



TEXAS STATE
Soil & Water
CONSERVATION BOARD

Plum Creek Watershed Partnership Steering Committee Meeting

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

February 25, 2025

Recreation Hall at Lockhart State Park

2012 State Park Rd., Lockhart, Texas

Meeting Summary

- Sierra Murray welcomed the Steering Committee (SC) members.
- Sierra introduced herself to the SC members as the new Watershed Coordinator (WC) for the Plum Creek Watershed Partnership. The members introduced themselves.
- The WC briefed the SC on the completed projects and trainings since beginning work on January 22nd. Updates included the Watershed Planning Short Course, various organization meetings, Standard Core Water Quality Community Scientist training, and a feral hog management workshop.
- The WC asked for updates from the Civic and Environmental Work Groups. Neither group had any updates. They agreed that the ideal meeting would be during the workday virtually once a quarter.
- The WC provided an update on the Feral Hog Trap Loan Program. GBRA and Caldwell-Travis SWCD will partner to loan traps to Caldwell County landowners. The program proposal, landowner agreement, and trap instructions are near completion.
- The GBRA Project Manager discussed a Best Management Practice partnership opportunity with GBRA for FY 2027.
- The WC shared the planned revitalization of the Caldwell County Justice Center Rain Garden. The rain garden has not been properly maintained in recent years. The WC also asked for feedback on other organizations or opportunities to educate and help plan for rain gardens in the watershed.
- The WC discussed the potential for youth educational outreach with libraries within the watershed (City of Kyle, City of Buda, City of Lockhart, and City of Luling). The WC

proposed a collaboration to read environmental children's books about water and conservation followed by hands-on activities.

- The WC asked for updates on a WaterFest event, an educational water celebration focused on science, nature, and art within Watershed ISDs. Previously, concerns included getting buy-in from watershed ISDs, volunteer recruitment, finding a suitable venue, and funding. The SC proposed a partnership with one (1) school for their field day and possibly expand to a standalone event in the future. The Civic Work Group will meet to discuss details.
- The WC shared Lockhart ISD field trip dates at Lockhart State Park. 5th graders will explore aquatic macroinvertebrates on April 11th and May 9th. SC members offered to volunteer with education and outreach.
- To build a stronger brand identity and bring Plum Creek Watershed to life, the WC proposed introducing a mascot. After some excited discussion, it was suggested that children submit the design for the SC to vote on. It was also recommended that the mascot contest be held in conjunction with the WaterFest.
- Adult education and outreach goals were discussed for 2025-2026. Several educational courses and workshops were identified including: OSSF homeowner maintenance certification course, rainwater harvesting, and Healthy Lawns Healthy Waters.
 - Upcoming workshops like Feral Hog Management Workshop, Texas Well Owners Network, and Lone Star Healthy Streams were also shared.
- The WC shared potential and upcoming workshops. Interest in the Texas Stream Team training and rainwater harvesting workshops was expressed.
- Upcoming events and plans like the 40th Annual Great Texas River Cleanup and Clean Rivers Program Steering Committee meeting were announced by the WC.
- The SC suggested a standing meeting date for the 2nd Wednesday of the 1st month of the quarter for SC and public stakeholder meetings. The SC agreed to this routine meeting time. It was suggested that the SC meeting be occasionally hosted virtually or hybrid. Possible meeting locations were shared.
- The WC asked for SC members to share concerns, priorities, or suggestions.
 - The GBRA Project Managers shared an update on the WC position as it is now housed at GBRA. The ability to apply for grants, continue previous efforts, and submit comments with more support was discussed.
 - It was suggested that during the public stakeholder meeting for a presentation on revised floodplain maps to discuss changes and their impacts. Other public stakeholder meeting suggestions included TreeFolks and River Rangers to share a riparian health class opportunity.
 - A tire recycling program was suggested with the potential to partner with Hays and Caldwell counties. A potential grant from CAPCOG was discussed.

- A concern regarding the 5-5-2-1 limits was discussed, along with addressing reuse goals in permits.
- Interest in the Texas Stream Team to pinpoint point source pollution within the City of Kyle was expressed. A potential grant to purchase kits was discussed, as well as purchasing reagents through the Partnership.

Next Public Stakeholder Meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Location: TBD

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