

## **Meetings Summary Package**

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# San Antonio Bay Partnership

## Steering Committee Meeting

1:30pm – 3:30pm

June 4, 2010

**700 Main Center, Room 204  
700 N. Main St., Victoria, TX 77901  
(Corner of N. Main St. & North St.)**

*(see attached map for location & directions to meeting room)*

*You may join in this meeting by conference call using the following dial-in directions:*

- 1) Dial the toll-free conference system access number: **866-590-5055** and
- 2) When prompted, enter the conference access code: **8463538**, then hit the # sign; you will be automatically added to the conference call.

*The conference call will be initiated at 1:20pm -- you may dial in anytime after that.*  
*If you have any problems, call James Dodson on his cell phone: 361-649-1518*

## Agenda

- I. Welcome and Meeting Objectives (John Kisalus, Chair)
- II. Role Call
- III. Review and Approve Agenda
- IV. Report on Activities since the May 4, 2010 Steering Committee Meeting (J. Dodson)
  - SABP Website
  - Update on Activities under SARA Contract
- V. Subcommittee Reports:
  - Goals & Governance, Funding, Scientific/Technical, and Outreach & Events
- VI. June 24, 2010 General Stakeholder Meeting: Arrangements & Agenda
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Steering Committee Comments
- IX. Set next meeting date
- X. Adjourn

## San Antonio Bay Partnership

### June 4, 2010 Steering Committee Meeting Summary

The Steering Committee for the San Antonio Bay Partnership (SABP) met in Victoria, Texas at 1:30 pm on Friday, June 4, 2010. Those present, either in person or by teleconference, included:

*Steering Committee Members:* John Kisalus (Chair), Gary Burns (Vice-Chair), Terry Baiamonte, Norman Boyd, Jack Campbell, Roy Foley, Carla Guthrie, Beau Hardegree, Brian Koch, Bob McCan, Hector Mendieta and Bryan Serold.

*Others:* James Dodson (facilitator), Steve Raabe & Brian Mast (SARA), Ray Allen & Rosario Martinez (CBBEP), and Jerry Pearce (De-Go-La RC&D, Inc.).

Mr. Kisalus chaired the meeting. After review and approval of the meeting agenda, Mr. Dodson provided a report on activities since the May 4, 2010 SABP Steering Committee meeting. He noted that work continues on the SABP website ([www.SABayPartnership.org](http://www.SABayPartnership.org)) and the compilation, archiving and dissemination of scientific and technical information under the contract between the San Antonio River Authority and the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program.

Mr. Dodson then reported on the activities of three of the four subcommittees formed at the May 4<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meeting, namely: the Goals and Governance Subcommittee, the Funding Subcommittee, and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee. (Note: the fourth, the Outreach and Events Subcommittee, had not yet met.)

*Goals and Governance Subcommittee:* John Kisalus, Terry Baiamonte and James Dodson met on May 27, 2010 in Goliad to discuss a draft, or “strawman,” Purpose and Goals Statements document to be presented at the June 24<sup>th</sup> stakeholder meeting.

*Scientific and Technical Subcommittee:* This Subcommittee met from 10:00 to 11:45 am on the morning of the Steering Committee meeting. The subcommittee discussed the availability of scientific/technical information and the use of this information in developing a series of “characterization reports” for the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System. The group also looked at how this information could be used to develop an estuary management plan.

*Funding Subcommittee:* This Subcommittee met from 12:15 to 1:15 pm on the day of the Steering Committee meeting. The subcommittee members, and guests, developed a list of potential funding sources and what kind of information would be necessary in order to present a grant application to any of these organizations. Discussions also addressed the issue of the organizational/legal status of the San Antonio Bay Partnership as it attempts to secure program funding.

Mr. Dodson then reported on the agenda for the next general Stakeholders meeting, which would again be held at the University of Houston – Victoria, this time in the UHV Multipurpose Room, which can accommodate up to 150 persons. UHV has graciously offered to provide lunch for up to 150 persons.

Mr. Kisalus called for items under “Other Business.” There being no other business, the Steering Committee meeting adjourned at 3pm.

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Meeting Summary prepared by James Dodson – for comments or questions, please contact him at 361-649-1518, or [jdodson27@gmail.com](mailto:jdodson27@gmail.com)

# San Antonio Bay Partnership

## Science-Technical Subcommittee Meeting

10:00am – 11:45am

June 4, 2010

700 Main Center, Room 204  
700 N. Main St., Victoria, TX 77901  
(Corner of N. Main St. & North St.)

*(see attached map for location & directions to meeting room)*

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- 1) Dial the toll-free conference system access number: **866-590-5055** and
- 2) When prompted, enter the conference access code: **8463538**, then hit the # sign; you will be automatically added to the conference call.

