

LCRA Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee
Meeting Summary
May 28, 2013
Colorado County Services Facility
Columbus, TX

There were 17 members of the LCRA Lower Basin Regional Council present at this meeting. This council is composed of representatives from 7 counties in the lower-most portion of the LCRA service area. The agenda included a presentation on the Clean Rivers Program by David Cowan followed by general updates and announcements by the larger council. Council Chair Sam Kana called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

LCRA Clean Rivers Program (CRP) Coordinator David Cowan began his presentation by explaining the history, purpose and budget of the CRP in the Colorado River basin. He stated that the basin receives \$422,000 per year from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and that funding has remained at this level since the program began in 1991. David informed the audience that LCRA has contributed additional funding to support CRP efforts in the Colorado River basin as the program costs have increased over the years.

David then explained the coordinated water quality monitoring efforts between basin partners LCRA and UCRA, and also the contributing agencies: City of Austin, TCEQ and USGS. In all, 173 sites are monitored for physical, chemical and/or biological assessment throughout the Colorado River basin.

David then provided an overview of water health throughout the basin. In general, he stated, water quality is good, but 20 segments do not meet state standards in the TCEQ's most recent assessment. He encouraged attendees to look at the 2013 Colorado River Basin Highlights Report included in their meeting packet to find specific information on impairments and other water quality information in the watershed.

Lisa Benton, LCRA Water Quality Coordinator, then took the floor and explained how individuals can get involved with the CRP process. She explained the "Water Quality Advisory Committee" (WQAC), formerly known as CRP Steering Committee, and encouraged individuals to join the committee if they have an interest in water quality protection.

David Cowan summarized the presentation and reiterated the invitation to get involved with CRP by serving as a Water Quality Advisory Committee member. After the presentation had concluded, general council business and updates ensued until the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.