2019 Basin Steering Committee Minutes

1:00  Welcome and Clean Rivers Program Overview

- GBRA, Lee Gudgell
  - Additional money to budget for FY19 to purchase equipment
  - Overview of monitoring sites for GBRA, UGRA, TCEQ and WVWA
  - Draft 2016 Texas Integrated Report
    - 10 Segments with impairments
  - Biological monitoring at Rebecca Creek (segment 1805) and North Fork of the Guadalupe (Segment 1817)
  - New monitoring station near Sisterdale
  - New Biological monitoring at Sandies and Elm Creeks
  - Significant events in the basin
    - Guadalupe River at FM311 in Comal County went dry – August 2018

- UGRA, Tara Bushnoe
  - Water Quality Monitory Summary
    - 11 Quarterly sites and 6 monthly sites
  - Water Quality Summary
    - Sampling events, number of sites and parameters tested
  - Draft 2016 Integrated Report
    - Town Creek and Quinlan Creek DO concerns
  - Bacteria Reduction Plan
  - Water Quality at South Fork - La Junta and Guadalupe River at Hermann Sons
  - Accessing Data on TCEQ website
  - Public Outreach Activities
  - UGRA EduScape

- Wimberley Valley, Michael Jones
  - Purpose of Water Quality monitoring
  - Flow at Jacob’s Well Spring
  - Pleasant Valley Spring
  - Cypress Creek Watershed Protection Plan
  - 2 additional sites: Cypress Creek @ Camp Young Judea and Cypress Creek @ Woodcreek Drive
  - Drivers for Water Quality
  - Trends in Bacteria – Downtown and Blanco confluence

1:50  City of New Braunfels Wildlife Feeding Ordinance – Mark Enders, Watershed Program Manager
     – City of New Braunfels
  - Water Quality Concerns for Dry Comal Creek and Comal River
  - Bacteria Source Tracking (BST) results
Wildlife related Traffic accidents
Management of non-native ducks and geese
City of New Braunfels Wildlife Feeding Ordinance – Effective March 10, 2019
Feeding Ordinance Signage
Outreach and Education

2:00  **Headwaters at the Comal** – Nancy Pappas, Managing Director Headwaters at the Comal
- New Braunfels Utilities commitment to stewardship of resources
- Overview of property before and after project
- Phase I – restoration and storm water mitigation
- Removal of impervious cover
- Community resource – tours, programming, nature walks, events
- Archeological dig
- Beginning Phase II – education center, event and meeting space, demonstration gardens

- Location of American Eel
- Spawn in saltwater and migrate to freshwater
- One single population
- Life History
- Commercial Harvest on East Coast
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need – Texas
- Data Collection along the Texas Coast
- Public Outreach with Social Media
- Field sampling for Elver & Glass with Fyke Nets

2:40  **Break**

3:00  **National Fish Conservation Areas** – Travis Tidwell, Kills and Spills Biologist – Region I, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need
- Texas: 190 native freshwater fish, 90 species of greatest conservation need
- Texas fish diversity
- Texas freshwater mussels
- Native Fish conservation areas (NFCAs) – watershed scale
- Overview of conservation assessment
- NFCAs in Texas
- NFCAs current projects
3:20 One Water WISD Primary School – Michael Jones
  o Presentation was to be giving by Nick Dornak, Director of Watershed Services
  o Michael Jones field questions about the project

3:30 Wastewater Treatment Process – Mike Urrutia, Deputy Executive Manager of Operations – GBRA
  o Overview of GBRA vision and mission
  o GBRA operations
  o New generation of individuals in the water industry
  o Flow diagram of the waste water treatment process
    o Bar Screen
    o Aeration Basin
    o Air Blowers
    o Organisms in activated sludge
    o Clarification
    o Chlorination/Dechlorination
    o Sand Filters
  o Plum Creek Monitoring
  o Biomonitoring of effluent
  o Benefits of treated wastewater

4:15 TCEQ Permitting Process – Ward Ling, Geronimo and Alligator Creek Watershed Coordinator – Texas A&M AgriLife
  o WWTP application to TCEQ on Geronimo Creek
  o Overview of Permit Process
  o Timeline of Geronimo Creek permit
  o What a public meeting looks like
  o How the public can provide comments
  o How to track an application

4:45 Adjourn