



**SPRING MEETING
Agenda**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2019
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor
3555 Timmons Lane**

(Instructions to attend the meeting via conference call 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.

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 October 23, 2018 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 One: I-Plan Revision Update

H-GAC staff will provide an update on revising the BIG Implementation Plan.

Item Two: 2019 Annual Report Update

H-GAC staff will review progress on the 2019 Annual Report covering implementation activities carried out in the 2018 calendar year.

Item Three: TMDL Program Updates

Dr. Jimmy Millican, Texas Institute for Applied Environmental Research, “Status of Additions to Indicator Bacteria TMDLs in the Lake Houston Watershed.” .

Item Four: Presentation

Dr. Terry J. Gentry, Texas Water Resources Institute, “Use of Bacteria Source Tracking to Characterize Texas Watersheds.”

Item Five: H-GAC Staff Presentations

Mr. Justin Bower – will present on watershed protection planning efforts within the BIG Project Area.

Ms. Kathy Janhsen – will present on the Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence Awards.

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

October 29, 2019

Adjourn

BIG Meeting Call-in instructions:

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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.

BACTERIA IMPLEMENTATION GROUP ROSTER (6/4/2019)

Last	First	Representing	Organization	Alternate1	Alternate 2
Bailes IV	Rep. Ernest	Agriculture (County)	San Jacinto County	Dale Everitt	
Bernhardt	Sarah	Conservation	Bayou Preservation Association	James "Ty" Kelly	
Brown	David	Resource Agency / Academia	US Geological Survey	Michael Lee	
Calvino**	Ralph	Business / Industry	Terracon	Clint Miller**	Jason Maldonado
Caraviotis	Jerry	Urban County	Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services		
Chapin	Richard	Large City	City of Houston	Zafar Ahmed	
Cioce	Danielle	Urban County	Harris County	Camila Biaggi	Nick Russo
Cooper	Christine	Small City	City of Conroe	Greg Hall	
Ehrlich	Denise	Business / Industry	Gulf Coast Authority	Shaun Austin	
Elliott	Catherine	Urban County	Harris County Flood Control District	Robert Snoza	Roberto Vega
Gossett	Sarah	Conservation	Galveston Bay Foundation	Scott Jones	
Harris	Teague	Utility District	IDS Engineering		
Isbell	Andrew	Rural County	Walker County		
Ivy	Tom	Conservation	Houston Sierra Club	Jim Williams	
La Breche	Carol	Large City	City of Houston	Richard Chapin	
Lane	Helen	Conservation	Houston Audubon Society		
Lindsey	Mike	Rural County	Montgomery County	Frank Green	Scott Nichols Reuben Martinez
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	Karen Kottke	
Page	Mitchell	Utility District	Schwartz, Page, & Harding, LLP		
Pechacek	Linda	Public	Citizen, Civil Engineer	Rachel Powers	
Pinheiro	Rod	Large City	City of Houston	Patrick Rightmyer**	
Powers**	Rachel	Conservation	Citizens' Environmental Coalition	Anne Olson**	Linda Shead
Robertson	Jim	Conservation	Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition	Richard Smith	
Schindewolf	Aaron	Business / Industry	San Jacinto River Authority		
Shlead	Linda	Conservation	Texas Coastal Partners	Mary Ellen Whitworth	
Shmaefsky	Brian	Resource Agency / Academia	Lone Star College, Kingwood	Jon Connolly	
Singhania	Monica	Agriculture	Texas Forest Service	Hughes Simpson	
Tarrant	Mayor Leah	Rural Small City	City of Patton Village		
Thornhill	Michael	Utility District	SI Environmental	Matt Carpenter	
Tuma	Scott	Business / Industry (Boating)	Boater	Sarah Gossett	

**Approval of BIG Required



**FALL MEETING
Summary**

**Tuesday, October 23, 2018
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor
3555 Timmons Lane**

Members Present

Sarah Bernhardt, Michael Bloom (phone), Richard Chapin, Danielle Cioce, Denise Ehrlich, Catherine Elliott, Teague Harris (Phone), Carole LaBreche, Sarah Gossett, Mitchell Page, Linda Pechacek, Jim Robertson, Linda Shead, Brian Shmaefsky (phone), Michael Thornhill

Marilyn Christian was represented by Jerry Caraviotis
Hannah Cruce was represented by Monica Singhania
Greg Hall was represented by Christine Cooper
Jack Murphy was represented by Susie Blake
Becky Olive was represented by Karen Kottke
Anne Olson was represented by Linda Shead
Scott Tuma was represented by Sarah Gossett

Members Absent

Ernest Bailes IV, David Brown, Andrew Isbell, Tom Ivy, Helen Lane, Mike Lindsey, Craig Maske, Cathy McCoy, David Parkhill, Rod Pinheiro, Leah Tarrant

Guests Present

Camila Biaggi, Tom Douglas, Sarah Eagle, Brian Eastham, Morris Fomba, Diane Humes, Shayna Johnson, Earlene Lambeth, Jason Leifester, Sonja Lewis, Lucia Loera, Lisa Marshall, Rick Masters, Carl Masterson, John Moss, Jazmyn Milford, Janice Noeldner, Rachel Powers, Kelly Rodibaugh, Chavonne Slovak, Dick Smith, Robert Snoza, Rose Sobel, Liz Stone

