



**FALL MEETING
Agenda**

**Tuesday, October 31, 2017
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor
3555 Timmons Lane**

(Instructions to attend the meeting via Webinar can be found at the bottom of the Agenda)

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Welcome by H-GAC

Introductions of BIG members & staff

Review Agenda. Each agenda item shall provide time for discussion by the BIG followed by comments from the audience.

Item One: Satellite Image Process Monitoring: Sean Donegan, Satelytics.com

Certification of Quorum

Approval of the Proposed Members & Alternates

BIG members will review the Bacteria Implementation Group Roster and approve as appropriate.

Approval of the May 23, 2017 Meeting Summary

BIG members will review, comment and approve as appropriate.

Public Comment

The public may sign up at the beginning of the meeting to make an informal comment of no more than three minutes.

Item Two: Review 2017 Annual Report

Staff shall lead the BIG in review of the 2017 Annual Report. BIG members comment and approve as appropriate.

Item Three: TCEQ TMDL Program Update

TCEQ TMDL Program staff will update the BIG on TMDLs and other matters that potentially affect the BIG.

Item Four: Draft Letter to the TCEQ

H-GAC staff will provide a draft letter to the BIG for review, comment, and approve as appropriate.

Item Five: TXDOT MS4 General Permit, Adrienne Boer, Program Manager, Environmental Affairs Division, Texas Department of Transportation

Item Six: Other Business/Roundtable

As time permits, H-GAC, BIG members, and stakeholders are encouraged to discuss implementation activities, related projects, and announcements.

Next Meeting Date

May 22, 2018

Adjourn

BIG Meeting instructions for Webinar:

Register to the webinar and follow instructions at:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1214365899212127233>

You will also be instructed to call in to the meeting:

To call in, dial 713-481-0090 (or 800-240-3895). You will be asked to enter your pass code, followed by the # sign. The pass code is 1084242. If you dial in before H-GAC, you will hear "music on hold". Once H-GAC dials in, the music will cease and the conference call will begin. Remember--if you do press hold, everyone will hear your hold music.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC provides for reasonable accommodation for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests should be received by H-GAC 24 hours prior to the function.

H-GAC encourages meeting attendees to bring their own mug or cup to all meetings.

PRESENTER BIOS

Sean Donegan
President and Chief Executive Officer

Sean Donegan is the President and CEO of Satelytics. He has over thirty years of technology and software development experience. A dynamic leader, Sean's career has been focused on building companies through creativity and innovation, recruiting highly effective teams to solve customer's toughest challenges. Sean has founded or owned four successful software companies, most recently Sean Allen LLC which was focused on predictive analytics in the oil and gas marketplace.

With his energetic leadership style, Sean has always believed in building talented teams whose members are laser-focused on problem solving, results, and financial objectives. These qualities were illustrated during his 15-year tenure as CEO of Westbrook Technologies, Inc. where he transformed a failing enterprise into a highly profitable document management software global leader with customers in 52 countries. Sean earned an undergraduate degree from the University of London and a post graduate professional qualification from the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants.

Contact Information:
sdonegan@satelytics.com
(419) 728.0060 ext. 106

Adrienne Boer, CFM, CPESC, PMP
Program Manager

Adrienne is with the TxDOT Environmental Affairs Division. She has over 25 years of experience in water quality analysis and planning, stormwater permitting, and project and program management. She has worked with the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department, TCEQ, and environmental consulting prior to TxDOT. She received her Master's Degree in Environmental Resource Management from Texas State University and her Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science from Concordia University.

