

NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

Notice is given that a **Regular Meeting** of the Board of Directors of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District will be held at the **District office**, located at 1124 Regal Row, Austin, Texas, on **Thursday, March 8, 2018**, commencing at **6:00 p.m.** for the following purposes, which may be taken in any order at the discretion of the Board.

Note: The Board of Directors of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District reserves the right to meet in 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.**
2. **Citizen Communications (Public Comments of a General Nature).**
3. **Routine Business.**
 - a. **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.)*
 1. Approval of Financial Reports under the Public Funds Investment Act, Directors' Compensation Claims, and Specified Expenditures greater than \$5,000. **Not for public review**
 2. Approval of minutes of the Board's February 22, 2018 regular Meeting. **Not for public review at this time**
 - b. **General Manager's Report.** *(Note: Topics discussed in the General Manager's Report are intended for general administrative and operational information-transfer purposes. The Directors will not take any action unless the topic is specifically listed elsewhere in this agenda for consideration.)*
 1. **Standing Topics.**
 - i. Personnel matters and utilization
 - ii. Upcoming public events of possible interest
 - iii. Aquifer conditions and status of drought indicators
 2. **Special Topics.** *(Note: Individual topics listed below may be discussed by the Board in this meeting, but no action will be taken unless a topic is specifically posted elsewhere in this agenda as an item for possible action. A Director may request an individual topic that is presented only under this agenda item be placed on the posted agenda of some future meeting for Board discussion and possible action.)*
 - i. Review of Status Update Report – at directors' discretion **Pg. 25**
 - ii. Update on GMA and regional water planning

- iii. Update on initiation of Southwestern Travis County GCD
- iv. Update on regulatory and enforcement activities
- v. Update on status of the District HCP and ITP
- vi. Update on Aquifer Science Team projects and activities
- vii. Update on Board committee activity

4. Discussion and Possible Action.

- a. Discussion and possible action related to reviewing and updating the subjects and composition of Board Committees. **Pg. 30**
- b. Discussion and possible action related to the Sawyer Ranch application for a proposed TPDES permit to authorize direct discharge of treated wastewater to Barton Creek in the contributing zone of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer. **NBU**
- c. Discussion and possible action related to the City of Dripping Springs TPDES permit application to authorize direct discharge of treated wastewater to Onion Creek in the contributing zone of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer, including the District's possible participation in ongoing settlement discussions. **NBU**

5. Directors' Reports. *(Note: Directors' comments under this item cannot address an agenda item posted elsewhere on this agenda and no substantive discussion among the Board Members or action will be allowed in this meeting.)*

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;
- Committee formation and updates;
- Conversations with public officials, permittees, stakeholders, and other constituents;
- Commendations; and
- Issues or problems of concern.

6. Adjournment.

Please note: This agenda and available related documentation have been posted on our website, www.bseacd.org. If you have a special interest in a particular item on this agenda and would like any additional documentation that may be developed for Board consideration, please let staff know at least 24 hours in advance of the Board Meeting so that we can have those copies made for you.

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the District office at 512-282-8441 at least 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed.

Item 1
Call to Order

Item 2

Citizen Communications

Item 3

Routine Business

- b. General Manager's Report.** *(Note: Topics discussed in the General Manager's Report are intended for general administrative and operational information-transfer purposes. The Directors will not take any action unless the topic is specifically listed elsewhere in this agenda.)*

1. Standing Topics.

- i. Personnel matters and utilization
- ii. Upcoming public events of possible interest
- iii. Aquifer conditions and status of drought indicators

2. **Special Topics.** *(Note: Individual topics listed below may be discussed by the Board in this meeting, but no action will be taken unless a topic is specifically posted elsewhere in this agenda as an item for possible action. A Director may request an individual topic that is presented only under this agenda item be placed on the posted agenda of some future meeting for Board discussion and possible action.)*

- i. Review of Status Update Report – at directors' discretion
- ii. Update on GMA and regional water planning
- iii. Update on initiation of Southwestern Travis County GCD
- iv. Update on regulatory and enforcement activities
- v. Update on status of the District HCP and ITP
- vi. Update on Aquifer Science Team projects and activities
- vii. Update on Board committee activity

