

## NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING

Notice is given that a **Regular Meeting & Public Hearing** 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, August 10, 2017**, 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 July 13, 2017 regular Meeting. **Not for public review at this time**
    3. Approval of an amendment to the contract with Sledge Law Group for legislature consulting services. **Pg. 17**
    4. Approval of an amendment to the contract with the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) on the Needmore Water, LLC contested case matter. **Pg. 19**
    5. Approve of issuance of a request for statements of interest and qualifications for comprehensive District employee classification and compensation analysis. **Pg. 21**
    6. Approval of issuance of a Request for Qualifications to support the technical review of a Hydrogeological Report and Trinity Aquifer Production Permit application. **NBU**

**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. 25**
- ii. Update on GMA and regional water planning
- iii. Update on regulatory and enforcement activities
- iv. Update on District grant projects and other Aquifer Science Team projects
- v. Update on activities related to area roadway projects
- vi. Update on the District HCP and ITP application
- vii. Update on the procedural status of the Needmore Water LLC SOAH contested case
- viii. Update on Board committee activity

**4. Presentation.**

Awarding of the Kent S. Butler Memorial Groundwater Stewardship College Scholarship to Raden Bowerman. **Pg. 30**

**5. Public Hearing.**

The Board will hold a public hearing on the Proposed FY 2018 annual budget. **See website**

**6. Discussion and Possible Action.**

- a. Discussion and possible action related to approving the FY 2018 annual budget.
- b. Discussion and possible action related to the presentation of rule concepts related to District regulation of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects (ASR). **Pg. 45**
- c. Discussion and possible action related to assessment of progress made towards achievement of District Goals set for FY 2017 and identification of possible goals for FY 2018. **Pg. 49**
- d. Discussion and possible action related to evaluation of the performance of the General Manager in FY 2017 including assessment of incentive compensation. **NBU**

- e. Discussion and possible action related to activity in the first-called special session of the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative of interest to the District. **NBU**
- f. 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. **NBU**

**7. 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. Communications reported under this item may be used to support Performance Standard 4-1 of the District's Management Plan related to demonstration of effective communication with District constituents.)*

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.

**7. Adjournment.**

Came to hand and posted on a Bulletin Board in the Courthouse, Travis County, Texas, on this, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of July, at 9:23 a.m.

Dana DeBeauvoir , Deputy Clerk

Travis County, TEXAS

**Please note:** This agenda and available related documentation have been posted on our website, [www.bseacd.org](http://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 July 13, 2017 regular Board Meeting.**
- 3. Approval of an amendment to the contract with Sledge Law Group for legislature consulting services.**
- 4. Approval of an amendment to the contract with the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) on the Needmore Water, LLC contested case matter.**
- 5. Approve of issuance of a request for statements of interest and qualifications for comprehensive District employee classification and compensation analysis.**
- 6. Approval of issuance of a Request for Qualifications to support the technical review of a Hydrogeological Report and Trinity Aquifer Production Permit application.**



**Barton Springs  
Edwards Aquifer**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

August 11, 2017

Mr. Brian Sledge  
Sledge Law Group, PLLC  
919 Congress Avenue, Suite 460  
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Amendment of Legislative Consulting Services Agreement

Dear Mr. Sledge:

This purpose of this letter is to amend the contract initially executed on September 18, 2014, as amended by letter agreements dated May 28, 2015, April 5, 2016, and May 26, 2016 (“Engagement Agreement”). The Engagement Letter provides a flat-fee billing structure of \$4,000 per month during “Legislature Session Months” and \$1,000 per month during Legislative Interim Months as those terms are defined. These terms are amended as follows:

*Legislative Session Months: November of even-numbered years (when pre-filing of legislative measures begins) through June of odd-numbered years (through the end of the Regular Session of the Texas Legislature and the time period for gubernatorial action on bills and months after the Regular Session when Special Sessions are called and the District determines that the gubernatorial proclamations for, or legislation filed during, a Special Session will affect the District): \$4000 per month.*

*Legislative Interim Months: July of odd-numbered years through October of even-numbered years (covers interim legislative activities) but excluding Special Sessions when the District is assessed a \$4,000 flat fee above: \$1000 per month.*

This letter provides for an amendment to extend the term of the Legislative Session Months and the prescribed flat-fee rate to include months in which special sessions are called with charges to address legislature matters of interest to the District and to exclude such special sessions from Legislative Interim Months. There are no other changes to the contract.

Please indicate your agreement to this extension with your signature below.

Sincerely,

John Dupnik, P.G.  
General Manager

AGREED AND ACCEPTED  
BARTON SPRINGS/EDWARDS  
AQUIFER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Blayne Stansberry, Board President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
William D. Dugat III  
Attorney for Barton Springs / Edwards  
Aquifer Conservation District

SLEDGE LAW GROUP PLLC

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Sledge



**FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE  
INTERLOCAL COOPERATION CONTRACT  
BY AND BETWEEN  
THE BARTON SPRINGS EDWARDS AQUIFER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
AND  
THE STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS**

WHEREAS, the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) and the Barton Springs Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (BSEACD) entered into an interlocal cooperation contract (Contract) effective February 1, 2017 pursuant to the authority granted and in compliance with the provisions of Texas Government Code § 2003.021(b)(4) and Texas Water Code, Chapter 36, subchapter M.

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend the Contract to extend the term of the Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, SOAH and BVGCD hereby covenant and agree to amend the original Contract as follows:

1. Section VI, Term of Contract, is amended to read as follows:

This Contract is to begin February 1, 2017, and shall terminate August 31, 2018, or when the services under this Contract are completed, whichever is earlier. This Contract and each of its provisions shall be binding upon the Contracting Parties and may not be waived, modified, amended or altered except by in writing signed by the Contracting Parties. The term of this Contract may be extended if necessary to complete the contested case.

2. Except as expressly amended above, the Original Contract remains in effect and is not altered by this Amendment.

3. The parties hereto have made and executed this Amendment to be effective as of the date of the last party to sign.

**PERFORMING ENTITY**

State Office of Administrative Hearings  
Name of Entity

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

Title: Chief Administrative Law Judge

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIVING ENTITY**

Barton Springs Edwards Aquifers Conservation District  
Name of Entity

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved as to form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Reyna, General Counsel

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Barton Springs  
Edwards Aquifer**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
Request for Statements of Interest and Qualifications  
For Comprehensive Classification and Compensation Analysis  
RFQ No. 08012017-001**

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (District) requests statements of interest and qualifications (SOQs) from qualified consultants to provide professional services to conduct a comprehensive classification and compensation analysis.