*The conference call will be initiated at 9:50am -- you may dial in anytime after that.*  
*If you have any problems, call James Dodson on his cell phone: 361-649-1518*

### Agenda

- I. Welcome and Meeting Objectives (J. Dodson)
- II. Discussion: Role of the Science-Technical Subcommittee
- III. June 24, 2010 General Stakeholder Meeting – proposed agenda items: Presentation on “Estuarine Science 101”; Presentation on Texas’ Oil Spill Response Plan and current activities
- IV. Report on work done under SARA Contract
- V. Discussion: Coordination with “Outreach and Events Subcommittee” on planning for a Fall 2010 conference to review past and current data collection and research activities in the San Antonio Bay System
- VI. Set next meeting date
- VII. Adjourn

# San Antonio Bay Partnership

## Scientific/Technical Subcommittee

### June 4, 2010 Meeting Summary

The Scientific/Technical Subcommittee of the San Antonio Bay Partnership (SABP) Steering Committee met in Victoria, Texas at 10:00 am on Friday, May 4, 2010. The Subcommittee members present, either in person or by teleconference, included: Norman Boyd, Carla Guthrie, Beau Hardegree, Brian Koch, Bryan Serold, and Tim Andruss (for Art Dohman). Others participating in the meeting included: John Kisalus, James Dodson (facilitator), Steve Raabe, Brian Mast, Ray Allen and Rosario Martinez.

Mr. Dodson discussed plans for the June 24, 2010 SABP Stakeholder Meeting, which will feature several presentations on issues related to the activities of the Scientific/Technical Subcommittee, namely a report by Darwin Ockerman, USGS, on a recent study of surface water – ground water interactions in the Lower San Antonio River Basin, and a presentation by George Ward, UT-Austin, on the current state of estuarine science in the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System. Mr. Dodson also reported that there would also be a presentation by a TGLO representative on Texas' Oil Spill Prevention and Response Plan for the Central Texas Coast.

Mr. Kisalus asked Mr. Dodson about methods for storing and accessing the scientific information and data being compiled under the agreement between the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) and the San Antonio River Authority (SARA). Mr. Dodson explained that he was trying to develop a “user-friendly” method for stakeholders to access and download files of information and data that have been compiled – largely by previous efforts funded by the Texas Water Development Board, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and SARA. One method would be to develop a “FTP” site which could be accessed by stakeholders. Another method under investigation is linking the files to a Geographic Information System (GIS) interface so information could be selected by geographic location.

Mr. Hardegree stated that this information should be used to develop characterization reports on the various resource issues related to the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System. Following this comment, the subcommittee engaged in a discussion of potential topics for characterization reports, sources of data to be used in generating those reports, and individuals who might be involved in putting the reports together. An outline of topics for characterization studies resulted from those discussions (*see Attachment A*).

Mr. Koch mentioned that several “Watershed Protection Plans” were either underway or completed for areas within the San Antonio/Guadalupe River watersheds, and that information from those plans may be valuable to the SABP work. He offered to provide a copy of the “Nine Elements” of Watershed Protection Planning (WPP) – a copy of that list is provided as *Attachment B*.

Mr. Raabe noted that SARA had undertaken an “Upper San Antonio River WPP” and that a WPP for the Lower San Antonio River (extending to the confluence with the Guadalupe River) would be underway in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Dodson requested that the Scientific/Technical Subcommittee work closely with the Outreach and Events Subcommittee in the planning of the conference on scientific research and data collection activities in the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System, which is to be held in the fall of this year. There was discussion about potential dates for that conference in terms of other, already scheduled meetings.

It was decided to hold the next Scientific/Technical Subcommittee meeting on July 23, 2010, starting again at 10 am. The location is to be determined.