Contact Information:
125 East 11th Street- Austin, Texas 78701
adrienne.boer@txdot.gov
(512) 416-2605 Office

BACTERIA IMPLEMENTATION GROUP ROSTER (10-31-17)

Last	First	Representing	Organization	Alternate1	Alternate 2
Bailes IV	Rep. Ernest	Agriculture (County)	San Jacinto County	Dale Everitt	
Bloom	Michael	Business / Industry	RG Miller Engineers	Jason Maldonado	
Brown	David	Resource Agency / Academia	US Geological Survey	Michael Lee	
Chapin	Richard	Large City	City of Houston	Zafar Ahmed	
Christian	Marilyn	Urban County	Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services	Jennifer Wheeler	Jerry Caraviotis
Cioce	Danielle	Urban County	Harris County	Camila Biaggi	Nick Russo
Cruce	Hannah	Agriculture	Texas Forest Service	Hughes Simpson	
Ehrlich	Denise	Business / Industry	Gulf Coast Authority	Shaun Austin	
Elliott	Catherine	Urban County	Harris County Flood Control District	Robert Snoza	Roberto Vega
Hall	Greg	Small City	City of Conroe		
Harris	Teague	Utility District	IDS Engineering		
		Conservation	Bayou Preservation Association	James "Ty" Kelly	
		Large City	City of Houston	Carol LaBreche	Richard Chapin
Isbell	Andrew	Rural County	Walker County		
Ivy	Tom	Conservation	Texas Stream Team	Jim Williams	
Gossett**	Sarah	Conservation	Galveston Bay Foundation	Scott Jones	
Lane	Helen	Conservation	Houston Audubon Society	Bethany Foshee	
Lindsey	Mike	Rural County	Montgomery County	Frank Green	Scott Nichols
Maske	Craig	Business / Industry	IDS Engineering	Scott Saenger	
McCoy	Cathy	Agriculture	Harris County SWCDistrict #442		
Murphy	Jack	Small City	City of League City	Susie Blake	Jody Hooks
Olive	Becky	Business / Industry	AECOM	Ralph Calvino	Patty Matthews
Olson	Anne	Conservation	Buffalo Bayou Partnership	Jessalyn Giacona	Linda Shead
Page	Mitchell	Utility District	Schwartz, Page, & Harding, LLP	Michael Page	
Parkhill	David	Business / Industry	San Jacinto River Authority		
Pavlovich	Raymond	Utility District	Nottingham Country Municipal Utility District	Michael Thornhill	Matt Carpenter
Pechacek	Linda	Public	Citizen, Civil Engineer	Rachel Powers	
Pinheiro	Ron	Large City	City of Houston		
Robertson	Jim	Conservation	Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition	Richard Smith	
Shhead	Linda	Conservation	Texas Coastal Partners	Mary Ellen Whitworth	
Shmaefsky	Brian	Resource Agency / Academia	Lone Star College, Kingwood	Jon Connolly	
Tarrant**	Mayor Leah	Rural Small City	City of Patton Village		
VACANT		Business / Industry (Boating)			

**Approval of BIG Required



**SPRING MEETING
Summary**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor
3555 Timmons Lane**

Members Present

Michael Bloom, Richard Chapin, Marilyn Christian, Danielle Cioce, Denise Ehrlich, Catherine Elliott, Teague Harris, Jason Iken, Tom Ivy, Nate Johnson, Steve Hupp, David Parkhill, Raymond Pavlovich (on phone), Linda Pechacek, Jim Robertson, Linda Shead

Michael Lindsey was represented by Reuben Martinez*

Becky Olive was represented by Ralph Calvino

Anne Olson was represented by Linda Shead

**A non-voting representative*

Members Absent

David Brown, Greg Hall, Helen Lane, Craig Maske, Cathy McCoy, Mitchell Page, Brian Shmaefsky, Earl Smith

Guests Present

Zafar Ahmed, Tom Baden, Camila Biaggi, Linda Broach, Glenda Callaway, John Concienne, Tom Douglas, Lisa Groves, Diane Humes, Anita Hunt, Janice Keeven, Earlene Lambeth, Jason Leifester, Lisa Leya, Andy Long, Lisa Marshall, Breanne Martin, Carl Masterson, Steven Mitchell, Jack Murphy, Rod Pinheiro, Rachel Powers, Mary Purzer, Richard Smith, Robert Snoza, Kathy Stone, Roberto Vega, Jennifer Wheeler, Charriss York

H-GAC Staff Present

Justin Bower, Bill Hoffman, Kathy Janhsen, Steven Johnston, Paniz Miesen, Todd Running

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Steven Johnston welcomed those in attendance. Members of the BIG and guests were asked to introduce themselves. The agenda was reviewed and the BIG was provided an opportunity to discuss.