**BACKGROUND**

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District (“District”) is a Groundwater Conservation District (GCD) created in 1987 by the 70th Texas Legislature under Senate Bill 988 (now codified at Special District Local Laws Code, Chapter 8802) and Chapter 52 (revised to Chapter 36) of the Texas Water Code (TWC). The District's mandate is to conserve, protect, and enhance all groundwater resources within the District. The District has the authority to undertake various studies and implement structural facilities and non-structural programs to achieve its statutory mandate. The District has rule-making authority to implement its policies and procedures consistent with the statutory mandates, established mission, and the TWDB-approved management plan. The District carries out its mission and goals through aquifer studies, establishing rules and policies, education programs, District provided services, and through the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies.

The District currently employs 11 full-time employees with unique job descriptions and a wide range of responsibilities. It is the District’s policy to provide a salary program and benefits package that rewards and retains competent employees and is competitive, equitable, and commensurate with industry standards and the market.

**PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The District is seeking a qualified consultant to conduct a comprehensive classification and compensations analysis, to include:

1. review and development of current job descriptions;
2. conduct a market salary survey;
3. perform survey data analysis and recommend pay structures;
4. review and assign all positions to an appropriate pay grade; and
5. recommend implementation and progression strategies.

## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS SELECTION CRITERIA

The consultant will be selected through a qualification-based selection process. Firms interested in providing the services must submit as part of the RFQ response a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) that addresses the following evaluation criteria. Applicants are encouraged to organize their submissions in such a way as to follow the general evaluation criteria listed below. Information included within the SOQ may be used to evaluate your firm as part of any criteria regardless of where that information is found within the SOQ. Information obtained from the SOQ and from any other relevant source may be used in the evaluation and selection process.

### **Title Page**

Include the Proposal Title and RFQ number, the name of your firm, address, telephone number(s), name of contact person, email address, and date.

### **Letter of Introduction:**

- a. General Information
- b. Description of firm/team
- c. Legal company organization; organizational chart with names

### **Relevant Firm Experience (40 points)**

- a. Consultant's/firm's overall reputation, service capabilities and quality as it relates to this project.
- b. List and briefly describe 3-5 comparable projects completed by consultant/firm or currently in progress. For each project, include contact name and title, address, telephone number and email address.
- c. A minimum of three references from governmental entities, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers of parties for whom comparable work has been performed in the past five years.
- d. List and describe any instances in which the consultant/firm has ever had to legally defend themselves for services provided.
- e. Consultant's/Firm's capacity and intent to proceed without delay if selected for this work.

### **Team Experience & Qualifications (30 points)**

- a. Describe each team member's position within the firm. Provide resumes of each proposed team member in Appendix A.
- b. Briefly describe each team member's role on this project.
- c. Provide "team" experience working together on similar projects.
- d. Identify proposed sub-consultants

### **Project Understanding and Approach (20 points)**

- a. Describe your understanding of the project.
- b. Identify and discuss any potential problems during the study.
- c. Identify and discuss methods to mitigate those problems.
- d. Describe your firm's project management approach and philosophy.

**Other Factors****(10 points)**

- a. Current workload and ability to proceed promptly
- b. Provide statement regarding your assurance that this engagement will not result in a conflict of interest.
- c. Relevant factors impacting the quality and value of work

**SELECTION AND NEGOTIATION**

The District's management team will evaluate each SOQ response according to the above criteria, and may select finalists to meet for interviews in order to expand on the information provided in the SOQ response. Following interviews the District's management team will determine a ranking for each short-list firm based on the published criteria in this RFQ. Consideration will be given to both the written SOQ and any oral presentations or interviews. No other factors or criteria will be used in the qualification ranking. The highest ranked firm will be recommended to the Board of Directors for contract award.

The District will enter into negotiations with the selected firm and execute a contract upon completion of negotiations for Board of Directors approval. If the District is unsuccessful in negotiating a contract with the highest ranked firm the District may then negotiate with the second or third highest ranked team until a contract is executed or may decide to terminate the selection process.

While the cost of the prospective work will be negotiated following contractor selection, the District has budgeted up to \$15,000 for the scope of services described. The District intends to complete negotiations with its selected contractor and award the contract by the regularly scheduled Board meeting on **September 28, 2017**.

**SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

The RFQ response shall consist of a one (1) page title page, a one (1) page letter of introduction, a one (1) page table of contents and a maximum of ten (10) pages to address the SOQ criteria specified on Page 2 of this RFQ, for a maximum of thirteen (13) pages excluding resumes. Resumes for each key team member shall be limited to no more than (1) page and shall be attached as Appendix A. Adherence to the maximum page requirement is critical; each page side (maximum 8 ½" x 11") with criteria information will be counted. Pages that have photos, charts and graphs will be counted towards the maximum number of pages. No cost, pricing or financial information of any kind shall be included in any of the proposal documents.

Interested parties are asked to submit brief SOQs to the District by 5:00 pm Thursday, **August 24, 2017**. SOQs may be submitted to District at the following address:

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
Attn: Dana C. Wilson, Administrative Team Leader  
1124 Regal Row  
Austin, Texas 78748  
(512) 282-8441

Or submitted electronically to: [dana@bseacd.org](mailto:dana@bseacd.org) (Subject: CCA RFQ). Any questions about this solicitation also should be submitted to John T. Dupnik, General Manager, via email at [john@bseacd.org](mailto:john@bseacd.org).

