

BRAZOS RIVER CONSERVATION COALITION HOOD COUNTY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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Hood County Day on March 7, 2007

BRCC-HCC Promotes Mission and Purpose At Texas State Legislature

By JoAnn Matthews

Six members of the BRCC joined the Hood County delegation at the Texas State Capitol on Wednesday, March 7. Resolutions were introduced in the Texas House of Representatives and the Texas Senate designating March 7 a special day of recognition for Hood County. The delegation was recognized in open session of both the House and the Senate.

The Hood County delegation included 65 local citizens from the Hood County Chamber of Commerce, City and County officials, Leadership Granbury, 15 Granbury High School students from Junior Leadership Granbury, BRCC members, Hood County Sheriff, and members of the Hood County Fire Department.

Josh Rosenfeld assembled a comprehensive brochure of the BRCC Hood County Chapter's mission statement, history and goals. The brochure implemented an excerpt from Senate Bill 1354 effective in June 2005, sponsored by Representative Jim Keffer amending the Water Code

to establish a 20-year pilot water quality protection program for the John Graves Scenic Riverway in the Brazos River Basin. It also included elaborate colorful photographs of the Brazos River and Lake Granbury in Hood County stating our pledge to protect this heritage.

The brochure was presented for study and review to Representative Jim Keffer and Senator Kip Averitt. This form of introduction on behalf of the Hood County Chapter of the BRCC will promote our positive attempts to further educate citizens concerning issues relating to our waterways. We need an open door for keeping the BRCC goals before our elected officials. Our continuing growth in membership supporting those goals gives a more formidable voice for our efforts.

BRCC members attending Hood County Day were Josh Rosenfeld, Billy Teels, JoAnn Matthews, Becky Dixon, Mike Scott, and Susan Scott.

March 13th General Meeting

The March 13th meeting of the BRCC-HCC was attended by twenty five members and guests and saw 5 new members enrolled.

Co-chair Josh Rosenfeld opened the meeting with a slide presentation that is the basis of the brochure distributed to the members of the Legislature on Hood County Day in Austin. This presentation will be used at other organization gathering to introduce the BRCC-HCC around

the county.

County Commissioner Dick Roan was the featured guest. He expressed appreciation of the efforts of the chapter and said he will arrange for the chapter to be recognized by a motion of the County Commissioners at an upcoming meeting. He also invited Josh to present the slide show at the commissioner's meeting. Commis-

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sioner Roan indicated that he is eager to work with the chapter and will keep us advised of county activity related to the river and the lake. In response to an inquiry by Dominique Inge, Mr. Roan said he would attempt to find and reintroduce a resolution in support of the extension of the John Graves Scenic Riverway into Hood County.

Member, Billy Long, raised the issue of the efforts of the new U. S. House of Representatives

to reduce “earmarks” funding and the impact that may have on the study of golden algae blooms in the lake. Josh Rosenfeld agreed to contact the office of Rep. Chet Edwards for an up-date on the issue. A few days later Josh reported that Chet’s office feels the funding is secure.

The subjects of the desalinization of groundwater springs feeding the lake waters and the “pass through” of nutrients in the sewage treatment process were briefly discussed and deferred for later discussion.

April 10th Meeting

A reminder that the April meeting will feature James McAusland, Director, Hood County Office of Environmental Health.

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