



AUGUST 9, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to order – 9:00am

Committee members include: Tom Arsuffi, Jacquelyn Duke, Conrad Lamon, Glenn Longley, Doyle Mosier, Chad Norris, Jackie Poole, Charles Kreitler, Janis Bush and Floyd Weckerly.

**Tom Arsuffi, Floyd Weckerly, and Charles Kreitler were unable to attend.*

2. Public comment.

No public comments.

3. Approval of the minutes from the May 9th Science Committee meeting (Attachment 1).

Dr. Bush motioned to approve the meeting minutes, Mr. Mosier seconded the motion, all were in favor.

4. Receive report from the Program Manager.

▪ EAHCP staff changes

Nathan Pence, Alicia Reinmund-Martinez, and Shaun Payne have left the EAHCP staff to pursue new opportunities. Kristy Kollaus has joined the EAHCP staff as the new Environmental Scientist.

▪ Science Committee membership

Dr. Robert Mace has left the Science Committee to replace Dr. Andrew Sansom on the Implementing Committee. The Implementing and Stakeholder Committees will select a new member based on rules defined by the EAHCP Funding and Management Agreement.

▪ Hydrologic update

▪ National Academy of Sciences' Report 3 status

NAS will submit Report 3 on September 30, 2018.

▪ San Marcos and Comal River spills

On July 6, 2018, Union Pacific staff replaced a broken hydraulic fluid line that spilled approximately 15-30 gallons of fluid near the Old Channel of the Comal River system. The City of New Braunfels staff were notified and efforts were made to contain the spill.

On July 20, 2018, a fire occurred at the Iconic Village Apartments located within the Sessom Creek watershed, a tributary to the San Marcos River. Citizens were initially concerned that fire suppressants were used and could be detrimental to the river

system and its endangered species, however, the COSM Fire Department declared that no fire suppressants were used.

- **Comal Springs riffle beetle Work Group update**
The CSRB Work Group met twice, May 24th and July 26th, since the last Science Committee meeting. The Work Group will meet again and eventually produce a report that summarizes their recommendations, etc.
- **Refugia program update – Comal Springs dryopid beetle**
EAHCP researchers from BIO-WEST were able to successfully propagate and hatch dryopid beetle larva. Researchers will continue to monitor the larval stage of development.
- **City of New Braunfels' EAHCP riparian restoration initiative**

5. Presentation of the timeline and process to facilitate Strategic Adaptive Management (Attachment 2).

Dr. Chad Furl presented a summary of the Strategic Adaptive Management (SAM), or the process between Phase 1 and Phase 2 implementation. A large portion of the EAHCP SAM will focus on improving the hydrologic model to assess Comal and San Marcos spring flow's response to drought of record conditions and the efficacy of implementation of springflow protection measures. In addition to the hydrologic modeling, the SAM will also work towards addressing issues identified by the NAS Report 3 and development of a Phase 2 Work Plan.

6. Presentation on model inputs and assumptions for Strategic Adaptive Management Process (SAMP) hydrologic modeling (Attachment 3, 4, and 5).

Jim Winterle presented an overview of the most recent SAM MODFLOW hydrologic model. The previous version of the MODFLOW model had predicted a 3 cfs shortage in Comal springflow during simulated drought of record conditions even with the modeled implementation of springflow protection measures. Initial SAM model runs, with improved model inputs, suggests that the 3 cfs deficit has decreased to just 0.3 cfs. Modeling results will be refined and available by the end of September.

7. Presentation of the City of New Braunfels' Landa Lake Dissolved Oxygen Management Plan (Attachment 6).

Mark Enders presented a summary of the City of New Braunfels' Dissolved Oxygen Management Plan. Comal springflow of 80 cfs would be the trigger flow for implementation of aerators at strategic locations within Landa Lake. Additional information can be found within the CONB Dissolved Oxygen Plan posted on the EAHCP website.

8. Presentation of the Spring 2018, system-wide, aquatic vegetation mapping results.

Kristy Kollaus of EAA and Casey Williams of BIO-WEST presented an overview of the Spring 2018 aquatic vegetation survey results. The comprehensive summary is available as a presentation on the EAHCP website.