



**FEDERAL-STATE STAKEHOLDER MEETING**  
**Lower Rio Grande Valley**  
**Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center**  
**Main Building Auditorium, Room 102**  
**2415 E. Highway 83**  
**Weslaco, TX 78596**

**July 19, 2023**  
**2:00 – 5:00 p.m. CDT**

AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks (2:00 – 2:25)
  - i. Maria-Elena Giner, Commissioner, International Boundary and Water Commission, U.S. Section (USIBWC)
  - ii. David Palumbo, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), Bureau of Reclamation
  - iii. Gloria Montaño Greene, Deputy Undersecretary for Farm Production and Conservation, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
  - iv. Claudia Lozano, Senior Program Coordinator for Border Affairs, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)
  
2. Federal Government Water Programs to support Lower Rio Grande Valley Communities and Farmers (2:25 – 3:45)
  - a. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Programs – Rob Ziehr, Assistant State Conservationist- Partnerships & Initiatives
    - i. Disaster Assistance Programs Related to Drought
      1. EQIP
      2. Emergency Watershed Protection Program
    - ii. Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
      1. WaterSMART
      2. Source Water Protection Initiative
      3. Local Work Groups
    - iii. Conservation Stewardship Program
    - iv. Questions and Answers
  - b. USDA Rural Development Programs – Michael Canales
    - i. Water and Waste Disposal Grants and Loans
    - ii. Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants
    - iii. SEARCH -- Special Evaluation Assistance for Rural Communities & Households
    - iv. Circuit Rider Program

- v. Grants to Alleviate Health Risk in Colonias
    - vi. Questions and Answers
  - c. DOI/ Bureau of Reclamation Programs – Collins Balcombe, Supervisory Program Coordinator, Planning & Project Development Division, Oklahoma-Texas Office, USBR
    - i. Water and Energy Efficiency Grants
    - ii. Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants
    - iii. Drought Resiliency Grants
    - iv. Cooperative Watershed Management Grants
    - v. Applied Science Grants
    - vi. Water resources Planning & Project Design Grants
    - vii. Environmental Water Resources Grants
    - viii. Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Grants
    - ix. Questions and Answers
- 3. Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) Programs – Enriqueta Caballero , Outreach Specialist, Water Supply & Infrastructure, TWDB (3:45 – 4:05)
  - i. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
  - ii. Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
  - iii. Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA Supplemental to the SRF Funds)
  - iv. State Water Implementation Fund for Texas (SWIFT)
  - v. Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF)
  - vi. Texas Water Development Fund (DFund)
  - vii. Questions and Answers
- 4. Discussion/Conclusions/Follow-Up Activities (4:05 – 4:30)
- 5. Media availability with principals (4:30 – 5:00)