

**Lavaca-Navidad River Authority  
Clean Rivers Program  
2016 Steering Committee Meeting  
July 12, 2016**

The annual Lavaca Basin Clean Rivers Program (CRP) Annual Meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Lavaca-Navidad River Authority (LNRA) Office Complex, 4631 FM 3131, located approximately seven (7) miles east of Edna, Jackson County, Texas on July 12, 2016. Annual meetings provide an opportunity to share information about water quality issues with Basin stakeholders, to obtain guidance on the use of resources from the Clean Rivers Program and to allow LNRA to gain insight from local stakeholders and expertise from such members as Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (TSSWCB), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), United States Geological Survey (USGS), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Texas AgriLife Extension, and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA). Input from the attendees allows LNRA to prioritize water quality issues and determine the most effective water quality monitoring program. It also provides an educational opportunity for the community.

**Attending from Lavaca-Navidad River Authority:**

Chad Kinsfather, Environmental Services Director  
Brandon Byler, Environmental Services Technician  
Patrick Brzozowski, General Manager  
Karen Gregory, Deputy General Manager, Administration  
Ronald Kubecka, LNRA Board President  
Jerry Adelman, LNRA Board Vice President

**Others Attending:**

Daniele Baker, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  
Ken Barton, Texas Stream Team  
Randi Belz, Project Manager, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)  
Allen Berthold, Research Scientist, Texas Water Resources Institute  
David Buzan, Freese and Nichols, Inc.  
Clare Entwistle, Research Associate, Texas Water Resources Institute  
Jack Maloney, Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group  
Brent Pierce, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department  
Mike Rivet, Special Projects, Formosa Plastics Corporation  
Michael Schramm, Research Associate, Texas Water Resources Institute  
Harrison Stafford II, Lavaca Regional Water Planning Group

LNRA Chad Kinsfather opened the meeting. He welcomed everyone and introduced Patrick Brzozowski, LNRA General Manager and Karen Gregory, Deputy General Manager. He thanked everyone for attending and asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

Kinsfather briefed the attendees on the Clean Rivers Program and the 2016 Lavaca Basin Highlights Clean Rivers Program Report. Copies of the report were provided for attendees along with several other hand-outs with information to be discussed at the meeting.

Randi Belz, Project Manager with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) briefed the Group on funding opportunities for non-point source programs. The TCEQ non-point programs clean up and prevent water pollution caused by runoff from urban and other nonagricultural nonpoint sources. Information regarding how to apply for grants to cleanup or prevent water pollution including eligibility, requirements, and guidelines is available on the TCEQ website. TCEQ released the 2017 Request for Grant Applications (RFGA) on July 1, 2016 and will accept applications until September 1, 2016.

**Ken Barton, retired Edna Independent School District and Texas Stream Team member** addressed the Group and discussed the benefits and processes of the Texas Stream Team. Barton gave a hands-on presentation with the assistance of his two sons, Dennis and Neil. Barton has been sampling for Stream Team for twenty-five (25) years.

**David Buzan, Aquatic Ecologist with Freese and Nichols** briefed the Group on the native mussels associated with Texas. The importance of mussels in the ecosystem were explained along with life cycles and mussel behavior. Some of the least-visible animals inhabiting Texas rivers and streams are the freshwater mussels. Texas is home to 50 of the 300 mussel species found nationally. Texas has 15 mussel species on the state list of threatened species. Mussels play a huge role in water quality and stream health. Mussels are filter feeders that eat bacteria and algae and also remove pollutants from the water.

The group was given the opportunity for an open discussion.

Kinsfather expressed appreciation on behalf of LNRA to all who attended. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m.