

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, May 12, 2016**, 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. **NBU**
 2. Approval of minutes of the Board's April 28, 2016 Regular Meeting and Public Hearings. **Not for public review at this time**
 3. Approval of out-of-state travel for Kendal Bell-Enders and Vanessa Escobar to attend the 2016 Water Smart Conference from October 5-7, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. **Pg. 12**
 - 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 **Pg. 14**
 - ii. Update on activities related to GMA and regional water planning
 - iii. Update on ongoing grant projects

- iv. Update on the activities related to the SH 45 SW roadway project
- v. Update on activities related to the HCP and the associated draft EIS
- vi. Update on activities related to the City of Dripping Springs TPDES permit application
- vii. Update on activities related to the Travis County PGMA.

4. Discussion and Possible Action.

- a. Discussion and possible action related to consideration of new boundaries for the District's director precincts to accommodate the expanded area and changes in the City of Austin boundaries. **Refer to website**
- b. Discussion and possible action related to approving a Request for Qualification (RFQ) to solicit interest for a preapproved contractor list for various support services. **Pg. 20**
- c. Discussion and possible action related to approval of revisions to the District's guidance document, *Guidelines for Hydrogeologic Reports and Aquifer Testing*. **NBU**
- d. Discussion and possible action related to planning for the upcoming interim session legislative activity and setting the District's legislative agenda. **Pg. 26**

5. Adjournment.

Came to hand and posted on a Bulletin Board in the Courthouse, Travis County, Texas, on this, the _____ day of May, 2016, at _____ .m.

_____, Deputy Clerk

Travis County, TEXAS

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

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.**
- 2. Approval of minutes of the Board's April 28, 2016 Regular Meeting and Public Hearings.**
- 3. Approval of out-of-state travel for Kendal Bell-Enders and Vanessa Escobar to attend the 2016 Water Smart Conference from October 5-7, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada.**



**Barton Springs
Edwards Aquifer**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 5, 2016
To: Board of Directors
Thru: John T. Dupnik, P.G., General Manager
From: Vanessa Escobar and Kendall Bell-Enders
Re: Agenda Item 3.a.3 – Out-of-State Travel and Attendance at the 2016 Water Smart Innovations Conference

Staff members Vanessa Escobar and Kendall Bell-Enders are requesting approval for travel to Las Vegas, Nevada to attend the Water Smart Innovations Conference October 5-7, 2016. This conference is recognized as one of the country's preeminent urban water efficiency conferences and expos. It is presented by US EPA's Water Sense Program, The Alliance for Water Efficiency, American Water Works Association, and Southern Nevada Water Authority.

The program agenda provides an opportunity for staff to enhance their working knowledge of drought management, conservation strategies, and integrated water management issues. The knowledge gained will directly apply to drought contingency planning and assisting permittees with achieving compliance with temporary curtailments during drought. The conference registration is comparable to other instate conferences and there is a significant discount for early bird registrations if attendees register before June 2nd 2016.

The entire cost (estimated below) is within the District's and Regulatory Compliance Team's budget for conferences, training and professional development, and will present relevant topics and issues.

Estimated budget – Two Staff persons

Registration	\$335 x 2	\$ 670
Airfare	\$275 x 2	\$ 550
Hotel (3 nights – 1 shared room)	\$270	\$ 270
Per Diem (3 days)	\$180 x 2	\$ 360
		\$ 1,850

Item 3

Routine Business

b. General Manager's Report.

Note: Topics discussed in the General Manager's Report are intended for administrative and operational information-transfer purposes. The Directors will not deliberate any issues arising from such discussions and no decisions on them will be taken in this meeting, unless the topic is specifically listed elsewhere in this as-posted 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 activities related to GMA and regional water planning**
- iii. Update on ongoing grant projects**
- iv. Update on the activities related to the SH 45 SW roadway project**
- v. Update on activities related to the HCP and the associated draft EIS**
- vi. Update on activities related to the City of Dripping Springs TPDES permit application**
- vii. Update on activities related to the Travis County PGMA**

