



Coastal Bend Bays & Estuaries Program, Inc.

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Meeting Summary – April 14, 2005

Environmental Education and Outreach Implementation Team (EEOIT)

The EEOIT held their seventh meeting on Thursday, April 14th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Members present were: Maggie Dalthorp – EEOIT Chair, Tara Schultz – EEOIT Co-Chair, Monika De La Garza, Bob Corrigan, Jeff Foster, Lois Huff, Ty Harris, and Michelle Horine

- I. Immediately after the welcome and introductions, the team began the FY2006 budget review process for the EEOIT.
- II. Team reviewed project descriptions and then ranked the proposals with the project ranking score sheet. Members then placed score sheets in order on an empty table. Tara tallied the results and then the team reviewed each project. (Please see EEOIT budget proposal below.)
- III. Team made their budget recommendations for the Coordination Council.
- IV. Since the budget was approved and ready for the Coordination Council meeting, team voted to cancel regularly scheduled meeting on April 21, 2005.
- V. Meeting adjourned.

EEOIT FY2006 Proposed Budget

1. Keepers of the Coast - \$35,000

The Texas State Aquarium's *Keepers of the Coast* (KOTC) educator/student outreach project was successfully implemented in FY2001. KOTC goals emphasize the connection among inland environments, coastal waters, and the Gulf of Mexico. Participants are encouraged to take action to ensure the sustainability of local resources, wetlands, watersheds, and waterways. During *Keepers of the Coast*, students gain more than a better understanding of their local environment; they foster an appreciation for the world around them to become well-informed citizens and future leaders.

2. Kritters 4 Kids - \$20,000 The Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest request \$20,000 to continue expanding Kritters 4 Kids(K4K) into Coastal Bend Schools and to offset salary cost for a Part Time Education Outreach Assistant. A grant of \$20,000 will supply books to thirteen Coastal Bend schools of your choice.

3. Public Education & Outreach Events and Activities - \$40,000

The goal of the public education and outreach projects is to provide the public with the environmental science knowledge to make sound decisions regarding the effective management of bay resources and to promote environmental stewardship through increasing awareness of the resources and the issues regarding their use. As a result of the need for the Public Outreach Events and Activities, the CBBEP will participate in the following projects: Community Events and Festivals, CBBEP Educational Materials, CBBEP Website, CBBEP Newsletter, CBBEP Annual Meeting and Forums, National Ocean Sciences Bowl, and Other Outreach Opportunities.

4. Teaching Environmental Science - \$25,000

In addition to TES I & II, an additional TES one-week workshop for approximately 20 teachers will be offered. The teachers will earn Continuing Education Unit hours, which is required for maintaining their

certification, instead of college credit hours. The many activities and teaching strategies for South Texas Environmental Education would be incorporated, but would not include the many fieldtrips to area industries. The workshop timeline would utilize only one week, rather than 2 ½ weeks of the teachers' summer vacation. In addition to what has been offered in the TES courses, we also suggest that the Texas State Aquarium's program, *Keepers of the Coast*, and the Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest's program, *Kritters-4-Kids*, be incorporated and funded into this workshop using some of the \$4500 supplies and equipment monies.

5. Coastal Bend Bays Foundation (CBBF) - \$40,000

Currently, the CBBEP is the most important funding partner for CBBF programs (2005 funding \$25,000). The funding requested will support project implementation including Earth Day-Bay Day, Conservation & Environmental Outreach Awards Program, Oso Creek Workshop, Coastal Issues Forums and Adopt-A-Beach.

6. Public Education & Outreach Media Plan - \$25,000

Public outreach continues to be a key element of the CBBEP to educate Coastal Bend residents about the importance of bays and estuaries to their communities. The CBBEP will utilize local, and regional, which includes television, radio, print, and websites, to implement the goals of the CBBEP Public Outreach Strategy.

7. Curricula Needs Assessment Follow up & Environmental Educator - \$44,000

The on-going objective is to research the existing inventory, explore what curricula teachers are using and how the teachers are using the information in the classrooms to determine if there are any curricula gaps. The next step would be to hire an educator to address the need of filling an educational gap that currently exists in the Texas Coastal Bend independent and private school districts. Although other organizations have tried to coordinate a plan similar to this, nothing has been developed to this magnitude. This program will become the educational nucleus for all CBBEP educational projects and will prove to be cost-effective benefiting students, teachers, parents, school districts and non-governmental organizations.