

Arroyo Colorado Outreach and Education Workgroup

Texas AgriLife Extension Conference Room

February 8, 2011 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Attendees:

Omar Rios, Harlingen
Luis Guerra, San Juan
Rosendo Flores, Palm Valley
Ronnie Ramirez, TSSWCB
Jaime Longoria, HSWCD
Tony Reisinger, TX Sea Grant
Jaime Flores, TWRI

Marcie Oviedo, LRGVDC
Ludy Saenz, LRGVDC
Irene Szedlmayer, La Feria
Melisa Gonzales, Alamo
Alex De La Rosa, Alamo
Efrain Tafolla, Weslaco
Oscar Garcia, Weslaco

Meeting Summary

Welcome and Introductions..... Jaime Flores, TWRI

Project Discussion:

New O&E Materials/Event Planning..... Jaime Flores, TWRI

Jaime asked of any valley events being planned. Irene from La Feria stated her community will have Fiesta La Feria on 2/26/2011.

Marcie Oviedo from LRGVDC said to please send her all planned events and they would post them on their web site under solid waste tab.

Jaime went on to inform group that they are waiting for a response from TCEQ regarding using allocated dollars for storm water stencils for all participating cities. Melisa from Alamo asked if all stencils had to be the same or if cities could use their creativity for them. Jamie stated we could be creative in efforts.

City of Weslaco informed group, with Roy gone, they would have to see where they are on the preparation of stencils and markings. Jaime advised them that he would help to guide them with this project

Road Signage Project Update Javier Guerrero, TAMUK

With Weslaco taking lead on signage project and with Roy no longer part of city, The City of Weslaco will have to research and see where they are on this project for all task force cities.

Weslaco will be looking for signs and asked about TXDOT permit for signage. Jaime stated he would send them a copy of the permit for their records and so they can see the specifics of the requirements.

Arroyo Colorado Outreach Activities:

Classroom Presentations Jaime Flores, TWRI

Jaime talked about the schedule of presentations and Javier would get the finalized one soon. He stated that this year, target will be required amounts only. Omar, from Harlingen asked what the required amount, 2 per year was stated. Currently two models for presentations can be used.

O&E Project Updates:

Texas Stream Team Monitor Workshop..... Jaime Flores, TWRI

The Texas Stream Team will be holding a training workshop for STC Weslaco campus on Saturday 12, 2011. This training is only for STC students and staff and was in response to the large numbers of STC students that signed up for the last training. The Texas Stream Team is asking for possible training dates for storm water task force. Jaime stated he would ask them to give him tentative dates in May, so task force members can take advantage of this training.

Other topics discussed:

Water bill inserts

PSA for city will be done by the end of this month

Omar, from Harlingen, asked about he getting a CD with PSA to have approved before airing.

Jaime is to send him one.

Melisa asked about meeting with Public Broadcast System- Jaime stated he is working on meeting with them and see if they will partner up to offer free air time.

LID Workshop- Informed group that Javier is trying to link Conference and LID workshop at same time. This would be most beneficial for all participating cities. Weslaco asked about video taping conference for future viewing, if cities are not able to attend. Consensus was this is a great idea.

Upcoming Grants and Potential Projects

Grants Update Jaime Flores, TWRI

Jaime talked about CARE grant. City of Alamo is currently working on this funding opportunity and Jaime talked about letters of support. Melisa is to get sample of letters out by Friday to all identified partners/stakeholders.

Reclamation Grant- Still working on and Jaime stated to send in all data and information will be compiled to ensure deadline of February 17th. Melisa has contacted school district to meet with Grants Director and possible letter of support for this rain harvesting project, utilizing the collected barrels from Coca-Cola.

Reminders of habitat workgroup meeting at Esto Llano Grande for Thursday, 2-4 pm and Steering Committee Meeting from 5-7pm.

Meeting adjourned as lunch arrived.

