



Clean Rivers Program
Upper Neches River Basin Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, July 18th, 2025 1:00 PM

Attendees:

Jeremiah Poling	Angelina & Neches River Authority (Speaker)
Emylea Cole	Angelina & Neches River Authority (Speaker)
Kimberly Wagner	Angelina & Neches River Authority (Speaker)
Jessica Donovan*	City of Dallas
Jesus Trevino	City of Dallas
Sally Sowell	Diver's Depot
Emily Harmon	Keep Angelina beautiful Clean
Prabin Adhikari	Stephen F. Austin State University
Carmen Montana-Schalk*	Stephen F. Austin State University
Caleb Mullins	Stephen F. Austin State University (Speaker)
Katrina Smith	TCEQ
Brianna Chang*	TCEQ
Nicole Reed*	TCEQ (Speaker)
Wyatt Eason*	TCEQ (Speaker)
Ellen Temple*	Temple Foundation
David Villarreal	Texas Department of Agriculture
Alexander Neal	Texas Water Resources Institute (Speaker)
Shaylynn Postma	Texas Water Resources Institute (Speaker)
Anna Eismont	Texas Water Resources Institute (Speaker)

**Online Participant*

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Mr. Jeremiah Poling gave a brief introduction to the meeting itself, then listed off the meeting's schedule – speakers and topics. He then gave a brief overview of ANRA as an organization, concerning ANRA's jurisdictional area, departments, and facilities.

2. Overview of the Clean River Program:

Ms. Emylea Cole gave an overview of the Clean Rivers Program, describing what the program itself is, followed by telling the audience what ANRA's CRP budget allocations were, where ANRA monitors for CRP, what parameters ANRA collects, and how many CRP sites are within the Neches Basin and who those sites are monitored by. In addition to this, Ms. Cole briefly covered changes to the 303(d) List, a list containing impaired water bodies in Texas, where Neches Basin sites had either been added, removed, or reclassified on the list.

3. Updates to ANRA's Water Quality Monitoring Program and the 2025 Basin Highlights Report:

Ms. Cole presented an overview of water monitoring in the Neches Basin, mentioned changes to the monitoring schedule, described parameters that are collected, and gave details about of the segmented watersheds in our jurisdiction. Next, Ms. Cole briefly present the flora and fauna she has observed in the upper/middle Neches Basin, and how these species correlate with water quality.

4. TMDL and Clean Water Act Project Updates:

Ms. Shaylynn Postma of TWRI presented updates on the Middle Neches Tributaries TMDLs and I-Plan which were approved in 2023 and expanded in 2024.

Mr. Wyatt Eason of TCEQ presented on work the TCEQ is doing to further expand the Middle Neches Tributaries TMDLs and I-Plan to include two additional assessment units: Hurricane Creek (AU 0604B_02) and Biloxi Creek (0604M_02).

Ms. Shaylynn Postma of TWRI presented an introduction to the Bayou Carrizo Supplemental Water Quality Monitoring and Data Analysis project that has recently begun.

Ms. Anna Eismont of TWRI presented and introduction to the Sandy Creek Watershed Water Quality Monitoring and Characterization project that recently began sampling in Jasper County.

Mr. Alexander Neal of TWRI presented updates on the ongoing Attoyac Bayou and La Nana Bayou Watershed Protection Plan Projects.

5. Education and Outreach Updates:

Ms. Kimberly Wagner gave updates on ANRA's Recreation, Education, and Outreach program. This entailed the events ANRA attended/presented at, ANRA's Stash your Trash! and Alligator Snapping Turtle awareness campaigns, Texas Stream Team updates, Neches River Rendezvous updates and future plans, and an introduction to ANRA's internship partnership with SFASU's CARRI program.

6. Guest Speakers

Mr. Caleb Mullins spoke about How Chinese tallow Leaf Litter Alters Amphibian Oviposition Site Selection. Ephemeral pools that reside within tallow trees suffer rapid nutrient turnover due to the increased decomposition rate of Chinese tallow leaves. The effects of the nutrient overload on water quality deters amphibians from laying in that body of water, as well as can be fatal to already occurring offspring.

Open discussion for Steering Committee Member recommendations and concerns:

Lastly, the floor was opened to discussion. There were no questions, recommendations, or concerns voiced by the public/steering committee, so the meeting was adjourned.