STATUS REPORT UPDATE FOR MARCH 8, 2018 BOARD MEETING

Prepared by District Team Leaders

Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
GENERAL MANAGEMENT TEAM Kirk Holland			
KH	2/28/18	Meetings, Training, Presentations, and Conferences	External Meetings Attended: SWTCCD board meetings. Other meetings: Planning Team and individual team meetings. Meetings with Needmore and EP technical and legal representatives. Meetings with FWS and consultant on HCP and EIS finalization. Presentations: None. Conferences/Seminars: None.
KH	2/28/18	Ongoing Special Projects, Committees, and Workgroups	Ongoing Special Projects: GMA 10 GCD rules comparison and evaluation. Oversight of salary study project; oversight and response to interpersonal conflicts assessment. HCP comments and responses: SW Travis Co. GCD; Committees and Workgroups: GMA 10 (temporary coordinator and voting member).
KH	2/28/18	Routine Activities and Day-to-Day operations	Routine Activities/Day-to-Day Operations: provided general oversight of staff incentive projects and activities, and oversight of day-to-day operations; approved purchase orders and expenditures; approved timesheets; prepared agendas and backup for and attended Board meetings; prepared GM report and assigned tasks in response to Board commitments; held regular one-on-one meetings with Team Leaders; presided over Planning Team meetings; serve as liaison between Board and staff; support Board committees; respond to media requests; disseminate media reports and journal articles of possible interest. Consultation with Attorney on: Dripping Springs TPDES permit, agenda review, Needmore Contested Case; contract reviews; EP application review. Personnel issues. Other Activities: Needmore contested case; Database project implementation; GMA 10 coordination; GMA rules review and comparison method; coordinate HCP comment responses; Dripping Springs settlement. EP application review; salary study coordination; support of SW Travis County GCD.
ADMINISTRATION TEAM Dana Christine Wilcox			
DCW	3/1/2018	Permittee accounts carrying a past due balance:	All accounts currently in good standing.
DCW	3/1/2018	March Monthly Billings, and 3rd Quarter Billings (Mar/Apr/May) have been issued.	February 16th statement due for March monthly invoices and 3rd q billings for March/April/May. Payments are due on Mar 5th and considered late on Mar 16th.
SD/TR/DCW	3/1/2018	The District will set up system for credit card payment capabilities.	Not started yet but expected to begin training soon, as time permits.
DCW	3/1/2018	Report on consent agenda.	
DCW	3/1/2018	Most current, available financial reports to be posted.	Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Statements, and Check Registers through December 2017 have been posted.
DCW	3/1/2018	Personnel committee in process of interviewing candidates.	
DCW	3/1/2018	TWDB RFP Grant	Budget amendment, and grant invoice currently in process. Correspondence between the billing department is still an ongoing issue.
DCW	3/1/2018	Met with Eddie Garza on adding some new funds to our portfolio options.	Eddie explained to the staff the new target funds that have been added to our portfolio.
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE TEAM Vanessa Escobar			

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Needmore Water LLC	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Conversion of a Temporary Permit to a Regular Permit	Needmore Water LLC is currently a Temporary Permit that has been determined to be administratively complete. Public notice was published on 11/29/16 and comment period closed on 12/19/16. The District received a request for a contested case hearing from both the applicant and TESPA. TESPA requested the hearing to go before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH). BSEACD Board decided that the preliminary hearing to determine party status will be heard by SOAH. The General Manager has provided a Preliminary Decision with recommended Special Provisions, and a Technical Evaluation, that is available on the website www.bseacd.org. A preliminary hearing on party standing was held on 7/31/17 at SOAH. TESPA was granted party status. An initial hearing on the merits of the permit application is scheduled to take place March 5th 2018.
Electro Purification	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Production Permit	EIP has submitted 7 modification applications and 1 production permit application on 7/13/17. The production request is for 912,500,000 million gallons a year (2.5 MGD) to be produced from the Middle Trinity Aquifer for the purposes of Wholesale Public Water Supply. The General Managers Preliminary Finding was sent out to the applicant on 2/20/18. A 90-day extend review period has been announced. A hearing on the application is scheduled for additional information.
ASR Rulemaking	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Rule Making / Technical Workgroup	The Regulatory staff and Aquifer Science staff are coordinating a technical workgroup meeting to take place in early December 2017. This meeting will be a discussion amongst technical ASR experts, interested ASR users, and District Technical staff. ASR Technical Workshop was held on 12/13/17 and the discussion was focused on regulatory and permitting concepts along with a brief update on current ASR activity within the District. The workshop notes and summary are coming together; staff will provide an update to the Board subcommittee in Spring 2018.
SH45 SW/ Mopac Intersections	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Consent Decree/Roadway Projects	Next Site inspection: SH 45SW on 3/1/18. TXDOT is coordinating with District staff on regular visits to the Mopacs project site for geologic inspections.
Database Development	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Intra Contract - Database Development	Intra is providing biweekly updates and status reports on their progress. They are currently in the design/prototype phase where the look and feel is still being developed. A prototype to preview will be available for staff to review by mid february.
General Manager Approved Permits	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Individual Permits < 2,000,000 gal/yr	NA
Drought Stage- No-Drought	KBE, VE	3/1/18	Drought Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement	No new update. No-drought was declared on January 29, 2015.
EDUCATION & OUTREACH				
Austin Cave Festival	RG, JV, JC, LC	2/28/18	Sat., Feb 10: Wildflower Center	Austin Cave Festival was a fantastic success! It was held as a free event at the Wildflower Center. Participating agencies include: BSEACD, CoA Wildlands, CoA Watershed Protection, CoA Parks and Recreation, Texas Cave Management Association, UT Grotto, and Texas Speleological Association. The Aquifer District will host the welcome table. Activities planned include caving in Wildflower and LaCrosse Cave, rope climbing, cave obstacle course, cave critter artwork, presentations, and booths. Approximately 1,300 people came. About half were adults and half were students. There were about 100 volunteers and 50 staff that helped with activities and stations.
Kent Butler Summit	RG	2/28/18	Wed., Apr. 4: Texas State LBJ Auditorium	Robin has attended preliminary planning meetings for the April 2018 Kent Butler Summit. It will be hosted at the LBJ Auditorium on Texas State campus in San Marcos. Agenda and panels should be announced soon.

