**Hidalgo/Willacy Floodway Watershed Protection Plan Steering Committee Meeting March 26, 2019 | 12:00 PM | Pct. 1 Offices – 1902 Jose Stephens Weslaco, Texas**

# Welcome and Introductions: Commissioner David Fuentes

Participants Role Email Address

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| ☒ | Marci Oviedo | LRGVDC | [moviedo@lrgvdc911.org](mailto:moviedo@lrgvdc911.org) |
| ☐ | Javier Guerrero | RATES/RGV (Taskforce) | [Javier.guerrero@utrgv.edu](mailto:Javier.guerrero@utrgv.edu) |
| ☒ | Melisa Gonzales | City of Alamo | [mgonzales@alamotexas.org](mailto:mgonzales@alamotexas.org) |
| ☐ | Kim Jones, P.E., Ph.D. | TAMUK |  |
| ☒ | Andrew Ernest, P.E.,  Ph.D. | UTRGV | [Andrew.ernest@utrgv.edu](mailto:Andrew.ernest@utrgv.edu) |
| ☒ | Jose Hinojosa | Santa Cruz Irrigation District # 15 | [Josehinojosa290@gmail.com](mailto:Josehinojosa290@gmail.com) |
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# NCLRGV Project Overview:

* 1. Workplan: Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud
     1. PowerPoint presentation on grant scope of work overview: This project will identify existing data and identify data gaps for characterization as well as identify a path forward by selecting an analytical method for estimating pollutant loads.
     2. The Raymondville Drain and Hidalgo Main the IBWC Pilot channel (IBWC North Floodway) flow into the Lower Laguna Madre which is impaired for low DO and bacteria.
  2. Dr. Andrew Ernest
     1. Key things committee will address are raising awareness of the need for more water quality data in the Rio Grande Valley. The initiation of these watershed-planning efforts is a monumental step moving forward to understanding the region’s water quality better.

# IBWC LRGV Refinement of Project Scope:

* 1. Stakeholders: Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud
     1. Grant will focus on stakeholder workgroups revolved around 5 tasks. See attached PowerPoint presentation
  2. Timeline: Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud
  3. Map: Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud
  4. EPA 9 Elements
     1. Develop watershed protection plan based off EPA’s 9-Elements (A-E) *See attached PowerPoint presentation*

# Identification of Steering Committee Members and SC Charge

* 1. Dr. Andrew Ernest
     1. 11 committee members preferred to break up any ties for future decision making
  2. Melissa Gonzales
     1. Recommended 3 remaining committee positions should be agencies
  3. Saul Garcia
     1. Recommended adding City of Mission or Edinburg
  4. Ronnie Salazar
     1. Recommended Israel Salazar from La Sara

# Population of Technical Committee

* 1. Dr. Andrew Ernest
     1. Technical committee group to support watersheds

# Identification of Other Committees

* 1. Augusto Sanchez Gonzalez
     1. Recommended Coastal, Urban & Infrastructure, Agricultural, and Outreach and Education groups

ACTION ITEM: Sanchez will share organizational flow chart

# Meetings Schedules

* 1. Dr. Andrew Ernest
     1. Committee must meet twice a year. A date for next meeting was not scheduled.

# Agenda for Next Meeting

* 1. Dr. Andrew Ernest
     1. Identification of Steering Committee Members and SC Charge
     2. A workshop or meeting will be scheduled
     3. Timeline of when sub group will be in place ACTION ITEM: Dr. Ahmed Mahmoud
     4. Letterhead
     5. Logo
     6. Website

# Adjourn