Certification of Quorum

A quorum was certified during the meeting.

Approval of the Proposed Members & Alternates

The BIG approved the roster changes as follows:

Members

- State Representative Ernest Bailes IV filled vacancy, representing Agriculture
- Jack Murphy replaced Earl Smith, representing Small City
- Ron Pinheiro replaced Aaron Wisezorek, representing Large City
- Andrew Isbell filled vacancy, representing Rural County
- Hannah Cruce filled vacancy, representing Agriculture

Alternates

- Jerry Caraviotis will become the 2nd alternate for Marilyn Christian
- Roberto Vega will become the 2nd alternate for Catherine Elliot
- Dale Everitt will become 1st alternate for Rep. Ernest Bailes IV
- Hughes Simpson will become 1st alternate for Hannah Cruce

Approval of the October 25, 2016 Meeting Summary

The BIG was provided the opportunity to review and give comment to the draft May meeting summary. No changes were requested and the item was approved.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Item 1: Review Progress on 2017 Annual Report

H-GAC passed out copies of the 2016 Annual Report. H-GAC led the BIG in discussion of the 2017 Annual Report with references back to the completed 2016 Annual Report. The group discussed the potential for additional analysis, development of an online version of the report and expanding data to include the East and West Fork of the San Jacinto project area (E&W). Analyses included reviewing the latest bacteria trends, including E&W data.

New analyses compared the bacteria geomean trend, including E&W data, with Single Sample Standard, Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) and rainfall totals. The new analyses using a broad and statistically gross brush, suggest some independence in geometric mean trend, with the possible suggestion that management measures have improved conditions.

H-GAC previewed the implementation tracking database with improvements that are envisioned to produce an online annual report. The goal would be to place recurring information online and create an executive summary the highlights important changes, new items, tracks progress and documents successes.

H-GAC reviewed the latest data and highlighted the use of E&W data in the tables. The review also included new ways to look at the DMR and other information to visualized analysis graphically over a plain table. H-GAC noted that staff are still processing MS4 data.

H-GAC concluded the review by discussing implementation efforts. H-GAC presented implementation captured as outreach, training, and on-the-ground projects. The on-the-ground projects included OSSF repair and replace being carried out by Harris County. H-GAC is also working on OSSF repair and replace through supplemental environmental project (SEP) funding. H-GAC also noted that it recently completed a model IDDE project with funding through the Galveston Bay Estuary Program.

Item 2: TCEQ TMDL Program Update

TCEQ staff presented on new and ongoing TMDL projects within the BIG project area. Mound Creek is TMDL project found in the West Fork of the San Jacinto River and is a tributary to Lake Creek. Mound Creek will be added to the BIG through the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) update process. Armand Bayou Tidal will also be included in the next WQMP update. Jarbo Bayou is an ongoing project that is anticipated to be completed this summer and eventually be added to the BIG project area. Mary's Creek Bypass is in development. Mary's Creek Bypass is in the Clear Creek watershed and once completed it will also track through the WQMP process.

Item 3: Draft Letter to the TCEQ

H-GAC provided the draft letter to the BIG for review, comment, and approve as appropriate. The BIG discussed the letter and made suggested changes to the document. Overall, the BIG to ensure the intent of the letter is seeking an action and not recommending and action. The BIG also discussed developer reimbursement and has an interest in seeking greater clarity by TCEQ. BIG preferred asking for development of a reimbursement guidance document over rule making. BIG members also recommended coordination with waterboard members in addition to the letter.

