

**Sabine and Neches Rivers and Sabine Lake Bay
Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST)
Monday, January 26, 2009, at 11:30 AM
Trinity River Authority, Lake Livingston Project
5170 South F.M. 1988, Livingston, Texas**

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jack Tatum (Chair), Scott Hall (Vice Chair), Gary Graham, Richard Harrel, Rex Hunt, Roger Kelley, Matthew McBroom, Jack McCullough, David Parkhill, Sam Vaughn, Kirk Winemiller

Call to Order

Chairman Tatum called the meeting to order and asked those present to introduce themselves.

Discussion and Call for Approval of December 8, 2008, Meeting #1 Minutes

Chairman Tatum reviewed the minutes from December 8, 2008 and asked if members had any comments or changes. A motion was made to approve the minutes and members approved them unanimously.

Sabine Lake Ecological Condition of the Sabine-Neches Estuary Report

BBEST Member David Parkhill gave an overview of the Report entitled Sabine Lake Ecological Condition of the Sabine-Neches Estuary.

Update from Science Advisory Committee

Fred Manhart, SAC liaison, discussed what activities the SAC is currently working on and the deliverables it will be providing to the BBESTS.

Water Availability Model

Kathy Alexander, TCEQ, gave an overview of how Water Availability Models (WAM) work, and the specifics on the WAM for the Sabine/Neches basin.

Preliminary Budget Plan

Scott Hall, Vice Chair, presented the first draft of the BBEST budget. Several budget related questions were directed to TWDB. TWDB agreed to follow up and provide answers via e-mail.

Primary Charge by Statute

The group discussed the document entitled "Duties of the Sabine and Neches Rivers and Sabine Lake Bay Basin and Bay Area Stakeholder Committee and Expert Science Team" which outlines the tasks of the BBEST as stated in Senate Bill 3. Members agreed to review the document and provide comments to Chairman Tatum.

Draft Proposed Steps – by Dr. Kirk Winemiller

Kirk Winemiller presented a draft of the “Outline of Activities” for the BBEST. This document outlines an approach the BBEST may use to achieve their tasks and develop recommendations for an environmental flow regime.

Gary Graham will draft a general Request for Qualifications for work that may be contracted out by the BBEST. This will be distributed for discussion at the next meeting.

Committee Ground Rules

Discussion postponed to next meeting. Members are requested to review and provide comments for next meeting.

Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2009, from 9:00 to 4:00. The meeting will be held in the same location, the Trinity River Authority’s Lake Livingston Project, 5170 South F.M. 1988, Livingston, Texas.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Next Meeting and Suggested Agenda Items

- Hydrology Strawman (HEFR) guidance from SAC
- George Ward critique of Sabine Lake Inflow Report
- TWPD overview of methods used in Sabine Lake Inflow Report
- Committee Ground Rules

Adjourn