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Newsletter, Winter 2014

LAMCOS MEETING, January 15, 2015

The Lake Medina Conservation Society will conduct a membership meeting on January 15, 2015 at the Lakehills Civic Center located at 11225 Park Road 37. The meeting will begin at 6:00 PM. There will be presentations on the operation of Diversion Lake by the Save Medina Lake Committee www.savemedinalake.com and a surface water presentation by Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District www.bcragd.org. The Central Texas Water Coalition, www.CentralTexasWaterCoalition.com, will provide information on their activities on Lakes Buchanan and Travis. Like Lake Medina both lakes have suffered due to large releases of water for farmers downstream to flood their fields.

In 2012 the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) authorized the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) Drought Management Plan which restricted irrigation water dependent on the Colorado River basin for the first time. Unless there is substantial rain in 2015 it is unlikely water will be allowed for irrigation for a fourth year. Because Hill Country lakes have become generators for economic activity agricultural influence is decreasing. It is likely there will be minimum conservation pool levels which restrict irrigation during extreme droughts in the future. This approach would be very helpful for the Medina River basin.

TCEQ Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”)

The “SEP” project was initiated by the Texas Commission for Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to allow organizations found in violation of environmental regulations to use their fines to improve the environment.

In 2013 LAMCOS began working with San Antonio Water System (SAWS) to use these funds to clean up illegal dump sites around Lake Medina. With the cooperation of the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District (BCRAGD) illegal dump sites have been located and sites selected for cleanup. We are pleased to announce that the cleanup of these illegal dumps will begin in January of 2015. Through this cooperative effort it will be possible to continue this program as funds become available in the future.

Medina River Protection Fund

LAMCOS supports the Fifteenth Annual Medina River Cleanup which will be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015. Last year participants from many parts of the state joined with Bandera County residents to clean 50 miles of the river by boat and by land. All 209 volunteers were provided with a free t-shirt promoting the cleanup and food was served to volunteers from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For details visit the Medina River Protection Fund, Inc. website at www.medinariver.net .

It is time to renew your membership for 2014.

If you have had any changes or are sending in your membership dues, please complete (PRINT) and mail to LAMCOS, P.O. BOX 390, Lakehills, TX 78063. Dues are \$10.00 per person or \$15.00 per family. Any and all donations are appreciated.

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Dues _____ Donation _____