## 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.)*

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STATUS REPORT UPDATE FOR AUGUST 10, 2017 BOARD MEETING

Prepared by District Team Leaders

Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
<b>GENERAL MANAGEMENT TEAM</b>			
John Dupnik			
JD	8/3/17	Meetings, Training, Presentations, and Conferences	External Meetings Attended: Meeting with BBT bank, Region K, City of Kyle (Permit Renewal Eval); GMA 9 Manager's Meeting; Centex Site Visit; Dripping Springs TPDES protests; Other Meetings: Board Budget and Finance Committee; SOAH Prelim Hearing (Needmore) Training; Retirement program speaker Presentations; None Conferences/Seminars; None
JD	8/3/17	Ongoing Special Projects, Committees, and Workgroups	Ongoing Special Projects: TWDD RFP grant; Dripping Springs TPDES permit settlement; Management Plan revision; Database project; Salary structure review; Procurement Policy review; ASR pilot project; HCP finalization; 30th Anniversary planning; SII 45 and Consent Decree Compliance; Legislative tracking (special session); Legislative bill implementation; Committees and Workgroups: Region K (voting member); Region K executive committee; GMA 10 (voting member); Regional WQ Plan workgroup; Region K Legislation and Policy committee; Region K water supply strategy committee; TAGD legislative committee (regional planning; ASR, brackish gw); TWCA groundwater committee; Hill Country Conservancy Trust organizing group.
JD	8/3/17	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 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, RFQ reviews Other Activities: prelim. draft MP submittal to TWDB; Salary Study RFQ; work on procurement policy; work on draft Dripping Springs settlement agreement; DB interview coordination; FY18 budget planning; GMA 10 next cycle planning; GMA 9/10 rule comparisons; review end of FY17 incentive projects, prepare for individual staff Performance Reviews.
<b>ADMINISTRATION TEAM</b>			
Dana Christine Wilson			
DCW	8/4/2017	Permittee accounts carrying a past due balance:	Currently there is just one (very small) past due account balance (Siripes).
DCW	8/4/2017	Billings - current month	August 16th statement due for September monthly invoices, 1st quarter FY 2018 invoices, and annual invoices. Payments will be due on September 5th and considered late on September 16th.
DCW	7/7/2017	Reduction in fees for all conditional Edwards permits from \$0.46/1000 gallons to 0.44/1000 gallons.	LCRA raw water rate decreased in January rather than increased as forecasted. The \$0.46/1000 gallons has been reduced to 0.44 for all conditional Edwards permits so FY 2018 billings will be reduced by this amount (effect is \$6,470).
DCW	8/4/2017	FY 2018 Preliminary Initial Budget was presented at first July Board Meeting.	FY 2018 Proposed Budget being presented at the August 10th meeting.
DCW	8/4/2017	Most current, available financial reports to be posted.	Balance Sheet, and Profit and Loss Statement through June 2017 have been posted.
TR/DCW	8/4/2017	Transparency Stars	Started the process "Open Government is Accountable Government" to include new web page and new topic headings that are required by the controller's office towards earning stars. Web page creation has begun and in process.



	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
<b>Grant Reporting</b>	DCW	8/4/2017	Invoice was previously submitted to the TWDB, but will be redone to account for the complete project rather than just a period of the project, as soon as there is a contract with the parameters in place to direct how the invoicing is to be done, which will be very different than the initial grant contract parameters.	Payment expected is \$108,081.01. UPDATE: 2/27/2017 Invoices on hold by TWDB for contract/budget amendment/extension. UPDATE: 4/30/17 Invoice deleted and has to be redone under whatever new terms will be in the amended Contract. UPDATE: 6/5/17 Contract still being "re-done." No activity/invoicing to TWDB for our grant expenses is able to be done - accounting-wise. In limbo. UPDATE: 6/27/17 NO CHANGE
<b>Insurance - District Liability and Property</b>	DCW	8/4/2017	TML Annual Rate Exposure Summary and Schedules for Property Insurance and Liability Insurance	This review is done for TML to properly rate our coverage.
<b>REGULATORY COMPLIANCE TEAM</b> Vanessa Escobar				
<b>Needmore Water LLC</b>	KBE, VE	8/3/17	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 will recommended Special Provisions, and a Technical Evaluation, that is available on the website www.hseacd.org. A preliminary hearing on party standing was held on 7/31/17 at SOAH. TESPA was granted party status. A hearing on the merits of the permit application is scheduled to take place in March 2018.
<b>Electro Purification</b>	KBE, VE	8/3/17	Test Well Permit - General Permit	EP 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 application and hydroreport are under review.
<b>Limited Production Permits (LPPs)</b>	KBE, VE	8/3/17	LPPs - General Permits	Staff will be sending out a reminder in August to remind LPPs of their annual meter reading. Staff is also working with a handful of well owners who still need meters installed on their wells.
<b>General Manager Approved Permits</b>	KBE, VE	8/3/17	Individual Permits < 2,000,000 gal/yr	NA
<b>Drought Status - No-Drought</b>	KBE, VE	8/3/17	Drought Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement	No new update. No-drought was declared on January 29, 2015.
<b>EDUCATION &amp; OUTREACH</b> Robin Gury				
<b>30th Anniversary</b>	RG	8/4/17	Radio, social media	In celebration of the 30 years, the District is planning a post each day in August through social media. Stay tuned for witty water conservation tips, engaging video definitions of key groundwater concepts, and inspiring photos from the past and present. Visit our YouTube channel and like us on Facebook to keep informed about groundwater in the District. Radio sponsorships with public radio stations (KUT, KUTX, Sun-Austin, Sun-San Marcos) will highlight "District giving a local voice to groundwater management". Listen for announcements during August on Board meeting weeks.
<b>Interns</b>	RG, JD	8/4/17	Media Specialist	Alicia Estes began work in January as a part time media specialist. She has finished a dye trace capability video, finalized Recharge, Springs, and Antioch videos, and is finishing a well construction video. Final videos are available through our YouTube channel. Visit our website and click the YouTube link in the upper right corner.



