



## Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

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Nacogdoches County Farm Bureau Conference Facility

2302 NW Stallings Dr., Nacogdoches, TX

July 13, 2017

6:00 PM -7:30 PM

All presentations are available on the project website: <http://attoyac.tamu.edu/meetings>

6:00 PM      Welcome and Introductions and An Overview of the WPP Implementation  
-Dr. Lucas Gregory, Research Scientist; Texas Water Resources Institute

Dr. Lucas Gregory gave a brief introduction on the Attoyac Bayou Watershed Protection Plan implementation and welcomed new and former stakeholders into the Attoyac Bayou Partnership.

6:15 PM      Water Quality Update and Plans for Future Monitoring Efforts  
-Brian Sims, Watershed Coordinator; Angelina Neches River Authority

Stakeholders received an update of water quality conditions in the Attoyac Bayou watershed. The Attoyac Bayou Watershed is currently impaired for high *E. coli* levels and is listed as a Primary Contact Recreation water body. Water quality exceeded standard levels but were shown to be just above the primary contact recreation limits and within the limits of the secondary contact recreation standards. This shows that water quality levels that meet primary contact recreation standards are within reach and can be attained with voluntary actions in the watershed.

Q: What are the water quality levels for Naconiche Creek?

A: Naconiche Creek has elevated levels of *E. coli*. There has been a dramatic reduction in flow since Lake Naconiche was impounded in 2009 and likely affects instream water quality.

Q: Did ANRA test for other contaminants such as pesticides?

A: No, they are not routinely tested in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed. These tests are usually only done through special studies due to their significant cost per sample.

Q: What part of *E. coli*, Nitrogen, and Phosphorous is due to Agricultural Producers such as poultry or domestic uses in the Watershed?

A: Agricultural Producers contribute minimal amounts of these pollutants. Poultry producers in particular are required to adhere to Water Quality Management Plans which prescribe management practices for their operations that mitigate water quality impacts.



6:45 PM      OSSF Repair and Replacement Assistance Program  
-Ken Awtrey, Coordinator; Pineywoods RC&D

A septic system repair and replacement program was introduced to homeowners in the Attoyac Bayou Watershed. Highlights of this presentation included the potential benefits to homeowners in the watershed and requirements to qualify for the program. For example, homeowners must have property in the watershed and fall below 80% of the median income for Rusk County or an income of less than \$46,500. Other highlights include a discussion on the differences between Pineywoods RC&D and the Angelina River Neches Authority on this septic system project. Pineywoods is not a regulator in the watershed; those that do not qualify for the program will not be reported or face consequences from authorities. Those interested in the program can contact Ken Awtrey at (936) 568-0414 or by email at [kenawtrey@yahoo.com](mailto:kenawtrey@yahoo.com).

7:10 PM      Water Quality Management Plans and Best Management Practices in the Watershed  
-Chris Crenshaw, Soil & Water Conservation Technician; Nacogdoches Soil & Water Conservation District

In this presentation, Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) benefits were explained as well as possible Best Management Practices. Best management practices implemented with landowners can reduce the amount of pollutants entering the watershed. A WQMP is a plan made in partnership with the district technician and the landowner to achieve producer goals with technical and financial assistance. This presentation outlined the reasons for having a WQMP as well as the steps to achieving one. Landowners are eligible to receive a maximum of \$15,000 in assistance per WQMP and cannot exceed 60% of the cost of implementation. Those interested in the program can contact Chris Crenshaw with the Nacogdoches Soil & Water Conservation District at (936) 564-5891 ext. 121 or by email at [chris.crenshaw@tx.nacdnet.net](mailto:chris.crenshaw@tx.nacdnet.net).

Q: Does the technical assistance program have to relate directly to *E. coli* or can it be made for erosion issues too? I have a farm pond that has erosion issues.

A: A WQMP can address both an *E. coli* and erosion issues. Depending on the location of the pond, a WQMP may be able to improve this situation.

Q: Can I apply for the EQIP and WQMP with TSSWCB program at the same time?

A: Yes, you can apply for both and receive financial assistance for both.

7:30 PM      Education and Outreach Programs in the Watershed  
-Amy Uyen Truong, Extension Assistant; Texas Water Resources Institute

Two upcoming education opportunities were announced in the watershed. The first is the Texas Watershed Steward Workshop which will be held November 7, 2017 from 1-5pm at the



Nacogdoches County Exposition & Civic Center, 3805 NW Stallings Dr. in Nacogdoches County. At this workshop, stakeholders can learn about the function of a watershed, potential impairments, and strategies for watershed protection. You can register for the event [here](#).

The second workshop is the Homeowner Septic System Repair Workshop held on September 7, 2017 from 6-8pm at the Nacogdoches County Extension Office- Courthouse Annex, 203 West Main in Nacogdoches County. Homeowners can learn about the operation and maintenance for conventional and aerobic septic systems as well when to pump out your tank and the treatment process. To register for this event, please contact Nacogdoches County Extension Agent Ricky Thompson at [Ricky.Thompson@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Ricky.Thompson@ag.tamu.edu) or (936) 560-7711.

Both workshops are free and attendance is encouraged!

7:40 PM      [Questions and Adjourn](#)

The next stakeholder meeting will be announced through the Attoyac Bayou listserv. Please be on the lookout for programs or announcements in the watershed.