

Meeting Summary for Copano Bay Stakeholder Facilitation
 May 30, 2012
 5:30 – 7:15

Attendees:

Wagner	Kevin	TWRI
Berthold	Allen	TWRI
Sugarek	Sam	NRA
Freund	Rocky	NRA
Carter	Clifford	Ranch Consultant
Sugarek	Don	Texas Farm Bureau
Ward	Richard	Robbins Farm
Robbins Henderson	Sarah	
Robbins Henderson	Nancy	Robbins Farm
Taber Jr.	Walter	Sarco-Blanco Ranch
Pustka	Joe	Keller & Associates
Hicks	Kristin	Mission-Aransas NERR
Blankenship	Terry	Welder Wildlife Refuge
Smith	Liz	Int. Crane Foundation
McGuill	J. D.	McGuill Cattle Co
McGuill	Margaret	McGuill Cattle Co
Dodson	James	SABP/NEI
Almaraz	Beth	NRA
Donalson	Michael	Texas AgriLife Extension
Barber	Mike	Papalote & Barber Ranch
Cox	Delbert	
Rathkamp	Lavonne	
Dierlan	Larry	
Blackwell	Will	USDA-NRCS
Cravens	Chico	
Miranda	Roger	TCEQ
Waters	Larry	CFB Family, Ltd
Waters	Connie	CFB Family, Ltd
Noack	Kyle	Keller & Associates, CPAs
Nunez	Alex	TPWD
Meador	Karen	TPWD
Feuerbacher	Kirk	TNC
Wendt	Aaron	TSSWCB
Tunnell	Jace	CBBEP
Koch	Brian	TSSWCB
Keefe	Joe	O'Connor Bros.
Allen	Ray	CBBEP

Allen Berthold presented a Review of Total Maximum Daily Load and Implementation Plan development process and next steps. Currently, the timeline to complete the TMDL and I-Plan are as follows:

Steps for TMDL	Timeline for TMDL
Meet with stakeholders to discuss modeling strategy	September 2012
Begin data collection for model	October 2012
Run model and develop preliminary (Technical Support) results in line with TMDL equation	October 2012 – March 2013
Present preliminary Technical Support results to stakeholders and get feedback	March 2013
Finalize Technical Support Document	April 2013
Incorporate into TMDL format and submit TMDL Report to TCEQ	May 2013
Address comments to TMDL Report	May 2013 – August 2013

Timeline for I-Plan	Timeline for I-Plan
Decision on preferred structure of stakeholder group	Tonight (5-30-12)
Meet with stakeholders (or groups) with examples and expectations	July 2012
Begin determining management measures	Roughly September 2012
Discussions of Management Measures	September 2012– March 2013
Address comments from Stakeholder meetings	March 2013 – May 2013
Present final draft TMDL I-Plan to Stakeholders	June 2013
Send final draft TMDL I-Plan to TCEQ	July 2013

Questions came up as to what the water quality data and what current levels of bacteria were. Suggestions from the stakeholders were to develop a one pager about the standards and present what the data is currently showing. TWRI will develop materials that have been requested.

Kevin Wagner presented some examples of ground rules, bylaws, structures, and roles of other watershed stakeholder groups so that meeting attendees could decide on the most efficient way to

make decisions. Discussions were held regarding various options and it was decided that a coordination committee would be developed that represents all the interests in the watershed. Stakeholders also decided that four workgroups would be developed including: 1) Agriculture and Wildlife Workgroup; 2) Wastewater Workgroup (including septic, WWTP representatives from cities, counties and anyone else involved); 3) Technical Advisory Workgroup; and 4) Outreach Workgroup. It was asked by the stakeholders that TWRI review the past meeting attendees and develop a strawman of which workgroup everyone may fit in so that lists for each can be started. Recommendations will then be made by stakeholders on who else may need to be involved in each workgroup after this is developed and sent to the mailing list. Also, workgroup meetings will not be limited to those on the lists as anyone can attend, but members of each workgroup will be the primary attendees.

Each workgroup will make management measure recommendations (drafted by TWRI) and presented to the coordination committee for further suggestions. Once approved by the coordination committee, management measures will be presented to the full stakeholder group for final input.

A question/ comment during the meeting regarding additional monitoring that is needed was to: 1) help confirm whether there is a bacteria impairment or not and 2) assess the effectiveness of implementation was mentioned. Response was that within monitoring, as currently scheduled will continue to be conducted, and within the TMDL I-Plan, additional monitoring will be recommended by the stakeholders for both previously mentioned reasons as well as any future reasons identified.

At the next meeting, it was requested that examples of bylaws and ground rules be brought to the coordination committee to make final decision on most efficient approach. Also, it was requested that at the next meeting, stakeholders break into the various workgroups to review examples of management measures developed by other watershed groups and begin developing recommendations for management measures into the I-Plan.

Finally, it was recommended that a map be printed and brought to future meetings so stakeholders can have a visual of the watershed.