

319 Steering Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 16th, 2022  
2:00 PM

## **319 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

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### **1. ATTENDEES**

- Eduardo Gonzalez, Willacy Commissioner
- Andrew Ernest, UTRGV/ RATES
- Christopher Fuller, RATES
- Heather Robinson, TCEQ
- William Kirkey, RATES
- Elijah Casas, GLO
- Rick Carrera, LRGVDC
- Xavier Cervantes, City of Harlingen
- Abdoul Oubeidillah, UTRGV
- Raul Garcia, City of Los Fresnos
- Jungseok Ho, UTRGV
- Ivan Rene Santos, UTRGV/RATES
- David Garza, Commissioner Cameron County
- Linda Navarro, UTRGV/RATES
- Lisa McCracken
- Ernesto Solis
- Melinda Luna
- Kristin DeBone
- Rebeca Santos

### **2. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Andrew Ernest started the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

### **3. INTRODUCTION**

Andrew Ernest welcomed everyone, gave an introduction and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

### **4. IVAN SANTOS PRESENTATION**

- Ivan presented his data and research about the water quality at the three main tributary canals in Brownsville ship addressing data from past years and Real time Station.
- The data collection goals are water quality, flow and concentration of nutrients and bacteria.

- Explained the process for the collection of water samples from the canals and showed his results from observations.
- MODELING EFFORTS presented by using S.E.L.E.C.T model, objective, calculate average daily potential bacteria loads from domestic animals,
- At the end of his presentation, he solved some questions.

## 5. CHRISTOPHER FULLER PRESENTATION

- Dr. Fuller presented the Complimentary LRGV Regional Summary Project, and the “North and central watershed protection plan phase II” and gave information about the project and the budget that will be used.
  - **SECOND PROJECT: CMP 27 PSM LOWER LAGUNA MADRE HYDRODYNAMIC CHARACTERIZATION**
- The project is led by Cameron County, Augusto Sanchez Gonzalez.
- He presented the scope of work, data collection over monitoring hydrodynamic and water quality (CTD), modeling: applied in hydrodynamic modeling developments by multiple agencies. TWBD, TGLO, USACE, TCEQ (NPS).
- Proposed are six monitoring locations.
  - **SECOND PROJECT: NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION-SUSTAINABLE REGIONS SYSTEM RESEARCH NETWORKS: SHARED DESTINIES- HYDRO SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE**
- The goal of the project is the development of full NSF proposal, focus on understanding the sustainability challenges posed by cross border water issues. The project merges social and earth sciences and it will be using bi-national surveys and workshops that characterize cross border water issues.
- He detailed it will consist of two workshops, and that there is an immediate need to identify project participants and grey literature pertaining to bi-national water issues.

## 6. WILLIAM KIRKEY FROM RATES PRESENTATION

- William gave a guided the RGV Flood resources website, TCQ Website and the different data that can be found over the platform. He also explained how to find data by using the layer and documents tab.
- He gave a brief explanation of how the REON tool at the website works and introduced the attendees of the meeting over the apps State and National Data.

## 7. LINDA NAVARRO PRESENTATION

- Linda’s topic for the presentation was the “Real-Time Hydrologic Systems (RTHS) stations to develop a regional monitoring network of the Lower Rio Grande Valley region”.
- There are 44 RTHS Stations contracted under the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) LRGV project to build a Regional Hydrologic Model, thus making it easier to facilitate the modeling efforts.
- She explained briefly how the RTHS locations were identified and summarized the methodology into the following steps:

- Reconditioned LIDAR Elevation data.
  - Channel Order
  - Watershed pour points.
  - Sub-watershed Pour Points
- As a final thought, she got to the conclusion that there are 44 RTHS Stations that could be installed.
  - A link was shared to get RHTS Location Feedback for stakeholders:  
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/257d3c9c1e7e45b1b2c95195b4a75d9a>
  - **(Presentation <https://arcg.is/PWPWa> )**

## **8. COMMISSIONER GARZA INTERVENTION**

Commissioner David Garza talked about the importance of consolidating management in a good way.

## **9. CONCLUSION**

Andrew Ernest summarized the information provided and gave some final thoughts to conclude with the session.

## **10. END OF SESSION**