



MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2014

Available at eahcp.org

1. **Call to order - Establish that all Committee members are present. - 3:00 p.m.**
In attendance were: Tom Taggart (Chair), City of San Marcos; Chuck Ahrens, San Antonio Water System (SAWS); Steve Ramsey, City of New Braunfels; Roland Ruiz, Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA); Andy Samson, Texas State University and Todd Votteler, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA).
2. **Public Comment**
Tyson Broad, Lone Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, made a comment to thank EAA for the coordination of the systems tour. He also mentioned the need to communicate specific information about Landa Lake and current conditions in the Comal System, specifically the ongoing construction around sensitive habitat. Tim Lookingbill, a member of the community, made specific comments about the importance of a study pertaining to Comal system turbidity.
3. **Approval of minutes from the August 21, 2014 Implementing Committee meeting**
Andy Sansom motioned for approval. Chuck Ahrens seconded. There was no objection.
4. **Receive report from the Program Manager on general topics related to the implementation of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) and operation of the Implementing Committee.**
 - **ASR/VISPO Update**
Nathan Pence, Program Manager, presented the current numbers of the ASR program. Rick Illgner, EAA Staff, gave updated figures of VISPO enrollment. The expected number for VISPO enrollment to be presented next month will exceed 35,000 acre-feet out of the 40,000 acre-foot goal.
 - **ASR/VISPO Work Group Implementation Update**
Mr. Pence mentioned status of coordination between EAA Staff and SAWS.
 - **Budget Update**
Mr. Pence opened the floor to any question about the budget. No comments were made.
 - **Annual Report Process**
Alicia Reinmund-Martinez, EAHCP Director, introduced this year's contractor for the drafting of the 2014 Annual Report, Blanton and Associates. She also presented the current timeline of all deliverables. No comments were made.
 - **Funding Application Submittal**

Mr. Pence mentioned that the 2015 funding applications from the permittees are due on October 1st.

- **Update Benefits of Edwards Aquifer Programs**
Roland Ruiz, EAA General Manager, presented an update on a report being prepared by EAA that will attempt to quantify the general benefits of all Edwards Aquifer Authority's EAHCP programs. This report is expected to be presented at the October Implementing Committee meeting.
- **Additional updates**
Mr. Pence mentioned the recent conference in Kansas City where he and several other integral members of the EAHCP planning and implementation process had presented and participated in a panel discussion about successes and challenges of the EAHCP.

In anticipation of the storm-event on September 17th SWCA, the consultant hired to perform the monitoring for the HCP this year, was mobilized. The group demobilized because rains never came, and missed a large water quality sampling opportunity when the storm developed in the early morning hours.

It was reported HDR has been contracted to ensure that all EAHCP activities are properly covered and permitted with the appropriate entities. A general summary of this effort will be brought back to the committee at a later date.

5. Presentation of and possible approval authorizing the EAHCP Program Manager to submit a Clarification to Condition M of the Incidental Take Permit to the USFWS.

Mr. Pence summarized past conversations the Implementing Committee has had with staff and USFWS about the draft Clarification of Condition M. Discussion followed.

Mr. Pence summarized the content of the letter and mentioned a section of the table found in Exhibit 1, which described the boating activities in Spring Lake, which needed to be changed to read "no further details needed." Andy Sansom motioned to approve the Clarification of Condition M with the text change. Steve Ramsey seconded. There was no objection.

6. Consider creation of a Regional Water Conservation Program (RWCP) Work Group, possible appointment of members and approval of draft Work Group Charge.

Mr. Pence explained the rationale for creating the RWCP Work Group and how the draft of the Work Group Charge reads. Additionally, the proposed membership for this Work Group was presented to the committee as well. Roland Ruiz asked how staff will go about replacing any members proposed that are not willing to participate. Mr. Pence described some back-up individuals that could be considered if the others are not willing to serve.

Mr. Pence described this action item will require: a motion to approve creation of the Work Group, a motion to approve the charge, and a motion to approve the membership as presented.

Mr. Pence read off the names found in the Draft Work Group Charge: Possible members could include the following: an EAA representative (*Rick Illgner*), a Large Municipality representative (*Karen Guz, SAWS*), Small Municipality representatives (*Joe Cardeñas, City*

of Uvalde, if Mr. Cardenas cannot participate, EAHCP staff will contact representatives from Universal City, Avery Lunsford, or Randy Luensmann, for a small municipality), an Environmental Group representative (*Dianne Wassenich*), an Industrial representative (*Dr. Richard Szecsy*, Texas Aggregate and Concrete Association), an at-large representative (*Dr. Dante Fenolio* - San Antonio Zoo) and a representative from another non-profit organization (*Tyson Broad* - Sierra Club). If any of those presented are not willing to participate, new possible members will be brought back for committee consideration.

After committee discussion Tom Taggart proposed to include Colette Barron-Bradsby, Texas Parks and Wildlife, in the Work Group, and Todd Votteler proposed to add Charlie Hickman, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority.

Roland Ruiz motioned to approve. Tom Taggart seconded. There was no objection.

7. Discussion pertaining to the spring systems tour.

Mr. Pence presented the current Index Wells and Springflow measurements.

The committee had a discussion pertaining to the Systems Tour conducted throughout the day. Tom Taggart mentioned the potential benefits an annual systems tour could have on committee perspective and community involvement. Steve Ramsey discussed how clear it is that some restoration activities that have been stopped should be continued, specifically vegetation mat removal. Discussion followed.

8. Consider future meetings, dates, locations, and agendas.

- The next Implementing Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 16th at the Edwards Aquifer Authority. The Committee discussed the need to change the meeting date for October. Staff will be providing proposed dates soon.

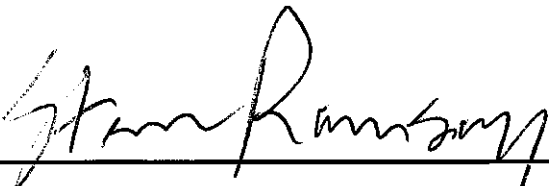
Some agenda items to consider:

- Summary of benefits of the EAA EAHCP programs
- Drought outlook
- VISPO Trigger discussion.

9. Questions from the public

Steve Ramsey moved to adjourn. Andy Sansom seconded. There was no objection.

10. Adjourn-3:40 pm



Steve Ramsey, Secretary