STATUS REPORT UPDATE FOR MAY 12, 2016 BOARD MEETING

Prepared by District Team Leaders

GENERAL MANAGEMENT TEAM		Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
John Dupruk					
	JD	5/5/2016	Meetings, Training, Presentations, and Conferences	External Meetings Attended: RWQPP working group; Kent Butler Summit planning committee; CTRMA ECM procurement; Kent Butler pre-summit meeting; Kent Butler debrief with Kirk Holland. Other Meetings: with Sledge Law on Rule review; Board Rules committee; Presentations: Kent Butler Summit Panel, Conferences/Seminars; None	
Summary of Significant Ongoing Activities	JD	5/5/2016	Ongoing Special Projects, Committees, and Workgroups	Ongoing Special Projects: TDS saline zone investigation, CTRMA ECM proposal evaluation; TWDB RFP grant; HB 3405 implementation; District EIS review; CoA wastewater rulemaking petition; Employee Policy Manual Review; Trinity GAM extension; redistricting; GMA 10 proposed DFCs; Committees and Workgroups: Region K (voting member); GMA 10 (voting member); Regional WQ Plan workgroup; Region K Legislation and Policy committee; Region K strategy prioritization committee; Region K water supply strategy committee; Region K executive committee nomination committee; Kent Butler Summit Planning Committee; TAGD legislative committee (regional planning; ASR, brackish gw); CTRMA SH 45 ECM procurement committee.	
	JD	5/15/2016	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 subcommittees; respond to media requests; disseminate media reports and journal articles of possible interest. Consultation with Attorney on: Redistricting; draft rule comments; notification, third-party rule review by Sledge Law; EPM and employee status. Other Activities: coordinate GAM extension project; coordinate team tasks for implementing HB 3405; coordinate RFP grant project; GMA 10 2016 regional planning (including public hearing on 2016 proposed DFCs); GMA 10 Trinity analysis for ER; 2016 Kent Butler Summit planning; work with HCP consultant on EIS completion; redistricting coordination; CTRMA SH45 ECM procurement committee; coordinate rule comment review and revisions; coordinate completion of the Rules RTC; assist with well water checkup; prepare for Kent Butler Summit panel; coordinate rules committee activities.	
ADMINISTRATION TEAM					
Dana Christine Wilson					
Accounts Receivable - A	DCW	5/6/2016	Permittee accounts carrying a past due balance;	Currently there are no past due accounts.	
Accounts Receivable - B	DCW	5/6/2016	Billings - May monthly and 4th quarter billings will have a statement date of May 16th.	Estimated billing total is \$343,701.	
Budget Revision 2	DCW	5/6/2016	Revision 2 will be coming in the very near future.	Next board meeting.	
Contracts	TR/DCW	5/6/2016	MSC/IDD renewals and additions.	To be addressed as an agenda item in this backup.	
Employee Policy Manual	DCW	5/6/2016	Revisions / clean-up / rearrangement coming soon.	Slated for June board meeting.	
Financial Reporting - Website	DCW	5/6/2016	Most current, available financial reports are posted.	Profit and Loss Statement, and Balance Sheet through March 2016.	

