

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting and Public Hearing
November 7, 2024

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Lily Lucas, Dan Pickens, Vanessa Puig-Williams, and Christy Williams who arrived at 5:06pm. Staff present included: Tim Loftus, Erin Swanson, Jacob Newton, Justin Camp, Bri Moore, and Hannah Riggs. These minutes represent a summarized version of the meeting; the complete discussion of the following items is recorded digitally.

Note: The Board of Directors of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District reserves the right to adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any of the matters listed on this agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code Sections §551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.087 (Economic Development) 418.183 (Homeland Security). No final action or decision will be made in Executive Session.

1. Call to Order.

President Stansberry called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

2. Citizen Communications (Public Comments of a General Nature).

There were no public comments at this time.

3. Consent Agenda. *(Note: These items may be considered and approved as one motion. Directors or citizens may request any consent item be removed from the consent agenda, for consideration and possible approval as a separate item of Regular Business on this agenda.)*

a. **Approval of Financial Reports under the Public Funds Investment Act, Directors' Compensation Claims, Specified Expenditures greater than \$5,000.**

b. **Approval of minutes of the Board's October 10, 2024, Regular Meeting.**

Secretary Williams arrived while the financial reports were being discussed.

President Stansberry inquired about the Truist Credit Card Reconciliation Report and requested that future reports include more detailed expense information. Director Puig-Williams raised a question concerning the comparison financial report, noting that the fees accrued this fiscal year were significantly lower than at the same point last fiscal year. Dr. Loftus responded that he would follow up with Tina Cooper to investigate the discrepancy.

No questions or concerns on item 3b.

Director Puig-Williams moved to approve the financial reports, the invoices over \$5,000, and the previous minutes. Vice President Pickens seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

4. General Manager's Report. Discussion and possible action.

Topics

a. Review of key team activities/projects.

i. Trinity Sustainable Yield

Dr. Loftus provided an update stating that the Well Impact Analysis results are expected soon. He mentioned that he and Jeff Watson had met with LRE Water to review the findings and that a full report would be sent over shortly. He added that the TAS model, which Bill Hutchison is consulting on, is currently underway, and that he and Jeff are working on an RFQ for consulting assistance for Task 3 of Phase 2.

ii. Administrative Group – Annual Audit Update

Dr. Loftus updated that the Annual Audit is underway.

iii. Annual Report Obligations

Dr. Loftus reported that both the Annual Report and the HCP Annual Report are progressing as planned. He noted that Hannah Riggs is organizing the Annual Report, while Justin Camp is responsible for organizing the HCP Annual Report.

b. Ruby Ranch WSC, Order Granting Variance Update

Dr. Loftus provided an update that Staff recently met with Ruby Ranch WSC to review their long-term options, one of which involves connecting to Buda water. Blake Neffendorf, who was present at the meeting, noted that while discussions are ongoing, this option would take time to implement. Shorter-term options include utilizing their ASR buffer water or drilling a new Trinity well.

Dr. Loftus had some additional updates. Wade Oliver is leaving Intera so the District will have a new contact there. The Magellan samples were completed and all were tested and showed non-detect. Neighborhood Well Visits are happening this month.

c. Aquifer status update.

Justin Camp provided the drought update, noting October was particularly dry. He reported that the Lovelady Monitor Well levels are approximately 2.5 feet below Stage III Drought conditions. Additionally, Barton Springs is also in Stage III Drought, and the District will continue to conduct biweekly manual measurements. The Middle Trinity has is continuing to decline, and Jacob's Well continues to show no flow.

d. Upcoming events of possible interest

Dr. Loftus called attention to the upcoming events of possible interest in the Status Report.

7. Discussion and possible action.

a. Discussion and possible action related to the performance and compliance of District permittees with their User Drought Contingency Plan curtailments.

Jacob Newton went through the UDCP.

6. Public Hearing on amending Rule 3-7.8. – Imposition of Regulatory Fees

President Stansberry opened the Public Hearing at 5:39pm.

Dr Loftus presented a recap of what had been discussed in the past two Board meetings about the potential changes to our Regulatory Fees.

President Stansberry closed the Public Hearing at 5:45pm.

7. Discussion and possible action.

b. Discussion and possible action on proposed amendments to the District’s enforcement plan. d. Discussion and possible action on Rule 3-7.8 – Imposition of Regulatory Fees, including consideration and adoption of amendment(s) to the rule

Director Puig-William moved to approve the proposed amendments on Rule 3-7.8. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

b. Discussion and possible action on proposed amendments to the District’s enforcement plan.

c. Discussion and possible related to amending the District’s FY 25 Fee Schedule.

President Stansberry opened items 7c and 7d simultaneously, as they are directly related.

Director Puig-William moved to approve the proposed amendments to the District’s Fee Schedule as well as the amendment to the District’s enforcement plan. Vice President Pickens seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

f. Discussion and possible action on a draft, new-Board Member, Onboarding Information outline.

The Board reviewed the Onboarding outline in Board back-up.

5. GM Quarterly Update on FY 24 Annual Goals

7. Discussion and possible action.

e. Discussion and possible action on GM goals for FY 25.

President Stansberry opened items 5 and 7e simultaneously, as they are directly related.

Executive session began at 5:59pm.

Executive session ended at 6:53pm.

President Stansberry recapped the goals for FY 24 and FY 25 that were discussed in executive session.

Director Puig-Williams moved to approve the FY 25 goals for the GM. Vice President Pickens seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Director Reports.

Directors may report on their involvement in activities and dialogue that are of likely interest to the Board, in one or more of the following topical areas:

- Meetings and conferences attended or that will be attended;
- Board committee updates;
- Conversations with public officials, permittees, stakeholders, and other constituents;
- Commendations; and
- Issues or problems of concern.

Director Puig-Williams went to the TWCA Conference and mentioned that she is planning on scheduling some outreach events in her precinct.

Director Lucas had no updates.

President Stansberry has been working with the Trinity Sustainable Yield committee and working on the FY 25 GM goals.

Secretary Williams had no updates.

Vice President Pickens has been having discussions with Jim Camp and others regarding the Milestone development.

9. **Adjournment.**

With no objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 7:00pm.

Approved by the Board on December 12, 2024.

By: _____ Attest: _____