	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Augmented Reality Water Quality Teaching Tool	RG	8/4/17	Benthic macroinvertebrates	Work has started on the Augmented Reality teaching tool. Initial characters are in draft phase, game mechanics have been defined, and protocols for publishing android and apple applications have been finalized. This teaching tool uses augmented reality to allow students to explore the macroinvertebrates and amphibians commonly found in the Fliza Springs pool. The augmented reality will highlight morphology, relationships, life cycles, and notable characteristics. Benthic macroinvertebrates are commonly used as an indicator of water quality. Presence of pollution intolerant species indicates good water quality. In this first phase of the tool, students will be introduced to several the pollution sensitive species present at Eliza Springs.
Scholarship Program	Directors, staff	8/4/17	College winner ceremony	The college scholarship winner is scheduled to attend the August 10th Board Meeting.
Encens Blast	RG	8/4/17	Summer eNews	A lengthy summer eNews was released on August 1. It was opened 935 times with above average clicks on the links. Topics included: 30th Anniversary announcement, aquifer levels, EIP application and hydro report, HCP public notice and meeting, management plan update, and camp scholarship winners.
Internet Traffic Report	RG	8/4/17	Page views and visits to the District Website	There were 2,735 total page views by 2,200 unique visitors. Top sites in order of number of views are the home page (744), EIP Permit Notice (152), Maps (142), and Permit Notices (11). The District Facebook page now has 576 "Likes" and responses to posts have been very positive.
<b>AQUIFER SCIENCE</b>				
Brian Smith				
Dye Tracing	BS, BH	8/4/17	Dye tracing	Discussions are underway with the ITGCD, EAA and CoA about potential dye tracings in the upcoming months in Onion watersheds. A trace in the lower Onion Watershed (Edwards Recharge Zone) will likely occur in mid-September for up to 3 features. A trace in the upper Watershed (Dripping Springs area) will likely occur October.
Central Hays County Groundwater Evaluation	BH, BS, JC	8/4/17	Well and hydrogeology characterization	AS staff are evaluating the EIP hydrogeologic report among other data. Permeability testing will begin at the Hays County multipoint well at the end of the summer 2017.
Antioch Cave	BS, BH, JC	7/5/17	Onion Creek Recharge Enhancement Project	Flow in Onion Creek has diminished significantly due to low rain amount in April. New equipment to control the Antioch valve were installed in March, 2017.
Water-Quality Studies	BS, BH, JC	8/4/17	Sampling and analysis of groundwater and surface water	District staff are busy sampling on behalf of the TWD&B through August 2017.
Saline Zone Studies	BS, BH	8/4/17	Saline Zone report	Aquifer Science staff have completed a draft report of the multipoint well testing and sampling that will be a part of the RTP grant report. We are waiting on a geochemical evaluation from our contractor Bruce Darling. A draft report from Carroll is expected in the Fall.
Drought and Water-Level Monitoring	BH, BS, JC	8/4/17	Drought status, monitor wells, and synoptic water level events	As of August 4, the water level in the Lovelady well was at 530.8 ft above msl, and Barton Springs was flowing at 87 cfs.
Information Transfer	BS, BH, JC	7/5/17	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 (JUT) on the District's saline Edwards studies.
Aquifer Testing	BS, BH, JC	8/4/17	Planning, participation, and review of aquifer tests	EIP aquifer testing finished in January 2017. District staff received application and hydrogeologic report from EIP. Staff have begun a technical review of the hydrogeologic report.
<b>AD-HIQC TEAMS</b>				

	Leader, Staff	Date	PROJECT / ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION	STATUS/COMMENTS
<b>Technical Team</b>	BAS	7/5/17	Current areas of discussion	Topics of discussion at the technical team meeting in May were the RFP grant, Hays and Travis County multipoint wells, pumpage tracking, TWDB sampling program, and the Database RFQ
<b>Planning Team</b>	JD	8/3/17	Strategic and tactical planning and discussion topics	New Business: FY18 budgeting; Media communications; end-of-year planning
<b>Database Team</b>	RG/VE	5/5/17	Database Enhancement	We received 9 Statements of Qualifications from firms in response to our posted RFQ. Technical Staff is reviewing those qualification and developing a scope of work for the RFP.
<b>UPCOMING ITEMS OF INTEREST</b>				
1st August Board Meeting		8/10/17		
GMA 10 Meeting		8/14/17	11am, EAA offices, San Antonio	
<b>USFWS Public Meeting on District HICP</b>		8/23/17	6-8pm, BSEACD office	
2nd August Board Meeting		8/24/17		
TAGD Texas Groundwater Summit		8/29/17	thru 8/31, San Marcos Convention Center	
30th Anniversary Party		8/31/17	Wildflower Center	
Labor Day		9/4/17	District Holiday - Office closed	

## **Item 4**

### **Presentation**

**Awarding of the Kent S. Butler Memorial Groundwater Stewardship College Scholarship to Raden Bowerman.**

## It Ain't Easy Being Green

When I was 12, I was visiting Michigan with my family. We visited the Ford factory and saw the usual—trucks parts, assembly lines, and old cars. What struck me as the most interesting part of the tour, however, was their green roof. I found it fascinating how much green roofs helped the environment. Rainwater runoff into Lake Erie, was reduced by 28% by having the green roof. Later that year, friends and I entered the Future City Engineering competition. I was adamant that we integrate green roofs into our solutions. The problem concentrated on energy but, I convinced my peers how green roofs could significantly reduce energy cost. As a scout, I went to the National Jamboree and was one of the first to do work on the Sustainability Merit Badge. I had to draw a design for a sustainable community. Again, I went back to green roof engineering. As citizens in Austin look towards solar energy as an energy source, it doesn't address the other issues that central Texas faces. Austinites needs to look at environmental solutions that provide multiple benefits for its citizens. Green roofs solve many problems and would significantly help central Texans.

What isn't desert in a Texas is a well-developed community. One good rain storm can cause havoc. Considering the runoff coefficient of rooftops is essential. Green roofs absorbs more water, reducing flooding and groundwater pollution. On a metal roof, the runoff coefficient is .95. Which means that if you have 1,000 gallons of water fall onto a metal roof, 950 gallons will run-off the roof into surface water or groundwater. This means that almost all the water that falls on that roof will end up as runoff. I live on Barton Creek. I have seen creek go from being dry one year to raging class 3 rapids in one storm. I've found fish in trees and crawdads on the trail after these devastating floods. A green roof can help by reducing the amount of runoff. The highest runoff coefficient for a green roof is .65. So, when a 1,000 gallons of water falls on a green roof, only 650 gallons runs off— 350 gallons less. Having 3 roofs with just a sedum over metal would save 900 gallons of water for every 1,000 gallons that fell on each roof. This is the equivalent of what one cedar tree drinks in a month. Assuming 3.5 inches of rain per hour fell on a 1,000 ft metal roof, 34.25 US gallons per minute would fall from that roofline! The same size rainfall and the same square footage would only yield 23.44 US gallons per minute from a green roof.

The runoff from green roofs are also cleaner than traditional runoff. This means fewer pollutants end up in our groundwater and water supply. Groundwater is what is we humans use in our daily lives. Green roof absorb hydrocarbons in the air along with dioxide and monoxide. While saving water, green roofs would also clean the atmosphere. Keeping CO<sub>2</sub> out of groundwater would help improve public health. The most common hydrocarbon is oil; these are dangerous in water. The problem is that they are not soluble in water and many of them have varying densities, meaning some will float and some will sink. These become especially problematic when the oils seep out of the groundwater supply and into the surface water. If plants and animals digest these they die. Greens roofs help remove these compounds, preventing this indirect pollution of the groundwater. Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> would also help reduce vapor pressure pockets in the ground. Since the ground doesn't have to hold air pockets, there is even more

room for it to hold water. Green roofs can reduce pollutants in the air, in the runoff, and in our direct water supplies, while helping the earth to store more water.