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Grants and Projects	DCW	5/6/2016	Time to begin tracking labor hours given as in-kind support to Southwest Research Institute. This donation of time to the project requires an administrative collaboration also for Dana and SWRI. Current request from SWRI for several documents are in process (Audit Access Certification, Import/Export Certification, Financial Certification, and more.)	\$10,000 over the next 2 years. This is a collaboration with a SWRI proposal to the TWDB project entitled "Evaluation of the Brackish Groundwater Resources of the Trinity Aquifer." For more information, see Brian Smith.
Records Management, Storage, and Retention	DCW	5/6/2016	Working on updating our records management retention schedule to reflect our changing times (technology).	This will need to be approved by the TSLAC (Texas State Library and Archives Commission). Our most recent/current version was approved back in 1994.
The Standard (third-party administrator for the BSEACD Retirement Plan and Trust)	DCW	5/6/2016	Changing out four poorly performing funds that failed the Standard's investment screening process.	As the investment fiduciary for the District's "Plan," John and I, along with Eddie Garza, the relationship manager with the Standard, will discuss the potential replacement options for the failing funds that need to be removed. (John and I have selected the replacement funds, and in the near future will consider adding some tiered-rate funds.) Next meeting is scheduled for August.
REGULATORY COMPLIANCE TEAM Vanessa Esparbur				
Temporary/ Regular Permits	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Conversion of a Temporary Permit to a Regular Permit	On 4/28/16 the Board approved 14 Temporary Permits for conversion to Regular Production Permits. There are 4 remaining temporary permits awaiting Board approval for conversion. Texas Old Town (Administratively Complete), Aqua Texas (Review in process), Electro Purification (Withdrawn), Needmore Water LLC (Review in Process). Texas Old Town has already been noticed and no comments or protests were received. Notice publications have not yet been issued for Aqua Texas or Needmore. Public hearings will be scheduled at a future date.
Electro Purification	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Test Well Permit - General Permit	On 3/15/16 Electro Purification withdrew its Temporary/ Regular Permit application for 30,000,000 gal/yr and submitted a contemporaneous filing of 6 test well permit applications. Staff is reviewing these submittals.
Mike Rutherford	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Test Well Permit - General Permit	On 3/15/16 Mike Rutherford submitted a test well application to drill a Lower Trinity test well to evaluate production potential of the aquifer. The test well will be located on the Rutherford Ranch west of Buda on FM 967. Staff is currently reviewing the application.
Trinity Episcopal School	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Well Drilling Authorization	The Trinity Episcopal School is located on Bec Caves Rd in the Westlake area. The school has submitted a drilling authorization application requesting to drill a new Lower Trinity well for the purposes of athletic field irrigation. The anticipated volume will be approximately 4,000,000 gal/yr. Staff is currently reviewing the application request.
City of Buda	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Well Modification Authorization of a Test Well - New Edwards PWS well to be part of Aggregate System	A well modification application was submitted and staff is currently reviewing it. The City of Buda previously completed a test well application for a new PWS well to become part of their aggregate system. There will not be a new production permit associated with the new well, it will be an aggregate. The first test well proved to have sufficient yield, therefore Buda has submitted a well drilling/modification application to complete the well per BSEACD and TCEQ well construction standards. Staff conducted a site inspection to determine the October 2015 flood elevation at well site, the well shall be constructed 2 ft above this elevation. The application has been deemed admin. complete and Buda has published notice. A couple of emailed comments were received and staff corresponded with each of those property owners to address their concerns. Buda will be required to conduct a pump test and complete a hydrogeologic report for this new well as part of a permit condition. The Modification Permit was approved by the Board on 1/28/16. Well Drilling has been completed and the aquifer test has been completed. Staff is waiting to receive the Hydrogeological Report.
Drought Statute - No-Drought	KBE, VE	5/6/2016	Drought Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement	No new update. No-drought was declared on January 29, 2015. Staff sent out email and letter to all permittees notifying them of no-drought status.

		Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
EDUCATION & OUTREACH					
Robin Gary					
Groundwater to the Gulf	RG	5/6/2016	Planning	The schedule has been finalized and the team is working on recruitment and logistics. Days 1 and 2 will cover basics of groundwater, surface water, and coastal systems, and discuss major challenges such as development, population growth, and resource management. Day 3 this year will take teachers to Canyon Lake Gorge where they will hike through portions of the Upper and Middle Trinity Aquifers, view the flood challenges, and visit the Meadows Center.	
Well Water Checkup	RG, JC	5/6/2016	Recap and results distribution	There were 58 samples processed during the Well Water Checkup. Surprisingly, 30 samples came back positive for total coliform bacteria (though only 1 had E-coli bacteria). According to the EARDC lab, they are seeing a lot of positive bacteria hits in well water that could be due to the multiple winter and spring floods. There were no concerning nitrate/nitrite or TDS results. Well Owners received a letter documenting the results and explaining their significance.	
GIS	RG	5/6/2016	Mapping	Maps have been developed showing drilling trends in the Central Texas area. This map was included in the Travis County Groundwater Workshop Board Backup for the May 12 meeting. Maps showing possible locations for westbay wells in the TDS, central Hays County, and southwestern Travis County PGMA areas.	
Enews Blast	RG	5/6/2016	May eNews	The May eNews was released on May 5, 2016. After less than 24 hrs it has been opened over 740 times. The articles included info on the aquifer status, Well Water Checkup recap, Rule Change update, TCEQ Rule Petition, Permitting Update, and redistricting process update.	
Internet Traffic Report	RG	5/6/2016	Page views and visits to the District Website	The District website will shift to a new template as early as late next week. The new template will be mobile, tablet, and computer friendly. Updates include moving the dynamic drought graphic to the home page, incorporating audience boxes for the most frequent user types, and moving to a more modern look/functionality. Over the last month, we've had 3,549 page views from 1,028 visitors. In order of hits the most visited pages were the home page (995), drought status (236), maps (196) and Next Board Meeting spotlight (156). On the District Facebook page we have 454 people who have signed up to 'Like' us.	
AQUIFER SCIENCE					
Brian Smith					
Dye Tracing	BS, BH	5/5/2016	Dye tracing	Discussions are underway with the EAA and CoA about potential dye tracings in the upcoming months. The City has injected at various locations along SH45, and still has two sites to do.	
Central Hays County Groundwater Evaluation	RG, BH, BAS, JC	5/5/2016	Well and hydrogeology characterization	District staff are establishing a monitoring network of nearby wells to collect data during the EP aquifer test. Revisions have been made to the aquifer test guidelines and a definition for unreasonable impacts has been developed.	
Antioch Cave	BS, BH, JC	5/5/2016	Onion Creek Recharge Enhancement Project	The Antioch system is open to allow recharge, and there is flow in Onion Creek due to heavy rains in March and April.	
Water-Quality Studies	BS, BH, JC	5/5/2016	Sampling and analysis of groundwater and surface water	District staff started work with a geochemist to evaluate the years of data we have collected on behalf of the TWDB. Staff have completed sampling wells and springs as part of the Magellan Pipeline monitoring effort.	
Saline Zone Studies	BS, BH	5/5/2016	Installation of multipoint monitor well	Plans are moving forward for installation of a saline Edwards multipoint well in conjunction with a test well installed by TDS. On July 8, 2015, the District was officially notified of an award of a regional planning grant for work on the saline Edwards, and a contract with TWDB was signed on Aug. 27. On January 5, a contract between BSEACD and Carollo Engineers was signed. A project kickoff meeting was held on February 25.	