Item 4: Presentations

- Top 5/Least 5 Project Final Report, Ms. Paniz Miesen – Houston-Galveston Area Council

Ms. presented on the effort to address illicit discharges into urban streams located in the BIG project area using funding from the Galveston Bay Estuary Program of TCEQ. Ms. Miesen reviewed the project methods that included: Phase I – desk review of impaired waters, prioritization and bacteria screenings; Phase II – bacteria source identification and follow up of bacteria screening results; and Phase III – report findings and local agency action. Ms. Miesen noted that Phase III was still underway. A technical work group was formed from local government entities where streams being studied were located.

Phase I took the BIG's Top Ten priority lists (Most Impaired and Least Impaired) down to five and based on desk reviews and the action of the technical work group, down to two from each list. The selected water bodies include: Canal C-147, Upper Panther Branch, Rummel Creek and Little White Oak Bayou. The first two were from the least impaired list, and the second two were from the most impaired list. The four impaired water bodies were then walked and bacteria

screening samples were taken for analysis back at H-GAC. All sampling was performed under an approved QAPP.

Results of Phase I were used to direct the focus of staff in Phase II. Sites with high screening counts were followed up with additional wet and dry weather sampling to verify with a more accurate method at a NELAP certified laboratory. Additional field source reconnaissance was conducted. Results of the second analysis and field surveys were then provided to the technical work group and the local jurisdictions notified through meetings, emails, conference calls and 311.

Phase III was ending. Ms. Miesen reported that she has been working with the local jurisdictions to determine what actions had been taken since H-GAC reported on results of Phase II. Actions on C-147 have included leak testing and repair. Agency actions on Panther Branch included residential education. Jurisdictions reported leak testing repairs, WWTF sampling and a new trash cleanup site on Little White Oak Bayou. Agencies were increasing WWTF sampling and leak testing for Rummel Creek. Ms. Miesen noted that the project was slated to finish at the end of May 2017. She stated that H-GAC would be looking for additional funding. Also, she noted that H-GAC is coordinating with the Bayou Preservation Association to share information for their upcoming summer intern IDDE program.

- Brazoria – Galveston County Coalition, Ms. Charriss York – Texas Coastal Watershed Program

Ms. York presented on efforts to develop a coalition of watersheds across Galveston and Brazoria Counties. She noted that the effort is mirroring the work of the BIG. There are four ongoing watershed planning and implementation efforts in the two counties: Jarbo Bayou TMDL, Dickinson Bayou TMDL/WPP, Highland and Marchand Bayou WPP, and Bastrop Bayou WPP. The goal is to assist in attracting funding in support of these watershed plans and to reduce the number of meetings that stakeholders and technical advisors must attend. There is power in numbers, per Ms. York that building a coalition will assist in creating, merging common or similar activities together and efficiently using resources to address. The product is a common set of goals, list of projects and to formulate a funding plan.

- West Fork Watershed Protection Plan, Mr. Justin Bower – Houston – Galveston Area Council

Mr. Bower reported on development of the West Fork WPP. The water quality challenges encounter on the West Fork include: elevated levels of bacteria, low concentrations of dissolved oxygen, hydrologic changes like sediment mining, and other pollutants (e.g. elevated nutrients, trash). Mr. Bower reviewed the goals of the WPP which is funded through TCEQ 319 program funding. H-GAC worked with local stakeholders form a watershed partnership which discussed the water quality issues, review initial water quality models, considered sources of pollutants and is in the process of identifying solutions. Once the solutions are developed the WPP is finished and then submitted to the TCEQ. Per Mr. Bower, next steps in the process include: scaling bacteria solutions, evaluation of nutrient sources and other concerns, submittal of the WPP and seeking funding for Phase II, Cypress/Spring watersheds.

Item 5: Other Business/Roundtable

As time permits, H-GAC, BIG members, and stakeholders are encouraged to discuss implementation activities, related projects, and announcements.

Next Meeting Date

October 25, 2017

Adjourn

DRAFT

October 31, 2017

Mr. Chris Loft, Program Lead
Total Maximum Daily Load Program
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
MC-203
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Subject: TCEQ Implementation of the Implementation Plan for Seventy-Two Total Maximum Daily Loads for Bacteria in the Houston-Galveston Region (I-Plan).

