

**RED RIVER AUTHORITY OF TEXAS**  
**Summary of the Canadian and Red Rivers Basins**  
**Advisory Committee Meeting**  
**March 22, 2011**

The Canadian and Red Rivers Basin Advisory Committee Meeting was held on March 22, 2011 in the Canadian Room of the Ambassador Hotel in Amarillo, Texas at 9:30 a.m. There were approximately 22 stakeholders, including staff, in attendance at the meeting.

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

Mr. Pappas, Clean Rivers Program Project Manager with the Authority, presented information regarding recent developments with nutrient criteria on both the Federal and State level. He explained the development process and the processes leading up to the Texas Commission on Environmental Qualities' (TCEQ) recent acceptance of numeric nutrient criteria for approximately 75 reservoirs throughout the State. He also focused on some of the logistical and analytical obstacles TCEQ is currently facing.

Mr. Scott Burns, Environmental Specialist with the Authority, presented the *Draft 2011 Canadian and Red River Basins Highlights Report*. He explained the process for collecting the data in the report and recommended reviewing the *2009 Basin Summary Report*, on the Authority's website at [www.rra.dst.tx.us](http://www.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 2012 Monitoring Schedule.

Dr. Paul DeLaune, assistant professor with Texas AgriLife Research Center in Vernon, Texas, presented information on a variety of water quality projects throughout the Rolling and High Plains. Dr. DeLaune is in charge of a new soil science program and is pursuing several nutrient agriculture-related projects with the Texas Cattle Feeders Association and various other entities throughout the State. Currently, his research is focusing on nitrate "crediting," continuing with the *Buck Creek Watershed Protection Plan Study*, impacts of nutrient enriched livestock feed, etc.

Mrs. Amy Crowell, hydrologist with the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District, presented current information concerning the state of groundwater in the Panhandle Region. Ongoing drought and the decline of water levels in major reservoirs, such as Lake Meredith, have forced several water wells to be drilled and have put a strain on groundwater availability. Mrs. Crowell presented data depicting the effects of continued pumping on future groundwater availability, as well as some of the monitoring techniques she and other staff currently uses to monitor groundwater consumption and availability. Mrs. Crowell also discussed some of the services the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District offers, such as providing historic

water well data and monitoring services. She urged that educational outreach and increased conservation were critical to ensuring groundwater availability for future Texans.

Mr. Mick Baldys, hydrologist with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) in Ft. Worth, Texas, presented an overview of an ongoing study with the City of Dallas, Texas, attempting to quantify pharmaceutical and personal care product contamination in the Trinity River. Mr. Baldys stressed that over the past decade the concern that pharmaceuticals and other personal care products has increased with little research based evidence to support either theory. The City of Dallas, Texas requested that the USGS develop a study to determine if, in fact, such products were present in the Trinity River. This study is ongoing with a final report scheduled to be released towards the end of 2012.

Mr. Pappas then opened the floor for final questions and comments. Following discussion, the meeting adjourned around 12:00 p.m. and lunch was served.