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Drought and Water-Level Monitoring	BH, BS, JC	5/5/2016	Drought status, monitor wells, and synoptic water level events	January 30, 2015, the District Board declared non-drought conditions. The District had been in drought since August 15, 2014. Because of heavy rains in October and more moderate rains in November and December, and now March and April 2016, the water level in the Lovelady well is rising. As of May 5, the water level in the Lovelady well was at 532.3 ft above msl and Burton Springs was flowing at 110 cfs.
Information Transfer	BS, BH, JC	5/5/2016	Presentations, conferences, reports, and publications	Brian Smith attended a conference in San Juan in late January on contamination in karst and public health and is working on a paper to be published in a journal. Staff are working on the results of the Onion Creek gain-loss study from 2015 to be published at the GCAGS conference (Fall 2016). Staff are also working on finalizing some other technical reports and documents.
Aquifer Testing	BS, BH, JC	5/5/2016	Planning, participation, and review of aquifer tests	AS staff were involved in the Needmore aquifer test in January 2016, and are currently evaluating the report submitted by Wetrock. We are also working with Buda on their planned aquifer test of the new well field, scheduled to potentially occur in late March or early April. Staff continue to have discussions with EP regarding their planned aquifer test.
AD-HOC TEAMS				
Technical Team	BAS	5/5/2016	Current areas of discussion	Topics of discussion at the technical team meeting in May were the RFP grant, update to the Trinity model, and Needmore permitting.
Planning Team	JD	5/5/2016	Strategic and tactical planning and discussion topics	New Business: Rules update, Staffing support options, budgeting
UPCOMING ITEMS OF INTEREST				
1st May Board Meeting		5/12/2016		
GMA 10		5/16/2016	11:30, EAA offices, San Antonio, Texas	
TAGD quarterly meeting		5/18/2016	thru 5/19, Austin Crown Plaza	
1st Senate Committee on Ag., Water, and Rural Affairs		5/23/2016	9am, Capital, E1.0.12 (Hearing Room)	
2nd May Board Meeting		5/26/2016		
Memorial Day Holiday		5/30/2016	District Holiday - Offices Closed	
1st June Board Meeting		6/16/2016		
2nd Senate Committee on Ag., Water, and Rural Affairs		6/20/2016	9am, Capital, E1.0.12 (Hearing Room)	
2nd June Board Meeting		6/23/2016	may consider alternate dates	

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

- a. Discussion and possible action related to consideration of new boundaries for the District's director precincts to accommodate the expanded area and changes in the City of Austin boundaries.**