H-GAC Staff Present

Justin Bower, Becki Begley, Kathy Janhsen, Steven Johnston, Todd Running, Brian Sims, Jeff Taebel, Jean Wright

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Mr. Steven Johnston, H-GAC, welcomed those in attendance. Members of the BIG 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 following changes to the roster:

- Sarah Bernhardt (BPA) was approved to represent Conservation Organizations
- Monica Singhanian (TX A&M Forest Service) was approved to represent Agriculture Interests
- Jerry Caravotitis (HC) was approved to represent Large County
- Aaron Schindewolf (SJRA) was approved to represent Business and Industry Interests
- Christine Cooper (City of Conroe) was approved to represent Small Cities
- Greg Hall (City of Conroe) was approved to serve as Christine Cooper's Alternate

Approval of the June 5, 2017 Meeting Summary

BIG members reviewed the summary and provided no comments. The item was approved.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Item One: Review 2018 Annual Report

The 2018 draft Annual Report was provided to the BIG. H-GAC staff reviewed the changes made to the document and went through the content. The BIG provided editorial comments to the document and suggested additional content. Staff noted that the main difference from previous years was that the document was much slimmer. The fewer pages was the result of removing content that had been repeated in successive reports. Also included was a recommendation from 2017 to summarize Hurricane Harvey's effects on the region.

A few questions were raised about the bacteria geometric mean trend line in comparison with a map of changes in bacteria concentrations at the assessment unit (AU) level. The background data was not available to address the concerns. Staff stated the issue would be reviewed to determine if the trend and map should appropriately be interpreted as representing the same. Staff would get back to the group on the issue. The BIG was also interested in the status of AUs and if any have been taken off the impaired list. Staff stated that they would investigate the issue and how an AU would be delisted.

Following review and discussion, staff asked attendees if they would consider approving the document should the suggested edits be made. The BIG discussed and suggested staff make the changes to the document and submit the revised document for approval through email. Staff agreed to make the changes and seek approval through email to the BIG.

Staff reviewed the implementation website with the BIG. Staff stated that the BIG will find the data, tables and graphs located on the website. Staff also reviewed the next steps to revise the implementation plan through the work groups with a draft presented at the Spring meeting.

Item Two: TCEQ TMDL Program Update

TCEQ TMDL Program staff provided an update to ongoing TMDL projects within the BIG project area:

- Mound Creek in the West Fork of the San Jacinto River watershed
- Armand Bayou
- Mary's Creek Bypass in the Clear Creek watershed

The Technical Documents have been completed and the TMDLs will be included in the Water Quality Management Plan update. The document will be provided for public comment on 11/9 through 12/11. After that, the document will be sent to the EPA for approval.

New TMDL projects have started on Brushy Creek and Spring Branch. Both are upstream of Lake Houston. Another potential TMDL revision is on Stewart's Creek. At the time of the original TMDL there was no WWTF discharging to the creek and future growth did not consider future discharges. The City of Conroe is building a 12 mgd WWTF now and an updated TMDL is needed.

Item Three: Response to the TCEQ Letter

H-GAC staff reviewed the results of the October 15, 2018 Coordination and Policy work group. The work group discussed how best to proceed with any follow up to the response letter submitted by TCEQ. The group decided to allow for follow up discussion with the TCEQ TMDL. Following the results of that outreach, the work group then would work on developing a Freedom of Information Act request. The BIG did not suggest any changes to this approach.

Item Four: H-GAC Program Reports

- **West Fork of the San Jacinto River Watershed Protection Plan (WPP)** – Mr. Justin Bower (H-GAC) provided an update on the WPP project. Mr. Bower reviewed the steps, including the development of a stakeholder group, to create a WPP. He noted the complimentary nature of the WPP with that of previous TMDL work in the watershed. Mr. Bower presented the impairments, sources and causes and the management steps recommended to address water quality issues found in the West Fork.
- **WISE Awards Program Developments** – Ms. Kathy Janhsen presented the status of the WISE awards program. She reviewed the purpose and expectations of the program. Ms. Janhsen noted how the program supports the BIG in implementing portions of the

stormwater actions contained in the BIG I-Plan. She closed with a review of the next steps to launching the program.

- **H-GAC OSSF SEP Program** – Mr. Brian Sims reviewed the OSSF SEP program. Mr. Sims noted that funding for the program comes through funds redirected from environmental fines, issued by the state, to the supplemental environmental project. H-GAC also received funding from the Harris County District Attorney’s office. Mr. Sims stated that there are restrictions placed on the funds which limit who can apply (i.e. income, residency, under enforcement) and that the sources have differ in the type of restrictions.
- **TMDL Basin 11 and 13 Project Updates** – Mr. Johnston provided an update of the two basin projects to address bacteria impairments. He provided a status update on the Chocolate Bayou TMDL project in Basin 11 noting that the Technical Support Document (TSD) and TMDL document have been completed. Staff are currently working on drafting the I-Plan following feedback from watershed stakeholders. Mr. Johnston reviewed progress with Oyster Creek’s TSD and noted plans to start the stakeholder process to develop a watershed-based plan. Like Oyster Creek, the Caney Creek project in Basin 13 has completed the TSD and the stakeholder process is just beginning. Back in Basin 11, Mr. Johnston said that H-GAC is beginning work in the Halls Bayou and Mustang Bayou watersheds.

Item Five: Other Business/Roundtable

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Next Meeting Date

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Adjourn

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