

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

**Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program
February 14, 2008
New Braunfels Service Center
New Braunfels, TX
Notetaker: Anna Muñoz
Reviewed and Edited by Dr. Robert Gulley**

Welcome

EARIP participants were welcomed to the meeting by the Roger Biggers of New Braunfels Utilities

Administrative Matters

Roll call of steering committee members - Robert Potts and Humberto Ramos were absent, but both arrived shortly thereafter.

Robert Gulley announced that conformed copies of the MOA with all the current signatures were available at the front table.

Science Subcommittee

Susan Aragon-Long introduced the 6 other members of the science subcommittee present at the meeting:

- Glen Longley
- Mary Ambrose
- Norman Boyd
- Robert Mace
- Sam Vaughn
- Tom Brandt

Susan Aragon-Long discussed the 8 individuals that the science subcommittee recommended to be added to the subcommittee per its charge from the Steering Committee at the January 10, 2008 meeting. The individuals recommended were:

HYDROLOGISTS

- Alan Dutton (UT San Antonio, professor)
- Rene Barker (Texas State University-EARDC, Retired USGS)
- Ron Green (Southwest Research Center)
- John Waugh (SAWS)

BIOLOGISTS

- Robert Edwards (UT Pan American)
- Jackie Poole (Texas Parks and Wildlife)
- Ed Oborny (BIO-West)
- Bryan Brooks (Baylor University)

Calvin Finch made a motion to accept this recommendation. The motion was seconded by Bill West.

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After discussion, Robert Gulley asked for a show of hands on the motion by the Steering Committee. Robert Potts, Humberto Ramos, Buck Benson, and Weir Labatt objected to the motion. After further discussion, a break was called to allow members to confer with each other. After the break, Jerry James made a motion to amend the original motion. As amended the motion was as follows to:

Add the recommended eight individual as members of the Science Subcommittee and add Charles Kreidler as a non-voting member and agree that the steering committee can appoint other non-voting members in the future by a vote of the Steering Committee on their own or on the recommendation of the Science Subcommittee.

Cindy Loeffler seconded the amended motion. Robert Gulley asks for a show of hands of steering committee members that support the motion. Twenty-one members agreed to the amended motion. The motion is passed.

Charge of the Science Subcommittee

After a discussion regarding the content of the charge, it was moved and seconded to approve the charge as modified by the discussion at the meeting. It was agreed that Weir Labatt, Myron Hess, Bruce Moulton, Todd Votteler, and Patrick Shriver would review the revised draft to see that it captured the discussion and the final draft would be circulated to the Steering Committee prior to sending it to the Science Subcommittee. Robert Gulley asks for a show of hands of steering committee members that support the motion. Twenty-one agreed to the motion. The motion is passed.

Expansion of the Steering Committee

Myron Hess that the Steering Committee made a motion that the Steering Committee:

accept all five of the additional members to the SC listed in the MOA and ask the Nueces River Authority provide the name of their representative and that nominations be submitted for who will fill the four categorical slots.

The motion was seconded by Cindy Loeffler. After discussion, the motion was amended as follows:

Ask for nominations for all 4 categorical positions and that Nueces River Authority identify their representative for consideration by the Steering Committee at the next meeting where they can decide to accept all, some, or none of the 5 proposed additional members.

Robert Gulley asks if all are in favor of the amended motion. Twenty-one Steering Committee Members agreed to the amended motion. The motion is passed.

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Robert Gulley asks that all nominations and supporting information be provided to him by close of business on March 3rd. All of this information will be provided with the Agenda on March 7th.

RIP Funding

Robert Gulley told the group that he was working with Texas A&M University to obtain \$1.5 million in Congressional funding for FY 2009. This funding would cover the cost of the RIP process, peer review, and work on modeling and other issues related to the jeopardy standard and other ESA issues during FY 2009 and 2010. Robert Gulley asked the Steering Members and Stakeholders to consider supporting this effort.

Other possible sources of funding include a grant from TWDB and Section 6 funds from the USFWS. Robert Gulley expressed the need for a group to review any funding sources or proposals before they are submitted. Cary Dupuy, Steve Raabe, Todd Votteler, Julie Norton, and Kirk Patterson volunteered to assist with such reviews.

By-Laws

A meeting is scheduled for February 19th at SARA from 2:30- 5:00pm to discuss the draft By-Laws for the EARIP. Robert Gulley suggests that after the meeting on the 19th, he will revise the draft of the bylaws and follow up with as many meetings as necessary, similar to the MOA process, in hopes of reaching some sort of consensus on a draft recommendation that the Steering Committee can discuss at the March meeting.

Budget

Weir Labatt moved that Robert Gulley provide a budget at the next meeting. Kristan Soto seconds the movement. Robert Gulley asks for a show of hands of steering committee members that support the motion. Twenty-one members agreed to the motion. The motion is passed.

FWS Overview of its meeting regarding revising the take and jeopardy standard

Adam Zerrenner of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provided a presentation on the structured decision making workshop and provided a brief overview of how structured decision making could be used to address the jeopardy standard for the Edwards Aquifer.

Meeting Wrap-up

Tom Taggart asks for a brief recap and accomplishments to date every couple of months. Robert Gulley stated that starting in April he will provide such a summary every 60 days.