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

- b. Discussion and possible action related to approving a Request for Qualification (RFQ) to solicit interest for a preapproved contractor list for various support services.**



**Barton Springs
Edwards Aquifer**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Date: May 6, 2016

To: BSEACD Board of Directors

From: Dana

Re: Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a Preapproved Contractor List

Our Master Services Contracts for Indefinite Quantity/Indefinite Delivery (IDQ/IDD) tasks that the Board approved in April/May 2012 expires on August 2016. The intent of these contracts is to provide quick response, *ad hoc* contractual support that complies with our Purchasing Policy that are readily accessible to support our small staff. These *ad hoc* support contracts will not be used for larger contract tasks (>\$5,000) or to replace current contractor support in the areas of financial auditing, and legal and lobbying support. Also, these tasks must be budgeted and may only be approved by the Team Leader or GM within the designated approval authority amount.

For this round, we are suggesting an alternate approach: instead of executing all of these contracts, we will ask Board-approval for the list of vendors/entities, and then execute contracts for specific tasks as needed. This revision in process is suggested to limit time spent negotiating contracts with all firms for services and to avoid creating an expectation of future work that may not be needed.

The process will be initiated by issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit interest in providing a range of supported services frequently utilized by the District. Certain firms with current Master Services Contracts that were previously vetted for qualifications will be asked to confirm interest in a continuing arrangement with the District. New firms may also respond by submitting qualifications for services within the defined support categories. Staff will vet all firms' qualifications and submit the qualified contractor list for Board approval at a future Board meeting.

Attached is the draft RFQ with details of the solicitation and the general support categories.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (District) is soliciting statements of interest and qualifications (SOQ) for assisting the District in various tasks that are required from time to time, usually on a quick-response basis. The intent of this solicitation is to define a list of approved vendors/entities to be available to perform services and possibly enter into future indefinite quantity /indefinite delivery contracts (IDQ/IDD) in several specified areas of support, identified below.

No minimum level of contracted support is guaranteed under the IDQ/IDD contracts. The District will assign tasks between/among the selected IDQ/IDD contractors at its own discretion and as needed. The District reserves the right to contract with other parties for services in these areas without limitation, but that typically are: (a) planned well in advance, for example, as part of a grant project; (b) are substantially larger levels of effort and/or longer in duration than task orders under the IDQ/IDD; (c) are continuing in nature; (d) legal services; (e) special database or web design services; and/or (f) are otherwise beneficial to the District.

General areas of support for which qualifications are solicited are:

1. Professional Engineering Services
2. Hydrogeological and Geotechnical Services
3. Information Technology (website, database)
4. Education, Community Outreach, and Public Relations
5. Environmental/Ecological Services
6. General Contracting
7. General Management, Administration, and Legal Services

Specific tasks that might be conducted under each of these general areas, provided here only as examples and not as an exclusive specification, are:

1. **Professional Engineering Services** (task examples)
 - Evaluation of public water-supply systems for compliance with District rules.
 - Assessment of wastewater impacts on streams and the Edwards Aquifer.
 - Feasibility assessment and preliminary design and cost estimates of engineered structures and facilities.
 - Water and wastewater, including direct and indirect use, and infrastructure.
 - Surface Geophysical Surveys.
2. **Hydrogeological and Geotechnical Services**
 - Assistance with saline zone policy and rule development.
 - Analysis of potential for desalination or aquifer storage and recovery (ASR).
 - Numerical Modeling.
 - Aquifer Test Analyses.
 - Geophysical Well Logging.

- Well Drilling and Rehabilitation.
- Well and Pump Service Work.
- Geochemistry.
- Surface Water Hydrology.

3. Information Technology

- Database Enhancement.
- Restructuring or redesign of website.
- Updates to website and its functionality.
- Conversion of District publications to various electronic formats.
- Technical Editing.
- Publishing.

4. Education, Community Outreach, and Public Relations

- Translation of District documents into Spanish.
- Preparation of education material for groundwater protection and conservation.
- Support for field trips and/or outreach events.

5. Environmental/Ecological Services

- Studies of Impacts to Endangered Species.
- Studies of Contaminant Transport.
- HCP Consulting.
- Karst and Caves Hydrology and Biology.

6. General Contracting

- Non-routine maintenance/repair/remodel services.
- Construction of instrument enclosures.
- Drill site preparation.
- Maintenance of gravel/dirt access roads.

