

**Leon River Bacteria**  
**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Meeting**  
**December 12, 2007**  
**Hamilton, Texas**

**Stakeholders Present:**

Aaron	Wendt	Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board
The Honorable	Dickie Clary	Hamilton County Commissioner
Frank	Sprague	Hamilton County Farm Bureau
Fred	Weaver	City of Gatesville
Hall	DeBusk	Hamilton-Coryell Soil and Water Conservation District
Jennifer	Bronson	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
John	Cowan	Texas Association of Dairymen (TAD)
Judge	Randy Mills	Hamilton County Judge
Richard	Eyster	Texas Department of Agriculture
Jay	Bragg	Brazos River Authority (BRA)

**Stakeholders Absent:**

Honorable	Richard Cortese	Bell County Commissioner
Bruce	Butscher	City of Temple
David	Carrothers	City of Dublin
David	DeJong	TX Association of Dairymen (TAD)
Rusty	Harris	Texas Farm Bureau
Tom	Gerik	Texas Agricultural Extension Service
Ronnie	Harris	City of Hamilton
Royce	Lubke	Cattle Rancher
Norman	Mullin	Enviro-Ag Engineering
Clarence	Richardson	Agriculture Research Service
Genell	Stuteville	City of Gustine

**Other Attendees:**

Bill	Funderburk	City of Hamilton
Carolyn	Smith	Land Owner
Carrol & Deloris	Seago	Land Owner
Clint	Spinder	for Bill Flannery - City of Comanche
Danny	Craig	
Daren	Harmel	USDA-NRS
Darrell	Rachilla	Land Owner

Don	Brandenberger	TSSWCB
Doug	Smith	USDA-ARS
Frank	Volleman	Wildcat Dairy
Greg	Schannep	U.S. Representative Carter, TX 31
Harry	Dudley	
Jack	Wall	Coryell County
James	Lester	Landowner
Jim & Sheron	Kenton	Land Owner
Honorable John	Firth	Coryell County Judge
Josh	Denl	NRCS
Jue	Moode	Land Owner
Karen	Kolb	for Rep. Sid Miller
Kim	Lively	NRCS
Lance	Teten	Farm Owner
Larry	Adams	Cattle Rancher
Lloyd	Huggins	Hamilton County Farm Bureau/Rancher
Lyle	Zoeller	TCE
Marcel	Dulay	Parson's Engineering
Marcel	Volleman	Sundance Dairy
Marvin	Reavis	City of Gustine/Circle T Arena
Mel	Vargas	Parson's Engineering
Mitch	Conine	TX State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Pamela	Casebolt	TX State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Pat	Gunter	
Patricia	Radloff	Texas Parks & Wildlife
Robert	Ozment	TCEQ - Region 9 (WACO)
Rodney	Stephens	Land Owner
Steve	Jones	TSSWCB
Tim	Stallings	
Todd	Vineyard	Texas Cooperative Ext. - Erath County
Whit H	Weems	Texas Cooperative Extension - Comanche County
William	Lasater	Lasater Dairy

**TCEQ Project and Contract Staff:**

Kerry	Niemann
Clyde	Bohmfolk
Earlene	Lambeth

## **Stakeholder Meeting Agenda**

**Sponsored by the  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
regarding  
Leon River Bacteria  
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Project  
December 12, 2007  
Lee Conference Center, 114 East Main Street  
Hamilton, TX  
1:30 PM – 3:30 PM**

The purpose of the meeting is to inform the stakeholders of the status of development of the Bacteria TMDL Project on the Leon River and to provide an opportunity for input on the project.

(Time Allotments Are Approximate)

### Preliminary Steps

Welcome/Meeting Logistics/Introduction of Participants (1:30 – 1:45)

Meeting Purpose and Ground Rules (1:45 – 1:55)

### Discussion of TMDL

Additional Resolution of Category 5c Segments (1:55 – 2:10)

General Permit vs Individual Permit (2:10 – 2:30)

Release for Public Comment/Approval Process (2:30 – 2:40)

### Discussion on Implementation

Coordination and Participation (2:40 – 3:00)

Questions/Comments (3:00 – 3:30)

*Adjourn*

Earlene Lambeth opened the meeting with a thank you to the Texas Land Bank for providing refreshments for the stakeholders. Self introductions were made to the stakeholders who were attending for the first time. There was also a special thank you given to the official Leon stakeholder's representatives. Again, there was a very good turn out and the TCEQ expressed their appreciation for input into the TMDL bacteria project for the Leon River.

Kerry Niemann with the TCEQ began with his presentation which can be found at the following web page:

<http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/assets/public/implementation/water/tmdl/34leon/34-leon-dec07pres.pdf>

Kerry explained what a TMDL formula means for the new first time attendees. He encouraged anyone to go to the TCEQ web page and review the previous project history, reports, and presentations for the Leon River project.

He reported that an outstanding issue from the last meeting that had been held in October was additional segments that had been identified as impaired (not meeting the recreational use standard) and is listed on the 2006 303(d) list. Those segments are Resley Creek, South Leon River, Indian Creek, and Walnut Creek. The TCEQ had agreed to perform an exercise on the additional segments and the results can be viewed on the web page presentation.

Kerry reported that the best option for project management and the Leon stakeholders was to have one endpoint or TMDL rather than five endpoints or TMDLs. Through this option, having one TMDL, it would allow the Leon stakeholders through the implementation process the opportunity to address the additional impairments. This will be accomplished through the Watershed Protection Plan (WPP). There were no objections raised from the stakeholders on the determination to perform one TMDL.

Shawn Hutcherson with the Water Quality Standards area of the TCEQ, was the next speaker. Shawn was there to provide the stakeholders the opportunity to answer specific questions on permits – whether individual or general. The following are questions received:

Question: Based on what has been said about the general permit being somewhat flexible, what assurances can you give the dairymen in this watershed?

Shawn: It is written into the general permit. You have the flexibility, as long as you aren't adding 50% from what you are originally permitted for.

Question: Do I understand you correctly in saying that when the TMDL is implemented that it will not absolutely mandate that areas in that watershed have to be permitted individually?

Shawn: The only thing that could cause that is that if there was something in the Implementation Plan that required or was more stringent than what the general permit is right now. Special provisions would not be written into the general permit. Shawn agreed that permitting process does get confusing, especially those who have worked on the Bosque watershed permits.

Question: So, what triggered individual permits in the Bosque? Was it the Legislators?

Shawn: Yes sir, it went through many layers of authorization and was adopted by the Legislators.

Question: Will anything over 50% trigger automatic individual permits?

Shawn: No sir, that would trigger a significant expansion still through the general permit.

Kerry next discussed the TMDL adoption process and draft timeline which is the following: Agenda (Commission Grants approval for release for public comment – April, 2008; Public Comments Period (1 month); TCEQ response to public comments; TCEQ adoption of TMDL approximately in August, 2008.

Kerry again expressed the partnering with the Brazos River Authority to form a Leon River Watershed Partnership to write and implement a Watershed Protection Plan for the Leon watershed. Please contact Jay Bragg with the Brazos River Authority at (254) 761-3135 or [jbragg@brazos.org](mailto:jbragg@brazos.org) to participate in this important process and WPP. Kerry stressed this is key to the process and essential that stakeholders get involved, contribute, and stay engaged. WPP meetings will begin throughout the watershed coordinated through Parson's Engineering and the Brazos River Authority (completed draft expected by spring 2009).

The meeting was adjourned.