Lavaca-Navidad River Authority Clean Rivers Program 2022 Steering Committee Meeting July 26, 2022

The annual Lavaca Basin Clean Rivers Program (CRP) Annual Meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the Lavaca Navidad River Authority Office Complex, 4631 FM 3131, located approximately seven (7) miles east of Edna, Jackson County, Texas on July 26, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

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 Jerry Adelman, Board of Directors President Patrick Brzozowski, General Manager Karen Gregory, Deputy General Manager, Administration Darrell Muschalek, Project Maintenance Operator Jared Darilek, Reservoir Operator

Others Attending:

Richard Gonzales, Science & Spanish Club Network, Inc.
Robin Flores, Science & Spanish Club Network, Inc.
Emily Monroe, Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI)
Audrey McCray, Texas Water Resources Institute (TWRI)
Alyssa Reyes, Inteplast Group
Brian Koch, Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board
Mieko Mahi, Friends of Lavaca River
Jenna Wadman, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
Mike Rivet, Formosa Plastics
Bob Morgenroth
Steve Marwitz
Bill Burge, Mid-Coast Texas Master Naturalist
Randy Rushin, Water Monitoring Solutions

Chad Kinsfather, LNRA Environmental Services Director

Kinsfather opened the meeting.

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Kinsfather briefed the attendees on the Clean Rivers Program and made available to the group copies of the 2022 Lavaca Basin Summary Report.

Kinsfather's power point presentation included Lavaca Basin's current water monitoring schedule with location map and frequency. He also briefly discussed Segment 1602, Lavaca River Above Tidal which has elevated levels of bacteria.

Kinsfather's presentation also included an informative discussion on the 2022 Texas Integrated Report which outlines all stream and waterbody impairments in the state. The Lavaca Basin currently has three impairments, two for elevated bacteria and one for depressed dissolved oxygen in water. A detailed explanation was given on 24-hour dissolved oxygen monitoring which is taking place in Segment 1602 to aid in removing this segment off of the 303d list for depressed dissolved oxygen.

Emily Monroe, Extension Program Specialist, TWRI

Monroe presented the Group with an update on the Lavaca River Watershed Protection Plan (WPP).

The WPP was developed by TWRI and residents and was accepted in April 2018 by the EPA. The WPP Project, funded by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, is the beginning of the implementation of the 10-year protection plan. The goal is to educate residents on how they can protect their water resources through voluntary management measures.

Mrs. Monroe explained the initial sampling portion of the WPP concluded in May of 2022 and presented graphs detailing results. She discussed plans for an upcoming QAPP to include a BST study in conjunction with the ongoing WPP sampling.

Randy Rushin, Water Monitoring Solutions

Rushin discussed the 2022 Lavaca Basin Summary Report, answering questions from local stakeholders pertaining to data presented. Copies of the BSR were available for the attendees.

Kinsfather expressed appreciation on behalf of LNRA to all who attended. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.