

**Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC)
Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee**

FY 2022-2023 Q3 Meeting Notes

March 17, 2023, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

San Antonio River Authority Offices, 100 E. Guenther St, San Antonio, Texas

Virtual option available

EAC Attendees:	EAC Absent:
Wilfred Korth	Jason Katcsmorak
Janis Bush	Joe Baker
Glynis Strause (virtual)	Stephen Lucke
James Dodson (virtual)	
Heather Hansen	San Antonio River Authority staff attendees:
Connie Waters	Steve Graham(virtual)
John Hooker	Carrie Merson
Bree Jameson (virtual)	Rebecca Reeves (virtual)
Annalisa Peace	Katye Brought (virtual)
Joedy Yglesias	Shaun Donovan
	Minna Paul
Citizens to Be Heard	Caille Paulsen
Jenna Wadman (TCEQ)	Patty Carvajal
Ward Ling (AgriLife Extension)	
Alan Montemayor (Sierra Club)	
John Cantu (CoSA)	
Charles Blank (River Aid – Virtual)	
Daren Johnston (CoSA – Virtual)	
Veronica Cantu (SAWS – Virtual)	
Pat Bohannan (TCEQ – Virtual)	

1. Welcome

Janis Bush (JB) called the meeting order and started introductions to San Antonio River Authority (River Authority) staff, committee members, and guests.

2. Approval of December 16, 2022, Q2 Minutes

JB calls for approval of minutes. **Heather Hansen** motioned to approve the minutes, motion was seconded; **JB** calls for vote, and minutes approved by consensus.

3. Texas Clean Rivers Program Overview and Update

Rebecca Reeves, River Authority Senior Quality Assurance & Monitoring Scientist, CRP Project Manager and **Caille Paulsen**, Aquatic Biologist

Post-presentation topics discussed: Cabeza Creek’s monitoring, flow rate at confluence of Medina and San Antonio River (SAR), PFAS and microplastics with regard to our current data-

driven understanding of those pollutants, inquiries regarding emerging contaminants, fracking impacts on water quality, the agency's Environmental Investigator helicopter survey, the San Antonio Zoo's outfall water quality monitoring, feral hog impact on water quality, rookery updates, and water quality data collected by citizen scientists and its use by TCEQ.

4. River Warrior Volunteer Program

Minna Paul (MP), Education and Engagement Coordinator II

Post-presentation topics discussed: Lack of storms have prevented the 'testing' of Beaver Dams, Litterati smartphone data program updates, Earth Day Challenge coinciding with Fiesta, and beavers (the animal) located across the watershed.

5. Education and Engagement Programming

Carrie Merson, Education and Engagement Officer

Post-presentation topics discussed: The problem of single use beverages and encouraging reusable and multi-use containers, how reusable container messages are conveyed to agency audiences, the watershed pollution model educators use and lend, Spanish interpretation for students at field trips, Sierra Club's single use plastics campaign and partnering request on the campaign, idea regarding a certification program for businesses focused on the environment, and EcoSA collaborative introduction.

6. Litter Initiative Summary

Katy Brought (KB), Public Affairs Manager

Post-presentation topics discussed: EAC members shared appreciation for anti-litter initiatives, all members had seen a piece of the campaign at some point in their daily life, **KB** requested recommendations from the members regarding opportunities for staff to speak to groups that they are connected to, discussion regarding the self-perception versus reality of the individual's responsibility in littering and strategy on changing litter behavior, **Ward Ling** requested information regarding data on messaging, and **Alan Montemayor** discussed what responsibilities companies/producers can have on litter's environmental impact.

7. Future meeting dates and items for future consideration.

Discussed next meeting date and location. Q4 meeting will be calendared for June 16, 2023, with tentative times of 10am-noon. **Glynis Strause (GS)** offered a location at ConocoPhillips Conference Center at 3778 CR 344, Kenedy, TX 78119 KND 412.

Discussed future topics to consider for the Q4 meeting including:

Proposing a mixer-type activity for members to get to know each other to bolster an even more engaged and involved atmosphere. Could occur before or after a meeting, or on a separate date. Proposed that the members have an opportunity to interact with the education models and games.

Proposed topics for the Q4 meeting: Fracking, Citizen Science, and Green Infrastructure

Meeting adjourned at 11:56.