

Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committee Meeting Meeting Summary Notes

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

The second and final 2017 meeting of the Clean Rivers Program Basin Steering Committee was held at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center in Houston on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. Water Resources Program Manager, Todd Running, called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Members (or their alternates) attending

Latrice Babin	Glenda Callaway	Gregory Camp
Danielle Cioce	Sonja Lewis	Steven Mitchell
Gordon Pederson	Kelly "Rodi" Rodibaugh	Shane Simpson
Linda Shead		

Interested Parties/Individuals attending

Tom Douglas

H-GAC Staff Present

Todd Running, Jean Wright, Will Merrell, Bill Hoffman, Heather Fields, Justin Bower, Paniz Miesen, and Becki Begley

Welcome

Todd Running, Water Resources Program Manager, welcomed everyone, led introductions of all meeting attendees, and reviewed the purpose for this meeting. He asked if there were any public comments but none were shared.

Presentations

The FY2018-2019 Scope of Work Final Draft & Budget: Running gave a presentation about the final FY2018-2019 Scope of Work (SOW) & Budget being sent to TCEQ the next day unless there were major concerns expressed and changes proposed at this meeting. The presentation included a brief review of what is included within each of the six tasks in the SOW. As was shared on the webinar in January 2017, H-GAC's CRP is operating on 5% less than the 2001 funding. With increasing costs, H-GAC's program can no longer fund special projects as they were in the late 90's and early 2000's. To meet increasing costs, H-GAC is planning to drop TKN and all extra bacteria monitoring currently being collected on a quarterly basis.

FY2018 Ambient Monitoring: Wright provided a map of the current monitoring stations and a very brief summary of what is expected to happen in next year's budget. H-GAC is planning to continue funding the 10 extra sites in the East Fork San Jacinto River watershed being collected by the Texas Research Institute on Environmental Studies (TRIES). Wright also presented an update on Texas Stream Team efforts in the greater Houston region.

Draft 2017 Basin Highlights Report: Running presented the *Draft 2017 Basin Highlights Report* which was due February 15, 2017. Since this is the shortest "How's the Water?" report that is

compiled and submitted to TCEQ, H-GAC is charged with reporting about water quality changes that have occurred since the Basin Summary Report was submitted. H-GAC is opting to address the requirements as well as discuss how CRP data is used by other projects and give an overview of the primary pollutants found in the greater Houston region. The major change comes in the format which will be web based and allow for numerous photos, maps, and graphs to open as the reader scrolls through the document. The final report is due May 15, 2017.

The draft sent to TCEQ will be posted on H-GAC's web site for review. Comments can be submitted to Todd Running or Jean Wright.

Watershed Protection Plans (WPPs) in the Region: Bower gave an overview of all WPPs and the status of each. Several WPPs were recently approved by EPA or are pending approval. Others are going into the implementation phase and money is needed to help install BMPs. H-GAC will continue to be involved in these projects even if only to facilitate the meetings associated with them and help to disseminate information.

TMDL Projects: Basin 11/13 and the BIG. Wright gave an update on the status of these three projects since Johnston was out sick. Running also added comments to the discussion about each to ensure all topics were covered.

Top 5/Least 5 Project Update: Miesen gave a preliminary report on the results of the bacteria testing associated with this project. Graphs and tables showed Little White Oak Bayou will need extensive work to identify the reoccurring problems showing up in the waterway.

Public Outreach activities: Begley reviewed all the public outreach that CRP and the Water Resources Group had participated in over the previous year plus those events we were planning to attend in the near future. She demonstrated each of the games that had been developed to get people involved in discussion about pollution prevention and elimination. Lastly, she handed out a flier that outlines all the educational and outreach activities available over the next couple of months.

Other Business and Announcements

Running announced that the next meeting of the Basin Steering Committee would be scheduled for next Spring. A meeting reminder will be send out. Minutes from this meeting will be uploaded to H-GAC's web page for review and if anyone was unable to participate. Slides will be available upon request.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.