

LCRA Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee
Meeting Summary
March 25, 2013
First Lockhart National Bank
Lockhart, TX

This was the 2nd meeting of the LCRA Mid-Basin Regional Council. A presentation on the Texas Clean Rivers Program served as the primary program. Council Chair Philip Ruiz called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with 25 people present.

After introductions, LCRA Clean Rivers Program (CRP) coordinator David Cowan gave a presentation on the Texas Clean Rivers Program. He began by describing the history, purpose and goals of the program. David also presented details on the CRP budget for the Colorado River basin, stating that the basin receives \$422,000 per year from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). These funds are used for monitoring and public outreach in the basin. He also stated that since the program began in 1991 that there has been no increase in funding, but that LCRA has contributed additional funding to the basin's CRP program as 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.

A brief explanation of the Basin Highlights Report and Basin Summary Report was given, and attendees were informed that printed copies of the Basin Executive Summary Report were available for them to take.

David then reviewed overall water quality for the basin, stating that it is "good", but that 20 segments didn't meet state standards in the most recent assessment. An overview was given of specific water quality issues for the middle basin, including drought, the Bastrop Complex Fire and the proposed effluent discharges on Wilbarger Creek.

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. Lisa stated the goals and expectations of the WQAC and informed attendees that they would have the opportunity to voice their interest in participating in the committee when filling out the post-meeting survey.

Debbie Magin, Director of Water Quality Services for the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA), was then introduced to provide the audience with a presentation on the CRP process in the Guadalupe-Blanco River basin. Several of the LCRA Mid-Basin Regional Council members live in this watershed. In her presentation, Debbie described the six CRP tasks, GBRA basin partners and the water quality monitoring program organization in their basin. She also provided information on special studies and the watershed protection and implementation plans in the Guadalupe-Blanco basin. She ended by

encouraging everyone in the watershed to get involved with the Steering Committee process so that they can provide input on the water quality efforts underway in their area.

David Cowan summarized the presentations and reiterated the invitation to get involved in the CRP process as a Water Quality Advisory Committee member. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.