In Michigan, the green roof were made of sedum; this might not be the best option for Texas. Michigan, gets a slow, constant easy streams of rain. Texas gets too much rain all at one time. For Texas, better plants would be a hybrid type of grass. Texas should research more about hybrid grass/sedum roofs. Sedum is great at drought resistance while grasses are better for larger amounts of rain. Grasses would also be more useful because they have larger roots, to help establish a denser, thus stronger, roof. Grass also needs a thicker base, which means it would absorb more water than a sedum roof— and have a lower runoff coefficient. A grass roof would reduce runoff 20% more than a sedum roof. During dry parts of the year, runoff would be almost nonexistent because the dirt would be less saturated, and allow the green roof to soak up more water. If people had multiple rooflines they could have rooftop gardens, even adding small trees, herbs and shrubbery, reducing runoff even more. Think of having a rooftop garden with rosemary, lime trees and radishes. Food growing while also improving our water system. The roof would be enjoyable to look at as well as functional. A green roof can solve many issues facing our modern city.

Of course, some wonder what would be done in times where Texas experiences multi-year droughts. What would we do with a green roof? Would it be a fire hazard? Although most green roofs are not irrigated, it would be worth looking into how irrigation could be done inexpensively. What if gray water from a house could be used to irrigate a green roof when needed? When it did finally rain, a dry green roof would greatly reduce flooding. Flooding causes destruction, but also drastically affects our water supplies. Floods carry several pollutants into surface water supplies, which eventually end up in our groundwater.

I've been given a hard time for years about being a "greener" or "environmentalist." I drove my grandma crazy when I was 3 and had to pick up litter—everywhere. I was born with the sentiment that I needed to take care of the Earth. I lived in Seattle and then Vancouver, BC where water was abundant and everywhere. I moved to Texas when I was 7. That year was a record year of rainfall. After that we had droughts. I saw the creek I swam in, reduced to nothing. I watched green fields turn tan. I found coyotes drinking in the neighbor's water fountain because it was the only water around. I get it now. Water is gold. When I was surrounded in rain for 90 days straight, I didn't see it's value. Moving to Texas has changed that. Traveling to Michigan, gave me a solution for how Texas could make the most of its rainfall.

I am planning on majoring in engineering. I am an Eagle scout who takes the idea of "leave no trace" very seriously. We are taught to leave the environment better than we found it and hopefully improve it. This is my goal. I see a way for green roofs to improve our quality of lives and better our environment. We have to start embracing solutions for society's problems that contribute to a cycle— like the water cycle does with water or the carbon cycle does with carbon.

We need to find holistic solutions. A windmill or a solar panel doesn't do anything to solve problem with surface water or groundwater. Carbon dioxide level are constantly on the rise and are detrimental to our Ozone. We need to reduce carbon dioxide back to healthy levels. Cities need green beauty! As a scout, I've experienced how being outdoors surrounded by nature reduces tension and stress. Green roofs can help with energy conservation, air pollution, and city aesthetics— while also helping us protect our water supplies. Adopting green roofs won't be easy. It is different. However, we need different to take us into the the future. It won't be easy being green, but it will definitely be worth it!

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## **Item 5**

### **Public Hearing**

**The Board will hold a public hearing on the Proposed FY 2018 annual budget.**

## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

- a. Discussion and possible action related to approving the FY 2018 annual budget**



## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

**b. Discussion and possible action related to the presentation of rule concepts related to District regulation of Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects (ASR).**

## Proposed ASR Rule Concepts 8/3/17

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<b>Definitions</b>
<b>Rationale:</b>	Clarification of existing defined terms and the incorporation of some newly defined terms for ASR  Revised or new definitions may include: 'Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)', 'ASR Well (nonexempt)', 'Target Storage Volume', 'Buffer Volume', 'Recovery Volume', 'Storage Radius'
<b>Rule Section(s):</b>	Section 2

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<b>General Permits</b>
<b>Rationale:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create an ASR test permit under General Permits.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Authorizes a temporary volume (if groundwater is sourced from within District jurisdiction) for conducting testing (cycle testing, step testing, etc)</li> <li>o Authorization also includes requirement for accounting of injection and recovery volumes for all sources of injected water.</li> <li>o Authorization will expire within specified time period (Ex. 1 year)</li> <li>o Volume shall not exceed 20 million gallons per authorization.                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Volumes over 5 million gallons will accessed the a production fee (\$0.17/1000 gallons)</li> <li>▪ Variances may be considered for volumes greater than 20 million.</li> </ul> </li> <li>o An applicant may only receive two authorizations.</li> <li>o Volumes can be produced during Drought Stages 1 and 2. No volumes shall be produced from Stage 3-5.</li> <li>o Any test that commences during Drought Stage 1 or 2 shall be allowed to continue or complete testing with full authorized volume until the ten-day average discharge at Barton Springs falls to 23 cfs. Upon reaching 23 cfs the applicant will receive notice from the District that the testing must be completed before Stage 3 declaration.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Rule Section(s):</b>	Section 3-1.20

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<b>Aquifer Storage and Recovery Projects – New Section</b>
<b>Rationale:</b>	<p><b>ASR Operational Permit and Drilling Applications:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create an ASR operational permit application and checklist.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Production permit volume and recovery permit volume</li> <li>o Hydrogeological report requirements will apply for new production wells or volumes</li> <li>o Application Fee: To cover the cost of staff time and potential contractor review</li> <li>o Checklist (TCEQ application materials, etc)</li> <li>o Notice is required pursuant 3-1.4A(8)(L). Notice shall be provided to GCDs where source water is derived.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Create a recovery well drilling application form.           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Same as current drilling application requirements.</li> <li>o Notice.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Permit Volume and Term</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One ASR Operational Permit Certificate (2 volumes; Class D production (for injection) and recovery)           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o If source water is derived out of District, certificate will reflect only recovery volume</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Site Location**

- ASR operational permits shall not be authorized in the Saline Edwards Management Zone within the three mile buffer zone.
- All ASR recovery wells and "storage radius" associated with a single ASR project must be located:
  - o Within a continuous perimeter boundary on one parcel or land, or
  - o Within two or more adjacent parcels of land under the common ownership, lease, joint operating agreement, or contract
- A landowner owning the surface property over the bubble owns the water unless ownership has been severed. Therefore if the storage radius extends beyond ASR permittee property it's in their interest to have a Wellfield Protection Area agreement with surrounding landowners before approval.

