

# Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Houston Galveston Area Council Offices

3555 Timmons Lane

Houston, TX 77027

2nd Floor - Conference Room A

## *Summary Notes*

1. Welcome, Introductions, & Webinar Instructions\*

*Todd Running welcomed everyone and began introductions. For the first time several persons were connected to the meeting via Webnair which is an interactive conferencing tool. Webnair participants also have the ability to view the slides while the presentations are being given during the meeting. This is a trial run for this technology and we will use it in the future if people like it and it works. Todd apologized for resetting this meeting several times. H-GAC was hoping to get the 2011 Basin Summary Report printed and the final budget numbers and workplan before holding the meeting. Unfortunately, both were impossible to achieve, so H-GAC went ahead with the meeting anyway.*

2. Public Comment

*There were no public comments made at the meeting.*

3. Update: 2011 Basin Summary Report

*Todd Running gave a brief presentation about the final 2011 Basin Summary Report. He reviewed the comments we received (which were few but valuable) and showed how to find things within the report. He also highlighted the frog chart explaining we have a lot of work to do but we have both improving streams and deteriorating streams. He reported the document had been sent to the publishers and it would be sent out to all committee members as soon as it was published.*

4. Results of Coordinated Monitoring Meeting

*Jean Wright reported on the outcome of the Coordinated Monitoring Meeting held on March 29, 2011. She reviewed the number and frequency of monitoring for each partner as well as changes made from the previous year's schedule. Lastly, she opened the CMS on the web and demonstrated how to query locations and information. Each person was given a paper with the directions on how to access the CMS via three different links on the web.*

5. Updates: H-GAC's Water Resources Group Special Projects

*Brief presentations were given about the purpose and status of each of the following special projects. None of these projects are being paid for through CRP, however, CRP data is being used for each and the improvements that are made through each of these projects will eventually improve overall water quality in the region.*

- a. Westfield Estates Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) – Speaker: Justin Bower
- b. Bastrop Bayou WPP – Speaker: Justin Bower
- c. San Bernard WPP – Speaker: Aubin Phillips

- d. Cedar Bayou WPP – *Speaker: Justin Bower*
- e. On-site Sewer Facilities Mapping & Database Project – *Speaker: Will Merrell*
- f. Water Quality Management Plan – *Speaker: Justin Bower*

6. Budget Update

*Todd Running explained that we do not have a final budget yet because TCEQ is still waiting to get theirs from the legislature. Even when TCEQ receives their final numbers, they will have to go through a process where the money is broken out into programs and sub-contracts. Everyone is well aware of the necessity to get the contract finalized. In the meantime, H-GAC is moving forward with a proposed budget which includes the full amount as in the previous contract even though H-GAC expects to experience a minimum of 10% budget cut overall. The draft program budget as of June 7<sup>th</sup> is attached for review and comment. The top portion of the table is the administrative section necessary to run the program. The shaded portion is for the ambient monitoring projects that H-GAC and TCEQ believe to be most critical. The unshaded middle section includes the projects we hope to find funding for from another source of money. While the bottom portion covers equipment – purchasing, maintenance, repairs and associated sampling costs. Todd will forward electronic budget to members after it is finalized.*

7. Prioritize Draft Workplan

*Like the budget, the workplan cannot be finalized until the budget is finalized. The proposed workplan and an explanation of all the proposed projects was shared with all members. Todd Running gave a brief summary of each project including why and what we hope to get from each.*

8. Other Business and Announcements

- a. RUAA for San Bernard Above Tidal Segment – *The Environmental Institute of Houston (IEH) provided information about the Recreational Use Attainability Analysis being conducted on the San Bernard River. They had an upcoming meeting announcement they wanted to share.*
- b. BIG I-Plan is soliciting formal support – *The Bacteria Implementation Group (BIG) has finalized the Implementation Plan and has moved into the phase of collecting formal support from all the governmental agencies, Non-profit groups, and other organizations within the BIG area. These efforts will continue through the end of August.*

9. Adjourn



\*Instructions for participating via Webinar:

1. Go to the following web address. [www.Gotowebinar.com](http://www.Gotowebinar.com)
2. At the top of the main page of ‘gotowebinar.com’, **click** on the bubble labeled ‘join meeting’. **Enter** webinar ID 829213398 **and** your email address.
3. You can either dial into the webinar or use headphones with a microphone to participate.

To participate via conference call:

Dial-in Number: 713-481-0090                      Pass Code: 1065277