

**Summary of the Red and Canadian Rivers Basin
Advisory Committee Meeting
March 23, 2010**

The Red and Canadian Rivers Basin Advisory Committee Meeting was held on March 23, 2010 in the Colorado Room of the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo, Texas at 9:30 a.m. There were approximately 27 stakeholders, including staff, in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. James Wright, ESD Manager with the Red River Authority, opened the meeting with introductions and a short review of the meeting agenda. He encouraged everyone to complete their comment form after the meeting. Mr. Wright emphasized the importance of stakeholder participation in the Clean Rivers Program through their comments and suggestions.

Ms. Patricia Wise, with the TCEQ Clean Rivers Program, discussed the reorganization taking place within the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and she listed the divisions that would be operating in the newly named "Office of Water". She then reviewed a list of acronyms that would be used throughout the meeting. Ms. Wise noted some revisions in Water Quality Standards taking effect in July 2010 and talked about some of the programs operating through funding from the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Scott Burns, Environmental Specialist with the Red River Authority, presented the *Draft 2010 Basin Highlights Report*. He explained the process for collecting the data in the report and recommended reviewing the *2009 Basin Summary Report* at rra.dst.tx.us for more detailed information. Mr. Burns also discussed the current monitoring activities in the basins and highlighted water bodies with concerns. He asked that the members use their comment sheets to note any suggestions or recommendations they may have for the FY 2011 Monitoring Schedule.

Ms. Phyllis Dyer, with Texas Agrilife Research Center, presented some bacterial source tracking results in association with the six year *Buck Creek Watershed Protection Plan Study*. She listed sources of bacteria as wildlife, domestic, human and unidentified. She affirmed that further research would be required to study the unidentified occurrences of bacteria. She accredited the success of the study so far to the assistance of coordinating entities and increased support from the stakeholders in the area.

An overview of the current conditions at Lake Meredith was presented by Ms. Tammy Hamby with the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority. She talked about a low level pumping project that was scheduled to be implemented in April 2010 due to the decreasing lake levels. She noted future strategies such as the continued eradication of salt cedars and the addition of new wells to meet the water needs in the area.

The final presentation, given by Dr. Robert DeOtte with West Texas A & M University, addressed issues concerning water quality for the Texas High Plains. He stated that “water quality is dependent on availability”. Dr. DeOtte focused on pharmaceutical contamination as a major water quality concern. He referenced a study on sodium pentobarbital, used as a euthanizing agent in animals, and discussed the importance of keeping such residues out of our waterways, plants and fertilizers.

Mr. James Wright, with the Red River Authority, opened the floor for final questions and comments. Following discussion the meeting adjourned around 12:30 and lunch was served.