7. General Management, Administration, and Legal Services

- Legal Review, Third-party Representation.
- Implementation of Quickbooks Adjustments/Special Services.
- Management Consulting.
- Human Resources Conflict Resources/Mediation.
- Personnel Issues.
- Management Plan Consulting.

Please submit a brief SOQ to the District by close of business on **XXX**, including similar project-based experience, individual staff experience and the billing rates for positions/labor categories that were or might be involved in doing such work today. Vendors/entities currently under contract may submit a confirmation of continued interest in providing future services to the District along with an updated SOQ. Please limit this brief statement to two pages or less. A standard company flyer or brochure or personal resume may be attached to the statement. A link to a web page with qualification clearly stated may be included. The SOQ of any one offeror may address more than one general support area, but each should be presented and be capable of being evaluated in a stand-alone fashion. An SOQ may also be submitted that addresses only a delimited subset of services for which an offeror wants to be considered in one of the specified general areas of support; the offeror should characterize the types of services for which it wants to be considered.

The District intends to complete and finalize this list of vendors/entities, and be in a position to initiate task orders no later than July 25, 2016.

SOQs may be sent to:

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Attn: IDQ/IDD Solicitation
1124 Regal Row
Austin, TX 78748

Or electronically to:

dana@bseacd.org

Subject line of email should include "SOQ" and company name.

Any questions about this solicitation should be submitted in writing and electronically to dana@bseacd.org. The District in its sole discretion may choose to respond only to the questioning entity or to post such questions and response to be available to all potential offerors, e.g., via the District website.

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

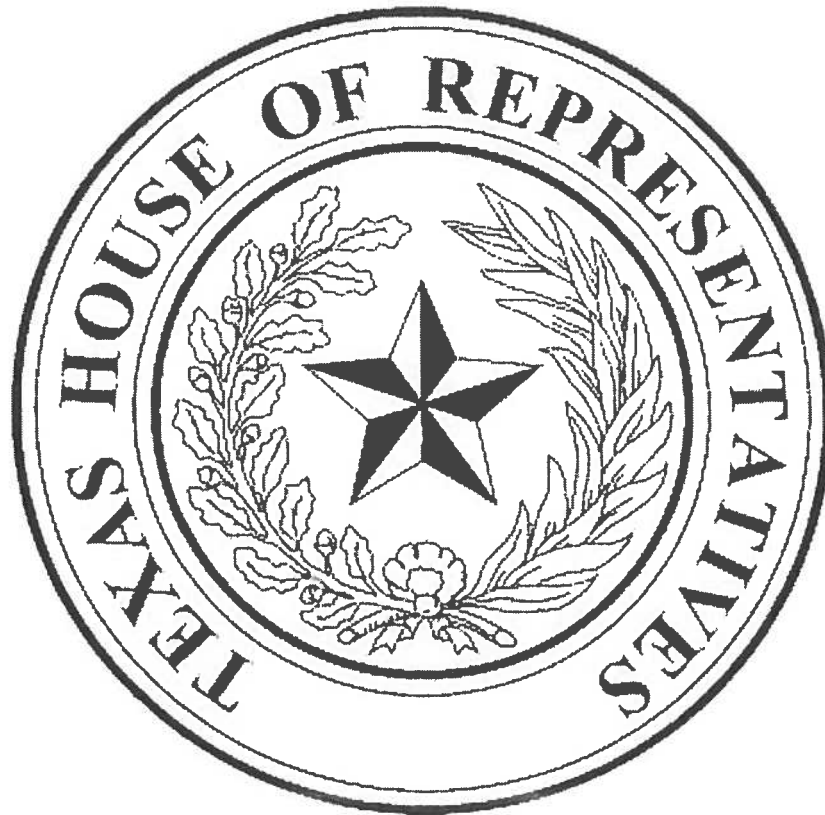
c. Discussion and possible action related to approval of revisions to the District's guidance document, *Guidelines for Hydrogeologic Reports and Aquifer Testing*.

Item 4

Board Discussions and Possible Actions

d. Discussion and possible action related to planning for the upcoming interim session legislative activity and setting the District's legislative agenda.

