BBASC Vice-Chair.

Action on Environmental Interest vacancy

Cory Horan noted that Ryan Smith had withdrawn as a candidate to fill the Environmental Interest vacancy on the BBASC. After discussion the members unanimously approved Ken Kramer to fill this vacancy.

Work Plan Development

Dan Loomis, chair of the work plan development subcommittee, provided an update of the subcommittee's activities to date. The subcommittee held a conference call to review the BBEST and BBASC recommendations for the work plan. For the first step the group needs to determine if the flow recommendations by the BBASC have been achieved, and if not, prescribe studies to evaluate why they have not been met. Tyson Broad suggested that certain estuary studies need to begin now so that data will be available when the standards are to be revisited. The group discussed strategies to fill shortcomings in adaptive management. Member Ed Lowe suggested the group prioritize and evaluate items identified in the BBEST recommendations report. Member Gena Leathers suggested the work plan and schedule for revision of the standards be synchronized with the regional water planning schedule. Mr. Loomis suggested that the work plan subcommittee review the items identified in the BBEST report and discussed today, will prioritize, and submit a recommendation to the full BBASC for their approval. Additional instructions were given for any other suggested work plan items, for those items be emailed to Cory Horan and Cory would email the suggested work plan items to the subcommittee with all members of the BBASC being copied on the email.

Other Items as Necessary

Member Sue Campbell Williams has resigned as the public interests representative. Cory Horan will solicit nominations and the remaining BBASC members will fill the vacancy at the next meeting.

Public comment

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjourn