



**Coordination & Policy Work Group
Meeting Agenda
Thursday, January 16, 2020
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
H-GAC Conference Rm. A**

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Item 1: Review: Oct. 2, 2019 Meeting Summary

Item 2: Review BIG Fall Meeting

Follow up and discuss items from the Fall Meeting.

Item 3: Implementation Plan Update

Review and discuss the latest updates to the I-Plan.

Other Topics/Announcements/Adjourn

1/6 – 2/6/20 WISE Awards
1/16/2020 Cypress WPP Meeting (Barbra Bush Library, Spring: 5:30 – 7:30 PM)
1/22-23/2020 11th State of the Bay Symposium
1/30/2020 Chocolate Bay Public Meeting (Alvin Library: 5:30 – 7:30 PM)
2/6/2020 Natural Resources Advisory Council
3/5/2020 Environmental Enforcement Conference Rm B, H-GAC
5/12/2020 10th Annual Harris County OSSF Seminar

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

6/2/2020 BIG Spring Meeting

Instructions to call into BIG meetings:

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. During the conference, you may hear beeps. A single beep indicates someone has joined the conference call. A double beep indicates someone has left the conference call. Remember--if you do press hold, everyone will hear your hold music.



**Coordination & Policy Work Group
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, October 2, 2019
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
H-GAC Conference Rm. D**

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Camila Biaggi (HC), Danielle Cioce (HC), Denise Ehrlich (GCA), Mack Martin (TAMU Forest), Hannah Meeks (Harris Co.), Jack Murphy (League City), Scott Nichols (Montgomery Co), Linda Pechacek (Public), Sarah Robinson (GBF), Aaron Schindewolf (SJRA), Linda Shead (TX Coastal Partners), Robert Snoza (HCFCD)

Item 1: Review July 23, 2019 Summary

Work group reviewed the meeting summary and made no changes. Mr. Steven Johnston provided a follow up to the bacteria source tracking (BST) discussion. Mr. Johnston reached out to TAMU and found out that BST data collected in the 2000's for the BIG TMDL project are not compatible with current TAMU methods.

Item 2: BIG Fall Meeting Agenda

Mr. Johnston walked the group through the agenda. The group discussed a variety of items. They did not seek to make any changes to the agenda. Mr. Johnston provided a roster update reviewed changes with the group. Members made suggestions for possible replacement to members vacating the group.

Item 3: 2019 Annual Report Survey

The work group was handed copies of the draft 2019 Annual Report. The group reviewed each action and discussed implementation effort scoring. Mr. Johnston noted that the format was in process of changing and that he would send out the draft document to the group as soon as the format was completed. He anticipated the document would be available by October 17, 2019.

Item 4: Implementation Plan Update

H-GAC staff presented the update. Mr. Johnston noted that still not much had been accomplished since the previous meeting. He noted that he received updated information from TCEQ. Mr. Johnston reviewed that information with the group and noted the limitations in the TCEQ inspection data that make it difficult to determine number and type of inspection. However, Mr. Johnston noted that new SSO and SSOI data were being used.

Other Topics/Announcements/Adjourn

10/7-8/2019 IECA Texas Stormwater Conference
10/8-10/2019 TCEQ Autumn Environmental Conference
10/22/2019 Waters of the U.S. Workshop
10/30/2019 Bayou Preservation Association Symposium
1/22-23/2019 11th State of the Bay Symposium

Upcoming Meeting Schedule
10/29/2019 BIG Fall Meeting

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FALL MEETING Summary

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
H-GAC Conference Room B, Second Floor
3555 Timmons Lane**

Members Present

Sarah Bernhardt, Richard Chapin, Jerry Caraviotis, Danielle Cioce, Tom Douglas*, Denise Ehrlich, Catherine Elliott, Cynthia Cooper, Teague Harris, Andrew Isbell, Carol La Breche, Jack Murphy, Linda Pechacek (on phone), Rachel Powers, Patrick Rightmyer, Jim Robertson, Scott Saenger*, Linda Shead, Brian Schmaefsky (on phone), Michael Thornhill, Scott Tuma

David Brown was represented by Tom Sample*
Sarah Gossett was represented by Scott Jones
Mike Lindsey was represented by Reuben Martinez
Becky Olive was represented by Karen Kottke
Anne Olson was represented by Linda Shead
Monica Singhanian was represented by Mac Martin (on phone)*

*Did not count toward quorum

Members Absent

Ernest Bailes IV, Helen Lane, Cathy McCoy, Mitchell Page, Aaron Schindewolf, Brian Schmaefsky, Leah Tarrant,

Guests Present

Rebecca Andrews, Rick Felan, Justin Klump, Brian Koch, Earlene Lambeth, Jason Leifester, Lisa Leiya, Sonja Lewis, Quang Nguyen, Wonju Rielly, Desta Takie, Lam Tram

H-GAC Staff

Bill Hoffman, Steven Johnston, Todd Running, Brian Sims, Rachel Windham

Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Mr. Steven Johnston of H-GAC welcomed all in attendance and facilitated introductions for all BIG members and alternates as well as those in the general audience. After presenting the agenda for the format of the meeting, hearing no call for discussion, the meeting proceeded.

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:

- New members proposed were as follows:
 - Patrick Rightmyer (Large City, City of Houston)
 - Tom Douglas (Conservation, Sierra Club replacing Tom Ivy)
 - Scott Saenger (Business/Industry, Jones & Carter replacing Craig Maske)
 - Mac Martin (Agriculture, Texas Forest Service replacing Monica Singhanian)
- New alternates were proposed as follows:
 - Lisa Montemayor (Large Cities, City of Houston)
 - Desta Takie (Large Cities, City of Houston)

All member and alternate nominees were approved as a group.

Approval of the June 4, 2019 Meeting Summary

BIG members approved the June 4, 2019 meeting summary.

Public Comment

No public comments were made.

Item One: 2019 Annual Report

Mr. Steven Johnston distributed printings of the 2019 Annual Report Draft as well as a Report Summary for review. In his accompanying presentation on the report, he explained that though bacteria levels are still above the standard in the extended BIG area, trends for bacteria (*E. coli* and enterococci) are improving. The geomean for the extended BIG area has generally decreased since 2006; however, a slight increase in the geomean has been observed throughout 2018 compared to the trend of the previous years. This could be an artifact of sampling events not being completely randomized (e.g. following rain events). Whatever the case, this requires further investigation moving forward. Another area of interest may be investigating nutrient (nitrogen and phosphorous) levels which appear to be deteriorating more than they are improving.

Mr. Johnston highlighted several success stories in the BIG area. Select projects have been recognized with Water Innovation Strategies of Excellence (WISE) awards.

While discussing the progress report, a discussion developed around the prioritization of “BIG Ideas to Consider.” Per the Coordination and Policy Meeting discussion on October 2, 2019, the importance of WWTPs was reviewed. Though the BIG members seemed to agree that WWTPs are still a top-priority topic but conceded that they are a “low risk/high impact” issue which contributes to the need for further discussion.

After the BIG members reviewed the report, formatting suggestions and comments were made as follows:

Item Two: I-Plan Update

Mr. Steven Johnston reiterates progress summarized at the Coordination and Policy Meeting on October 2, 2019 and expects to provide a draft to BIG members by the end of 2019. Mr. Johnston anticipated the Coordination and Policy meeting in December or early January to continue this discussion. This timeline should provide BIG members enough time to revise and finalize by spring 2020.

Item Three: TMDL Program Updates

Mr. Jason Leifester of TCEQ provided information on TMDLs in the BIG area. Brushy Creek (1008J_01) and Spring Branch (1010C_01) have a technical support document available and a WQMP update expected by end of year. Walnut Creek (1008I_01), Horsepen Creek (1014C_01) and Harris County Flood Control Ditch D 138 (1007W_01) are included in the new addendum with TSDs due in the summer of 2020.

Item Four: Monitoring For Success

Mr. Todd Running of H-GAC presented an update on the CRP. Despite limited resources the CRP has operated consistently for over 20 years. Recently, an additional \$200k was awarded to the CRP. With extra resources, CRP is developing monitoring efficiency analyses. If efficiency is increased and more funds are available, what is the best course of action for spending them? If CRP is found to be operating at capacity with no extra funds recoverable, how can we best move resources around? Where can we take advantage of overlap with other monitoring agencies?

Mr. Steven Johnston further updated the BIG members on other monitoring partnerships (BST Study, LID) as well as calling for discussion on how to share the information collected by BIG and how to leverage the influence of BIG to secure further funds. In this discussion, Mr. Johnston also prompted the BIG members to think toward the future in terms of monitoring research development. Is the data currently being collected enough? What new methods or partnerships should be cultivated to increase effectiveness?

Item Five: Other Business/Roundtable

Upcoming meetings were announced as follows:

- BPA Symposium, October 30, 2019
- CWI on MS4s, November 20, 2019

- Cypress Creek WPP Public Meeting, November 21, 2019
- Solid Waste Workshop: Challenging Waste Streams, November 21, 2019
- Oyster Creek TMDL CC Meeting, December 10, 2019
- Caney Creek TMDL CC Meeting, December 10, 2019
- 11th State of the Bay Symposium, January 22-23, 2020

Ms. Sarah Bernhardt of BPA also announced that nominations for the Terry Hershey Bayou Stewardship Award will be accepted through the extended deadline of November 8, 2019.

Next Meeting Date

June 2, 2020

Adjourn

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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.

BIG ROSTER 2020

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	Thomas Sample
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	
Douglas	Tom	Conservation	Houston Sierra Club	Jim Williams	
Ehrlich	Denise	Business / Industry	Gulf Coast Authority	Shaun Austin	
Elliott	Catherine	Urban County	Harris County Flood Control District	Robert Snoza	Roberto Vega
Harris	Teague	Utility District	IDS Engineering		
Isbell	Andrew	Rural County	Walker County		
La Breche	Carol	Large City	City of Houston	Lisa Montemayor	
Lane	Helen	Conservation	Houston Audubon Society		
Lindsey	Mike	Rural County	Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition	Frank Green	Scott Nichols Reuben Martinez
Martin	Mac	Agriculture	Texas Forest Service		
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	
Powers	Rachel	Conservation	Citizen's Environmental Coalition	Anne Olson	Linda Shead
Rightmyer**	Patrick	Large City	City of Houston	Desta Takie	
Robertson	Jim	Conservation	Cypress Creek Flood Control Coalition	Richard Smith	
Saenger**	Scott	Business / Industry	Jones and Carter		
Schindewolf	Aaron	Business / Industry	San Jacinto River Authority		
Shead	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		
Thornhill	Michael	Utility District	SI Environmental	Matt Carpenter	
Tuma	Scott	Business / Industry (Boating)	Boater		
Vacant		Conservation	Galveston Bay Foundation	Scott Jones	

** Following approval of the BIG