Interim Committee Charges
Texas House of Representatives
84th Legislature



Speaker Joe Straus
November 2015

House Committee on Natural Resources

1. Examine the regional and state water planning processes, with emphasis on the following:
 - a. the integration of HB 4 (83R);
 - b. the appropriate role of the state in ensuring that the process both supports regional goals and priorities and the water needs of the state as a whole, and how the state might encourage strategies to benefit multiple regions;
 - c. the structure and operation of the regional planning groups;
 - d. the interaction between the planning process and groundwater management;
 - e. whether the "drought of record" remains the appropriate benchmark for planning; and
 - f. any impediments to meeting the conservation, agricultural, and rural project goals set by HB 4 (83R), and possible new approaches to help meet these goals.
2. Evaluate the status of water markets in Texas and the potential benefits and challenges of expanded markets for water. Include an evaluation of greater interconnections between water systems through both engineered and natural infrastructure. Examine opportunities for incentives from areas receiving water supplies to areas providing those supplies that could benefit each area and the state as a whole.
3. Analyze the factors contributing to freshwater loss in the state, including evaporation, excess flows into the Gulf of Mexico, and infrastructure inefficiencies, and examine techniques to prevent such losses, including aquifer storage and recovery, off-channel storage, and infrastructure enhancements.
4. Evaluate the progress of seawater desalination projects near the Texas coast as a means of increasing water supplies and reducing strain on existing supplies, building on the work of the Joint Interim Committee to Study Water Desalination (83rd session). Examine the viability of the use of public-private partnerships and of methods by which the state might facilitate such a project.
5. Monitor the use of funds made available to Texas in relation to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill. Consider approaches to maximize the benefit of these funds for the long-term stability of the coastal economy and ecosystems.

6. Evaluate the status of legislation to encourage joint groundwater planning, including HB 200 (84R), and monitor ongoing legal developments concerning ownership and access to groundwater and the impact of these developments on property rights and groundwater management.
7. Determine the sources of water used by Texans in the production of food and fiber, and examine current water delivery methods and water conservation goals for agricultural use. Evaluate whether there are more efficient and effective water-usage management practices that could be employed in the agricultural industry, and determine the impact of crop insurance requirements on producers. *(Joint charge with the House Committee on Agriculture & Livestock)*
8. Determine if sufficient safety standards exist to protect groundwater contamination from disposal and injection wells. *(Joint charge with the House Committee on Energy Resources)*
9. Conduct legislative oversight and monitoring of the agencies and programs under the committee's jurisdiction and the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 84th Legislature. In conducting this oversight, the committee should:
 - a. consider any reforms to state agencies to make them more responsive to Texas taxpayers and citizens;
 - b. identify issues regarding the agency or its governance that may be appropriate to investigate, improve, remedy, or eliminate;
 - c. determine whether an agency is operating in a transparent and efficient manner;
 - d. identify opportunities to streamline programs and services while maintaining the mission of the agency and its programs; and
 - e. review the surface water permitting process in Texas, including previous legislative attempts to modify the process, and assess the potential effects of these and other changes.

Interim Charges

State Affairs

- **Religious Liberty:** Examine measures to affirm 1st Amendment religious liberty protections in Texas, along with the relationship between local ordinances and state and federal law. Make recommendations to ensure that the government does not force individuals, organizations or businesses to violate their sincerely held religious beliefs.
- **Union Dues:** Examine the practice of using public funds and employees for the payment processing of union dues. Make recommendations on whether Texas should end this practice.
- **Chief Law Enforcement Officers:** Examine whether there are chief law enforcement officers within the state who deny NFA applications without any cause. Examine the application and certification process and recommend ways to eliminate no-cause denials.
- **Judicial Matters:** Examine the need to adjust Texas judicial salaries to attract, maintain, and support a qualified judiciary capable of meeting the current and future needs of Texas and its citizens. Study and recommend whether Texas should delink legislators' standard service retirement annuities from district judge salaries. Examine the effect of eliminating straight-party voting for candidates for judicial office and make recommendations to ensure candidates are given individual consideration by voters.
- **Eminent Domain:** Gather and review data on the compensation provided to private property owners for property purchased or taken by entities with eminent domain authority. Examine the variance, if any, between the offers and the fair market values of properties taken through eminent domain. Make recommendations to ensure property owners are fairly compensated.
- **Ethics:** Review current ethics laws governing public officials and employees and recommend changes necessary to inspire the public's confidence in a transparent and ethically principled government. Review public officials' reporting requirements to the Texas Ethics Commission. Examine the categorization of ethics reporting violations and make recommendations to encourage accurate reporting and timely correction to inadvertent clerical errors.
- **Monitoring Charge:** Monitor the implementation of legislation addressed by the Senate Committee on State Affairs during the 84th Legislature, Regular Session and make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance, and/or complete implementation. Specifically, monitor the following: 1) Implementation of open and campus carry legislation and determine if the current laws regulating the places that handguns can be carried are easily understood or if clarification is needed to ensure the average citizen understands when, where, and under what circumstances it is lawful to carry a weapon, versus when it is a criminal offense for which there may be a defense; 2) Requirements for guardianships; 3) The electronic voting program for certain military members serving overseas; 4) Changes made to the Employment Retirement System regarding member contributions and proposed reforms to the Teacher Retirement System of Texas; and 5) The establishment of a public integrity unit under the authority of Texas Rangers.