There being no other business, the Steering Committee meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

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Meeting summary prepared by James Dodson – for comments or questions, please contact him at 361-649-1518, or [jdodson27@gmail.com](mailto:jdodson27@gmail.com)

## ATTACHMENT A

### **Outline of Topics for Characterization Reports on the Status and Trends of Resources and Resource Use in the San Antonio Bay/Guadalupe Estuary System**

*Developed by the Scientific/Technical Subcommittee of the  
San Antonio Bay Partnership Steering Committee*

*June 4, 2010  
(Not arranged in any particular order)*

#### Ecological Components:

- Bird Populations
  - Colonial water birds
  - Non-colonial water birds/water fowl
  - Breeding bird information
  - Endangered Species – i.e., Whooping Crane, Piping Plover, Attwater Prairie Chicken
  - Habitat changes
- Community Structure
  - Key/Indicator Species
  - Fisheries/harvest data: commercial and recreational
  - TPWD sampling data
  - Food web
  - Oyster reefs
- Wetlands: Gains/Losses
  - TGLO/UT-BEG Study
  - Updated USFWS National Wetlands Inventory maps
  - Changes in wetlands classification
- Marine Mammals
- Hydrology/Hydrodynamics
  - Fresh water inflows
  - Water rights diversions
  - Bay Circulation
  - Hydrologic Modifications
    - i.e., Traylor Cut, GIWW
- Shellfish/Human Health
- Harmful Algal Blooms

## Human Uses/Impacts

- Water Quality
  - Point Source & Non-Point Source
  - Total Loadings
- Sediment Quality
- Land Use/Land Cover Changes
- Demographic Trends
- Waterborne/Marine Transportation
  - Dredging and Beneficial Use of Dredged Material
  - Tonnage trends
- Agriculture
  - Row crop
  - Grazing
- Mariculture/Aquaculture
- Oil and Gas Development
- Coastal and Water-Contact Recreation
  - Public access
  - Paddling trails
  - Marinas
- Organizations/Projects
  - Public and NGO activities
  - Conservation easements
  - Habitat Improvements



# San Antonio Bay Partnership

## **Funding Subcommittee Meeting**

**12:15pm – 1:15pm**

**June 4, 2010**

**700 Main Center, Room 204  
700 N. Main St., Victoria, TX 77901  
(Corner of N. Main St. & North St.)**

*(see attached map for location & directions to meeting room)*

*You may join in this meeting by conference call using the following dial-in directions:*

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- 2) When prompted, enter the conference access code: **8463538**, then hit the # sign; you will be automatically added to the conference call.

*The conference call will be initiated at 12:10pm -- you may dial in anytime after that.*  
*If you have any problems, call James Dodson on his cell phone: 361-649-1518*

**NOTE: This meeting will be a “working lunch.” Lunch service will be available in the meeting room at noon, following the Science-Technical Subcommittee meeting, which should adjourn by 11:45am. Please arrive in time to get a plate and be ready for the meeting to begin promptly at 12:15pm.**

### **Agenda**

- I. Welcome and Meeting Objectives (J. Dodson)
- II. Discussion: Role of the Funding Subcommittee
- III. Identification of Funding Opportunities to Investigate
- IV. Set next meeting date
- V. Adjourn

## **San Antonio Bay Partnership**

### **June 4, 2010 Funding Subcommittee Meeting Summary**

The Funding Subcommittee for the San Antonio Bay Partnership (SABP) met in Victoria, Texas at 12:15 pm on Friday, June 4, 2010.

Those present, either in person or by teleconference, included:

Gary Burns, Roy Foley, Beau Hardegree, Ray Allen, Terry Baiamonte, Norman Boyd, Jack Campbell, Frank Fuller, Carla Guthrie, Jerry James, John Kisalus, Brian Koch, Rosario Martinez, Brian Mast, Bob McCan, Hector Mendieta, Jerry Pearce, Steve Raabe, Gail Rothe, Bryan Serold, and James Dodson (facilitator)

Brian Koch, with the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board (), presented the subcommittee with information on the funding opportunities available through the TSSWCB administered Clean Water Act Section 319 non-point source pollution abatement program.

Commissioner Burns described an application made jointly by Victoria, Refugio and Calhoun counties for Coastal Impact Assistance Program funds available through the Texas General Land Office (TGLO). The funds would support a proposed investigation into the causes of, and potential solutions to, the extended flooding that occurs along the Guadalupe River floodplain east of U.S. Hwy 77.

Frank Fuller, a consultant to the Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, brought to the subcommittee's attention the Coastal Management Program Section 309 funds also available through the TGLO.

Gail Rothe mentioned the efforts being made by TCEQ to identify any available funds for the SABP, but didn't see much hope in the near future.

Several persons identified various private foundations and businesses that might be sources of "start-up" funding for SABP.

James Dodson brought up the issue of the organizational/legal status of the San Antonio Bay Partnership as it attempts to secure program funding and discussed the need to move forward on that front.

There being no further business, the Funding Subcommittee meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.