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Augmented Reality Water Quality Teaching Tool	RG	2/28/18	Benthic macroinvertebrates	Phase II of the augmented reality water quality indicator game has begun. Staff has met with and solicited review comments from 7 different agencies and have prioritized suggestions/edits according to what is financially feasible and what best supports the District's teaching objectives. This year's tasks include adding two new characters (dobsonfly, scud), editing the aquatic and riparian habitat cards to include native vegetation examples, creating an aquifer habitat card that shows the inside of a groundwater well with fault and solution cavity, developing a menu of all characters with links to 3D video, adding info button, and adding a photo option.
Groundwater to the Gulf	RG, JV	2/28/18	Teacher Training: June 12-14, 2018	Preparations have started for the 2018 Groundwater to the Gulf. Day 1 will be held at the Wildflower Center. Day 2 will be split between Barton Springs and the LCKA Redbud Center. Day 3 will be hosted out of the Austin Nature and Science Center, hopefully in collaboration with the River School to allow for a half-day canoe trip including Cold Spring.
Cave Sim	RG, JV	2/28/18	Potential collaboration on education trailer	As part of Austin Cave Festival, the Colorado-based company, Cave Sim, brought their educational cave trailer. The trailer has cave passages equipped with sensors on "sensitive features" to teach about caves, habitat, recharge, and cultural heritage. Since Cave Festival, several groups have met to discuss the potential of having an Austin-based version that highlights the Central Texas groundwater resources, cave species, and development challenges.
Enews Blast	RG	2/28/18	January eNews	The February eNews was released on Feb. 21st. It has been opened 1,123 times. Topics include: the new Travis Co. GCD, Cave Festival Wrap Up, drought prediction, scholarship announcement, EIP Permit update, and more.
Internet Traffic Report	RG, JV	2/28/18	Page views and visits to the District Website	There were 4,346 total page views by 3,305 unique visitors. Top sites in order of number of views are the home page (1,057), Cave Festival (262), Scholarships (254), Maps (202), and Staff (192). The District Facebook page now has 643 (up 18 from last month) "Likes" and responses to posts have been very positive. Look for an increase in FB post frequency—we'll be posting a lot about this Spring's programs.
AQUIFER SCIENCE				
Dye Tracing	BS, BH	3/1/18	Dye tracing	Several tracers were conducted in October in the lower Onion Watershed (Edwards Recharge Zone) in a cooperative effort with City of Austin and several SL Edwards students. Several tracers were conducted in the upper Onion Creek watershed (Dripping Springs area) in early December. Initial results show a positive connection between Onion Creek and the underlying Trinity Aquifer
Central Hays County Groundwater Evaluation	BH, BS, JC	3/1/18	Well and hydrogeology characterization	AS staff have prepared a technical memo stating that there is a potential for unreasonable impacts from pumping of the EIP wells at the requested permit amount. Testing of the multipoint well in Rolling Oaks is continuing.
Antioch Cave	BS, BH, JC	3/1/18	Onion Creek Recharge Enhancement Project	New equipment to control the Antioch valve were installed in March 2017. A new flow meter is being installed.
Water-Quality Studies	BS, BH, JC	3/1/18	Sampling and analysis of groundwater and surface water	District staff have been collecting groundwater samples for several projects.
Saline Zone Studies	BS, BH	3/1/18	Saline Zone report	Carollo Engineers has completed a draft final report for the RFP grant, which was submitted to TWDB on October 31. Aquifer Science staff completed a report of the multipoint well testing and sampling that is a part of the RFP grant report. A final stakeholder meeting was held on November 28. Final comments on the report have been received and Carollo is addressing the comments.
Drought and Water-Level Monitoring	BH, BS, JC	3/1/18	Drought status, monitor wells, and synoptic water level events	As of March 1, the water level in the Lovelady well was at 489.2 ft above msl, and Barton Springs was flowing at 52 cfs. January was a very dry month with only about 0.5 inches of rain at the District's rain gage, and there was about 1.2 inches of rain in February. We estimate that the aquifer could reach drought status by early to late April.