Natural Resources and Economic Development

- **Implementation of Federal Regulations:** Study the impact and identify challenges Texas faces implementing proposed federal Environmental Protection Agency regulations, including, but not limited to the Clean Power Plan, Reduction of Methane & Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) from oil and gas facilities, Ozone standards, Regional Haze, and Waters of the U.S. Make recommendations for legislative or constitutional action the committee considers necessary.
- **Texas Emission Reduction Plan (TERP):** Study and make recommendations regarding the use of Texas Emission Reduction Plan (TERP) funds, including reducing air emissions from mobile sources in response to changes in ozone standards.
- **Economic Development:** Evaluate the effectiveness and necessity of programs and resources currently used to support economic development in Texas. Make recommendations regarding continuation of effective strategies, modification of existing administrative or regulatory barriers, and the reduction or elimination of ineffective programs.
- **Expedited Permitting:** Evaluate the permitting process in Texas and neighboring states and make recommendations for eliminating unnecessary barriers and expediting the process to ensure that the regulatory process is consistent and predictable.
- **ERCOT/PUC Electricity Issues:** Conduct legislative oversight and monitoring of agencies and programs under the committee's jurisdiction. In this oversight and monitoring, the committee should: 1) identify and recommend opportunities to streamline programs or services and enhance grid safety while maintaining the mission of ERCOT and PUC and their programs; and 2) identify barriers ERCOT or PUC may have in their governance that may be appropriate to improve or eliminate.
- **Oil Field Theft:** Study and make recommendations for solving the oil field theft problems facing Texas, including identifying the proper mechanisms for increasing enforcement effectiveness.
- **Monitoring Charge:** Monitor the implementation of legislation addressed by the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Economic Development during the 84th Legislature, Regular Session and make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance, and/or complete implementation. Specifically, monitor the following: 1) Legislation relating to Texas aerospace incentives; 2) **Expedited permitting**; and 3) Electric utility rate adjustments.

Ag. Water and Rural Affairs

- **Surface Water/Groundwater:** Study and make recommendations regarding the ownership, production, and transfer of surface water and groundwater in the state of Texas.
- **State Water Plan:** Study and make recommendations on improving the process of developing and executing the State Water Plan.
- **Agricultural Liens:** Study and make recommendations on improving the law in this state regarding agricultural liens under Chapter 70, Agricultural Code. The study should include whether sufficient safeguards exist to protect the financial interest agricultural producers have in their product

- **Water Litter:** Study and make recommendations on the effects of windblown and waterborne litter. The study should include an analysis of the economic effects of litter, any necessary methods to prevent and remediate litter, and an assessment of state and local programs to reduce litter.
- **Game & Ag. Product Safety:** Study and make recommendations on improving the laws regarding the management of game animals, production of domestic fowl, and development of agricultural products in the State to reduce the occurrence and spread of disease and harmful pests.
- **Promotion of Texas Agriculture:** Study the economic benefits the Texas Department of Agriculture's Market Development Services provide to the state through promoting Texas Agricultural products. Review the current marketing services and strategies available to Texas producers and determine additional resources necessary to increase the Market Development Services capabilities. Make recommendations for legislative action, if needed.
- **Monitoring Charge:** Monitor the implementation of legislation addressed by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Water & Rural Affairs during the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, and make recommendations for any legislation needed to improve, enhance, and/or complete implementation. Specifically monitor the Texas Water Development Board's process in the identification and designation of brackish groundwater zones.

Item 5

Adjournment