**Permissible Sources of Water for Injection**

- ASR projects in the Edwards Aquifer Management Zones and Trinity Aquifer Management Zones must comply with TAC 331.19 pursuant Injection Into or Through the Edwards Aquifer.
  - o Wells that inject groundwater withdrawn from the Edwards Aquifer may be authorized only if:
    - the groundwater is unaltered physically, chemically, or biologically; or
    - the groundwater is treated in connection with remediation that is approved by state or federal order, authorization, or agreement and does not exceed the maximum contaminant levels for drinking water contained in §290.104 of this title (relating to Summary of Maximum Contaminant Levels, Maximum Residual Disinfectant Levels, Treatment Techniques, and Action Levels)
- For ASR projects not in the Edwards Aquifer Management Zones or Trinity Aquifer Management Zones the injection of water shall comply with the standards set forth under the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act

**Groundwater Available for Recharge/Injection and Storage Permits**

- The amount of groundwater that may be permitted to be withdrawn from District Aquifers:
  - o Freshwater Edwards Aquifer Conditional Class D – limited to 2 cfs; only available during non-drought
  - o Freshwater Edwards, Trinity, and other freshwater aquifers (Historic/Conditional) - available during drought but must comply with applicable drought curtailments.
    - An amendment may be necessary
  - o Other Groundwater Permits – applicant must provide copies of active permits; subject to those permit conditions

**Recovery Amount**

- Recovery permit required (volume should be close to 100% if buffer is maintained)
- ASR permittee will be prohibited from withdrawing more groundwater than the amount injected unless they have an active production permit. An ASR permittee that withdraws more water than injected is subject to enforcement pursuant District Rule 3-1.3 for groundwater withdraws without permit.
- A permittee holding a recovery permit may withdraw and recover the groundwater available in storage of an ASR project as issued in the recovery permit and determined by the recoverability analysis.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recovery volume not subject to drought curtailments</li> <li>○ The Recovery Permit Volume will be determined based on the type of recovery operation and whether or not a buffer will be preserved in place or withdrawn as part of the operation.</li> <li>○ Shall not recover water attributed to natural recharge or floodwater/recharge through improved sinkholes or caves</li> </ul> <p><b>Monthly Reporting.</b> An ASR permittee shall submit a monthly record of meter readings on a District issued form within 1 or 2 days of end of reporting month, submitted to the District by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Meter readings shall be submitted for water injected, water recovered, and water produced.</p> <p><b>Water Quality Reporting.</b> On an annual basis, the ASR permittee is required to perform water quality testing pursuant TAC 30 331.185 (b). Water quality results shall be submitted to the District within 15 days of TCEQ submittal. There may be additional District required constituents.</p> <p><b>Operations Report.</b> Every 5 years after the issuance of an ASR Operational Permit the permittee shall provide the GM with a report that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ a comparison of project performance with predications submitted with application;</li> <li>○ a summary of data, information and analyses associated with monitoring during the operation of the project, included water quality; and</li> <li>○ describe any impacts identified during the operation of the project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Monitoring Wells.</b> Monitoring well may be required on a case by case basis to evaluate aquifer conditions and impacts on existing wells.</p>
<b>Rule Section(s):</b>	New Section

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<i>Metering of ASR Operational Wells</i>
<b>Rationale:</b>	All ASR operational wells must be installed with a dedicated meter for measuring the injection and a separate dedicated meter for measuring recovery. Meter readings shall be submitted on a District form.
<b>Rule Section(s):</b>	Section 3-2.8

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<i>Well Construction Standards for ASR Operational Wells</i>
<b>Rationale:</b>	All ASR Operational wells shall be completed in accordance with TAC 331. 132, District Well Construction Standards and any other state, federal, or local requirements that may be more stringent.
<b>Rule Section(s):</b>	Section 5

<b>Topic Area :</b>	<i>Fee Schedule</i>
<b>Rationale:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ASR application fee (production and recovery)</li> <li>- Annual administrative review fee (\$100-150)</li> </ul>

## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

**c. Discussion and possible action related to assessment of progress made towards achievement of District Goals set for FY 2017.**

**FY 2017 District Goals**  
**(Adoption Date: October 6, 2016)**  
**Staff Progress Report**

The following goals were adopted by the Board to guide the District's efforts for Fiscal Year 2017. Each Goal below includes a narrative summary in blue of District activities completed through the fiscal year to demonstrate sufficient progress towards achievement of the goals and a staff assessment of whether each goal was achieved or not.

1. Make preparations to update and streamline the District Management Plan and begin work planning for imminent actions needed to implement the prospective measures of the District Habitat Conversation Plan upon issuance of an Incidental Take Permit by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Lead Team: All Teams

This goal was achieved.

**Management Plan (MP).** District staff began work on the MP update and revision at the beginning of FY17. The initial project tasks involved forming up guiding principles and a conceptual approach to be presented to the appointed Board committee (Mary Stone and Craig Smith) for approval. The guiding principles included:

- Utilize a framework consistent with the TWDB goal structure.
- Incorporate the HCP conservation measures as baseline objectives to provide a direct link between HCP and the 2018 MP.
- Expand the scope of the baseline HCP measures to include core administrative functions, the shared territory, and management of non-Edwards aquifers (primarily the Trinity aquifers).
- Streamline by removing any non-essential content, objectives, standards, and activities.
- Should be sufficiently comprehensive to maintain current authority and emphasis key management strategies.

The Board committee held two meetings on March 20 and May 23, 2017 to develop the guidelines for the revision and provide input into the content, objectives, and performance standards in accordance with those guidelines. The draft content was initially presented to the full Board on May 25 and then work-shopped at the June 23<sup>rd</sup> regular Board meeting. On July 13, 2017, the Board approved the preliminary draft for submittal to the TWDB for pre-review. The TWDB is expected to provide comments in the next few weeks after which the draft MP will be the subject of a public hearing and then considered for possible approval and submittal to the TWDB for final approval sometime in October or November.

**Draft HCP and ITP application.** Tasks associated with preparation for HCP implementation were deferred recognizing that the application was still subject to ongoing review that would carry through FY17. The District staff and Board committee (Bob Larsen and Craig Smith) instead focused efforts on working with the USFWS to facilitate their review of the application. The bulk of this effort has involved responding to comments from the USFWS regional office in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The District addressed all comments in May and June of 2017 at which time the application was submitted and approved by the solicitor general for publication of the notice of availability in the Federal Register. The notice was published on July 18, 2017 initiating a 60-day comment period that expires on September, 18, 2017. The District will also assist the USFWS, Austin office, in holding a public meeting on the draft HCP and EIS on August 22, 2017. The remainder of the process, which is largely the responsibility of the USFWS, will carry over into FY 2018 and 2019 and is anticipated to conclude with issuance of an ITP in or around November of 2018.