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Information Transfer	BS, BH, JC	3/1/18	Presentations, conferences, reports, and publications	District staff presented five papers at the Southeast Geological Society of America meeting in San Antonio in mid-March. Brian Hunt spoke about the hydrogeology of the Blanco River at a book launch in Kyle (4/8/17). Brian Smith gave a presentation to the Texas Aquifers Conference on Antioch Cave, and he gave a presentation to the Jackson School (UT) on the District's saline Edwards studies. Brian Smith attended the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting in Seattle in October and gave a presentation about Dr. Sharp's studies of the aquifers of central Texas.
Aquifer Testing	BS, BH, JC	3/1/18	Planning, participation, and review of aquifer tests	EP aquifer testing finished in January 2017. District staff received an application and hydrogeologic report from EP. Staff completed a technical review of EP's production application in October. EP's consultant is working on revising the hydrologic report.
AD-HOC TEAMS				
Technical Team	BAS	3/1/18	Current areas of discussion	Topics of discussion at the technical team meeting in December were the RFP grant, dye trace studies, ASR rules, and the EP application.
Planning Team	KH	2/28/18	Strategic and tactical planning and discussion topics	New Business: New GM screening/firing, conflict assessment and support, incentive projects review by team, salary study update;
UPCOMING ITEMS OF INTEREST				

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

- a. Discussion and possible action related to reviewing and updating the subjects and composition of Board Committees.**



**Barton Springs
Edwards Aquifer**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Board Committees
(Updated 2-28-17)

The Board has established a committee system with standing and *Ad Hoc* Committees to coordinate the Director's non-quorum discussions and attendance in meetings related to certain high-priority topics affecting the District. The Committees offer a constructive means of getting Board direction and forwarding progress on District initiatives.

This initial committee structure was adopted in February of 2016. Factors considered in the Committee make up include: 1) proximity to precinct, 2) knowledge base, 3) interest level and 4) availability. The following suggested changes including consolidation or elimination of certain committees offered by the GM for Board consideration. The Board may also consider formation of new committees including a standing Budget and Finance Committee and an Ad Hoc Management Plan committee.

	Mary Stone (pct 1)	Blayne Stansberry (pct 2)	Blake Dorsett (pct 3)	Bob Larsen (pct 4)	Craig Smith (pct 5)
TxDOT Consent Decree*		P		P	
Legislative*		P		P	
Shared Territory	P	P			
Alternative Supplies (Desal/ASR/Recharge)				P	P
HCP/EIS*				P	P
Rules*		P		P	
30 th Anniversary	P	P			
Budget and Finance*		P		P	
Management Plan	P				P
Dripping Springs WW Permit	P	P			
Scholarships		P			P

* = Standing subcommittee, P = Primary

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

b. Discussion and possible action related to the Sawyer Ranch application for a proposed TPDES permit to authorize direct discharge of treated wastewater to Barton Creek in the contributing zone of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

c. Discussion and possible action related to the City of Dripping Springs TPDES permit application to authorize direct discharge of treated wastewater to Onion Creek in the contributing zone of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Item 5

Director's Reports

Directors' 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;**
- **Committee formation and updates;**
- **Conversations with public officials, permittees, stakeholders, and other constituents;**
- **Commendations; and**
- **Issues or problems of concern.**

Item 6

Adjournment