Dear Mr. Loft,

The Houston-Galveston Area Council, on behalf of the Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG), is writing this letter to request information from the TCEQ in support of actions taken to implement the I-Plan. The BIG notes appreciatively that staff at TCEQ's Region 12 Office have contributed greatly toward documenting TCEQ's implementation efforts and assisting development of the annual reports.

The BIG created the I-Plan to address bacteria impairments and improve water quality in the region. The I-Plan was approved by the Commission on January 30, 2013. A copy of the I-Plan can be found at: <http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/reports.aspx>. As part of the I-Plan, stakeholders are required to draft an annual report that:

- chronicles partner projects carried out during the year which implement plan actions
- highlights successful projects
- documents water quality environmental improvement resulting from stakeholder efforts.

The 2016 Annual Report can be found at: [http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/documents/AnnualReports/2016 BIG Annual Report.pdf](http://www.h-gac.com/community/water/tmdl/BIG/documents/AnnualReports/2016%20BIG%20Annual%20Report.pdf).

The BIG requests TCEQ provide the current status of the I-Plan strategies that directly reference TCEQ, and any data that can assist tracking other I-Plan areas where TCEQ might have additional information. Enclosed with this letter is a list of I-Plan actions that specifically reference TCEQ and for which the BIG lacks information.

The BIG respectfully requests a written response outlining the steps TCEQ has taken or plans to take to address these I-Plan activities within the next thirty (30) days. Thank you for the opportunity to work together on improving water quality in the greater Houston area. Please contact me, should you need any additional information or have any questions, at todd.running@h-gac.com or 713.993.4549.

Sincerely,

Todd Running
Water Resources Program Manager
Community and Environmental Planning
Houston-Galveston Area Council

Cc: Members of the BIG
Jason Leifester
Lauren Oertel

Enclosure

DRAFT

BIG I-PLAN STRATEGIES REFERENCING TCEQ

The BIG is specifically interested in receiving an update on the following TCEQ initiatives:

- **I-Plan Activity 1.1: Impose More Rigorous Bacteria Monitoring Requirements.** The BIG proposed in the I-Plan monitoring at wastewater treatment facilities (WWTFs) at greater frequency than current state permit requirements. The BIG has found since the approval of the I-Plan that the increased monitoring frequency at larger permitted flow WWTFs has helped improve plant function.

The BIG requests that TCEQ increase the monitoring frequency at the smaller permitted flow WWTFs (<10 MGD) within the BIG project area.

- **I-Plan Activity 1.3: Increase Compliance and Enforcement by the TCEQ.** Activity 1.3 on page 54, Increase Compliance and Enforcement recommends increasing 'no notice' inspections, allowing TCEQ to utilize focused sampling investigations, and to increase staffing if necessary. The Regional Office has reported that TCEQ has not approved focused sampling investigation.

The BIG requests any information on implementation efforts or data that addresses increased compliance and enforcement by the TCEQ.

- **I-Plan Activity 2.5: Strengthen Controls on Subscriber Systems.** Activity 2.5 found on page 62 recommends identifying subscriber systems and recommends the TCEQ consider rulemaking to require registration of subscriber systems. Sanitary sewer overflows have been identified as a contributor to the bacteria concentrations in the project area.

The BIG requests any information on implementation efforts or data that strengthens controls on subscriber systems.

- **I-Plan Activity 4.6: Petition the TCEQ to Facilitate Reimbursement of Bacteria Reduction Measures.** Activity 4.6 on page 75, directs the BIG to petition TCEQ to secure letters of commitment from TCEQ that describe the development policies and criteria that facilitate reimbursement for bacteria reduction measures.

The BIG is concerned that the lack of a specific policy to facilitate MUD reimbursement to developers providing stormwater quality structures (i.e. Low Impact Development, Green Infrastructure) creates funding uncertainty and inhibits their broader use due to the risk-adverse development process.

The BIG requests the TCEQ release a guidance document that includes criteria that will assist in determining the eligibility of a stormwater quality feature for reimbursement.