2. Advocate for the District's interests and support other related initiatives as needed to preserve the District's regulatory framework and groundwater management objectives and the overall authority of Groundwater Conservation Districts.

Lead Team: General Management Team

This goal was achieved.

The GM served as the primary point of contact and coordinated with Sledge Law and the appointed Board committee members (Blayne Stansberry and Bob Larsen) to monitor bills of interest to the District including two bills that were filed on the District's behalf (HB 2424 and HB 3071). Efforts included bill tracking and analysis, meeting and providing information to legislators, and providing testimony at legislative committee hearings on certain bills. The following is a synopsis of the fate of certain priority bills of direct interest to the District:

- **HB 2424** by Howard (BSEACD annexation bill). HB 2424 was filed to align the District's boundaries with the boundaries of the aquifer. The bill was filed but was never referred to committee and therefore, did not pass.
- **HB 3071** by Rodriguez (BSEACD fee equalization bill). HB 3071 was a cleanup bill to reconcile fee structure inequity between the exclusive and annexed shared territory created by HB 3405 in 2015. The Board President, Blayne Stansberry, testified in support of the bill at the House NRC hearing on April 19, 2017. The bill passed the House but did not receive a hearing by the Senate Intergovernmental Relations Committee and therefore, did not pass.
- **HB 4121** by Kacal (Transfer of GCD territory). HB 4121 was filed to authorize a process to allow the transfer of parcels of land located in two or more GCDs into one GCD. The General Manager provided testimony against the bill at the House NRC hearing on April 5, 2017. The substituted version of the bill passed the House and was referred out of the

Senate Agriculture, Water, and Rural Affairs (AWRA) Committee but did not pass the Senate.

- **HB 922** by Workman (Southwestern Travis County GCD bill). HB 922 failed to pass but the language of the House and Senate versions of the bill were added to HB 4345 (related to creation of the Rio de Vida MUD) which passed. The GCD is created on September 1, 2017, the effective date of the bill, and is subject to a confirmation election in May of 2018.
- **SB 862** by Perry (GCD attorney's fees bill). HB 862 was filed to remove the liability protection afforded to GCDs for legal costs associated with certain legal proceedings. Board President, Blayne Stansberry, testified against the bill at the Senate AWRAC on April 3, 2017. The substituted bill passed the Senate but did not get out of the House NRC and therefore, did not pass.
- **SB 1392** by Perry (Omnibus GCD bill). HB 1392 was filed as a comprehensive overhaul of Chapter 36 that would have had significant impacts on the District. The General Manager and Board President, Blayne Stansberry, testified against the bill at the Senate AWRAC hearing on April 10, 2017.

A more comprehensive synopsis of the bills of interest that passed, failed, or were vetoed is described in the legislative debriefing report provided by the Sledge Law at the regular Board meeting on June 22, 2017 where the Board judged the District's efforts, actions taken, and outcomes in the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session to be appropriate.

3. Continue to participate in initiatives to preserve and protect the water quality of recharge to the Edwards and Trinity aquifers such as advocating for the appropriate pollution controls for roadway runoff and supporting implementation of sound wastewater management practices to protect groundwater and conserve resources.

Lead Team: General Management Team

This goal was achieved.

**Dripping Springs TPDES Permit Application.** The staff and the appointed Board committee (Blayne Stansberry and Mary Stone) were very active in FY17 advocating for permit conditions that are most protective of water quality in Onion Creek which recharges the Trinity and the Edwards aquifers. Notable activity included:

- Prepared supplemental comments on the draft permit submitted to TCEQ on September 29, 2016.
- Participated in the Public Meeting held on November 10, 2016 in Dripping Springs where the District asked questions and provided additional comments.



- Contributed technical support to the development and vetting of the water balance used to facilitated settlement negotiations.
- Contributed legal support to the development of draft settlement terms for discussion purposes with other potential protestants and the applicant.
- Participated in numerous meetings with protestants and the applicant to discuss potential settlement terms.
- Supported two bills in the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative session, HB 3036 by King and HB 3467 by Howard, to restrict wastewater discharges in the contributing watersheds to the Edwards Aquifer.

At present, the TCEQ has not provided responses to the comments received during the comment period. The District has not yet protested and will reserve that decision for when the final draft permit is available. Involvement on this issue will certainly extend into FY18.

**SH 45 Southwest and the District Consent Decree.** Pursuant to the District's Consent Decree involving this project, the District staff and the District's engineering consultant, Tom Hegemier, continued to be directly involved in oversight of construction activities to ensure sedimentation from stormwater runoff that may affect recharge water quality was limited.

The District staff and consultant participated in eight site inspections throughout FY17 on the SH 45 SW project area to assess key construction milestones and the impact of significant rainfall events. The inspection findings were documented in inspection reports that were provided to key project personnel with recommendations and suggestions related to project activities.

The staff's area of focus has been primarily related to evaluations of significant geologic features and assessment of adequate stormwater control designs onsite. We continue to provide input and comments on any changed plans related to project activities. Staff intends to continue these efforts throughout the duration of the construction which will carry over into FY18.

4. Improve administration operations to streamline procedures, enhance customer service, and optimize transparency through use of available technology, online applications, and greater accessibility to records and public information.

Lead Team: Administrative Team

This goal was achieved.

The following projects were completed or substantially advanced during FY17 to improve administrative operations pursuant to this goal:

- The District has made application through our bank's merchant services division for the District to be able to start taking credit card payments. The administrative team will pilot

the credit payment program to get familiar with operations and announce to permittees and customers as payment options.

- The appropriate website pages have been populated with the requisite reports needed to be eligible for the Comptroller's Transparency Stars program. The administrative team begin operating and reporting in accordance with the program requirements for the month of September. Application will likely be made to the state Comptroller's office for the accreditation later in FY18.
  - An accounting processes manual (policies and procedures) has been created that describes existing procedures to follow in executing the District's key financial responsibilities, and that serves as a reference guide.
  - A Board meeting Manual has been created with detailed instructions to serve as a reference document on how to conduct board meetings.
5. Conduct scientific studies and develop the regulatory framework that supports long-term management of the Trinity Aquifers and supports implementation of innovative water management strategies such as aquifer storage and recovery (ASR), enhancement of surface water (including floodwater) recharge, and desalination that may substitute for use of firm-yield Edwards Aquifer groundwater.

Lead Team: Aquifer Science Team

This goal was achieved.

The prime role of the Aquifer Science Team is to conduct scientific investigations that will help District management and policy makers make decisions about aquifer management and protection. The projects related to alternative water supplies have been in the planning phase for a number of years, but in FY17, substantial progress was made with work on a Regional Facilities Planning Grant from TWDB that was awarded in FY16. Activities related to the grant include:

- District staff and the Carollo team of consultants accomplished much of the work required for the grant. The Carollo team consists of Carollo Engineers, Inc., ASR Systems Inc., and NewGen. As of the end of FY17, the Carollo team is finalizing the project report.
- One key aspect of the project was the installation of a multiport monitor well on the Texas Disposal Systems landfill site. Drilling of the well started on August 2, 2016 and was finished by the end of August. District staff have drafted a report on the hydrogeology of the saline Edwards, particularly results from the multiport well. Results from this grant should provide significant information relating to the potential for ASR and desalination of the saline Edwards Aquifer.
- The District participated with the Ruby Ranch Water Supply Company in the initial phase of an ASR study using Edwards water to inject into the Middle Trinity Aquifer for storage.

Two cycles of injection and extract were completed in the spring of 2017. A separate report on the project is due to TCEQ by mid-September 2017.

- The District is also working closely with the City of Buda to support the ASR feasibility project, which began this fiscal year. Results from the Ruby Ranch ASR test will be very useful in evaluating the potential for ASR by the City of Buda.

The District was also very active in pursuing concepts that may provide both recharge enhancement and flood control benefits. District staff contribute to this effort by attending the Drainage and Flood Control Committee of the City of Austin's Environmental Commission. The District has also upgraded much of the equipment at our Antioch Cave facility to maximize the efficiency of the cave for recharge enhancement and water-quality improvement.

As part of the District's continued studies of the Trinity Aquifers, District staff, with the help of C&C Groundwater, and Westbay Instruments, installed two multiport monitor wells. One well was installed in the Rolling Oaks subdivision of Hays County, and the other was installed near Bee Cave in Travis County. Funding from Hays and Travis Counties helped pay for these wells. Studies are currently being done to derive methods for determining the potential for unreasonable impacts from pumping of the Trinity Aquifers.

6. Implement education and outreach initiatives to showcase the District's history and accomplishments and inform groundwater users of the District's capabilities, resources, and programs by making data accessible through publications, website improvements, social media presence, public awareness campaigns, and/or other related outreach events and initiatives.

Lead Team: Education & Outreach Team

This goal was achieved.

To increase awareness of District programs, roles, and 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, staff applied a multi-faceted approach. Activities related to this goal include:

- Social media posts increased distribution of announcements and news and received high view rate. In celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a post a day during August through social media highlighted key concepts, water conservation, water quality protection, groundwater topics, and District history.
- A District YouTube channel was created. Short video definitions for dye tracing, recharge, springs, Antioch Cave, and well construction are being finalized or are already available online. Additionally, video of multiport well installation, stream gauging, and Trinity Aquifer springs have been loaded.
- A monthly digital newsletter began circulation in last fiscal year and was continued this year. Feedback and metrics show that the frequent updates in the mobile-friendly, digital format have been highly popular. Subscribers receive regular updates on permitting,

aquifer science, events, and programs. Each monthly eNews was opened/accessed over 1,000 times.

- To make monitor well data more accessible the District hosted a Hackathon with the Texas Advanced Computing Center and the Hill Country Alliance. Time series data are available for use by researchers, teachers, and students through the District website. The interactive monitor well map was also updated. A fact sheet describing the monitoring network is in review.
  - The 2017 Well Water Check-up was showcased as an open house event that provided an opportunity for well owners to meet staff and invited experts (native plants, septic installation and maintenance, well drilling/servicing, and water treatment) and have their water analyzed for free. Over 2,000 postcards were mailed to homeowners in neighborhoods that have a high densities of wells to advertise the event and expand the District's presence and profile.
  - Radio sponsorships for public radio stations KUT, KUTX, SUN-Austin, and SUN-San Marcos were run in August to advertise the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Announcements highlighted the District's commitment to giving a local voice to groundwater management.
  - The District co-hosted or sponsored these educational events: Groundwater to the Gulf: A Summer Institute for Educators, the Central Texas Water Conservation Symposium, and Rainwater Revival.
7. Continue efforts to: 1) further characterize the Trinity aquifers in the Shared Territory and improve tools and resources for well owners and drillers, 2) develop policy guidance related to mitigation, correlative rights, and well spacing, and 3) develop a regulatory framework for implementing innovative alternate water supply strategies (i.e. ASR and desalination).

Lead Team: Regulatory Compliance Team

This goal was achieved.

- Staff has continued to further characterize the Trinity aquifers in the shared territory by obtaining geophysical data, water quality data, and well completion records on new exempt and non-exempt well within our jurisdiction. These records have been compiled and organized by area to serve as a useful reference. The District utilizes these various datasets to further improve models and tools available for evaluations of the Trinity Aquifer and Trinity well completions.
- Staff has also developed draft concepts and guidance policies related to mitigation, correlative rights, and aquifer evaluations.

A draft mitigation guidance document has been developed to support the Board's adopted mitigation policy and provide recommended guidelines, protocol, and operating

procedures for developing and implementing mitigation plans by agreement with certain permit holders. The will be presented at a future Board meeting for Board consideration.

A white paper has also been drafted by staff to analyze the various applications of correlative rights and well spacing in Texas and other states. This research will serve as a resource for the future consideration of the possible applicability and/or the compatibility of these regulatory approaches in the District.

- In an effort to encourage alternate water supply strategies, the staff has participated in local small-scale feasibility tests for aquifer storage and recovery. Draft rule concepts have been developed and will presented at the August 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Additional vetting by a technical advisory group is planned for FY18.

## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

**d. Discussion and possible action related to evaluation of the performance of the General Manager in FY 2017 including assessment of incentive compensation.**

## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

- e. Discussion and possible action related activity in the first-called special session of the 85th Legislative of interest to the District.**

## **Item 6**

### **Board Discussions and Possible Actions**

**f. 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 7

### Director's Reports

**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. Communications reported under this item may be used to support Performance Standard 4-1 of the District's Management Plan related to demonstration of effective communication with District constituents.)*

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 8**

**Adjournment**