

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 8, 2018**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Craig Smith, and Bob Larsen. Blake Dorsett was absent. Mary Stone arrived at 6:15 p.m. Staff present: John Dupnik, Kirk Holland, Brian Smith, Vanessa Escobar, Dana Wilson, and Tammy Raymond. Bill Dugat of Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, and Acosta participated in the meeting. Also present were those on the attached sign-in sheet. These minutes represent a summarized version of the meeting; the complete discussion of the following items is recorded digitally.

1. Call to Order.

President Stansberry called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

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

There were no 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.**
2. **Approval of minutes of the Board's January 25, 2018 regular Meeting.**
3. **Approval of out-of-state travel for Brian Smith, Principal Hydrogeologist, to attend the Sinkhole Conference in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, on April 2-6, 2018.**
4. **Approval of addendum to contract with Holland Groundwater Management Consultants, LLC adding anti-boycott verification required by Texas Government Code Chapter 2270.**

Director Smith moved approval of Consent Agenda items 1 through 4, noting invoices from Bickerstaff Heath in the amount of \$8164.48 and Intera in the amount of \$17,664.00.

Director Larsen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 3 to 0.

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

1. Standing Topics.

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

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

- i. Review of Status Update Report – at directors' discretion**
- ii. Update on GMA and regional water planning**
- iii. Update on regulatory and enforcement activities**
- iv. Update on District grant projects and other Aquifer Science Team projects**
- v. Update on Board committee activity**

Mr. Dupnik and staff updated the Board and answered Director's questions on the remaining items listed above.

4. Discussion and Possible Action.

4a. Discussion and possible action related to amending the FY18 Budget.

Ms. Wilson went over the highlights and explained the budget changes needed in order to continue District operations.

After discussion, Director Larsen moved approval of the budget amendments provided in the backup and described by Ms. Wilson.

Director Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 4 to 0.

4b. Discussion and possible action related to the draft responses to comments on the draft Habitat Conservation Plan received by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the public comment period and associated edits to the plan.

Mr. Holland gave a presentation on what has happened, what has changed, and what is on the horizon since the draft HCP was approved on May 27, 2017. He requested approval of the current version of the final HCP and the RTCs, for submission to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

After discussion, Director Smith moved that the Board adopts the current final version of the HCP and the Response to Comments, and submit them to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Director Larsen seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 0.

4d. Discussion and possible action related to the employment of a new General Manager and the General Manager's transition including appointments to regional planning and work groups.

Mr. Dupnik explained that the staff committee would give a report on the employment of the new General Manager because he has removed himself from the hiring process.

He said that the second part of this item is the appointments to regional planning workgroups.

He recommended the following appointments:

- GMA 10 - Kirk Holland as interim with Kendall Bell-Enders as support staff
- Region K - Robin Gary as interim
- CAPCOG - Mary Stone as interim with Robin Gary as support staff
- TAGD - Kirk Holland as interim with Vanessa Escobar as support staff
- TWCA - Kirk Holland as interim with Vanessa Escobar as support staff

After discussion, Director Larsen moved approval of the appointments recommended above.

Director Stone seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 4 to 0.

Ms. Escobar stated that the staff was honored to participate in the hiring process along with the Board subcommittee. She stated that the staff has some questions and concerns and a meeting has been set for Monday. She said that an agenda is being generated and would be emailed in advance of the meeting.

4d. Discussion and possible action related to the formation of the Southwestern Travis County GCD and the activities of its temporary directors, including authorizing potential support by BSEACD requested by STCGCD.

Mr. Dupnik stated that the new District is trying to get up and running but has experienced some setbacks.

Mr. Holland stated that the temporary Directors have met three times, and that all but one has agreed to be permanent Directors. He stated that the new GCD currently has no staff and no funds to operate with. They are trying to have a legal election on May 5th but that Travis County has given them a cost estimate of \$350,000 to \$425,000 to run the confirmation election.

Director Stone asked what was needed from the Board tonight.

Mr. Holland stated that all we can do is give them the best support we can. He said that if they were to ask for anything substantial, that he would bring it to the Board for approval.

No formal action was taken by the Board.

4e. 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.

President Stansberry stated that the Board would meet in Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) at 7:43 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions would be made while in Executive Session.

The Board reconvened into open session at 8:09 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions were made while in Executive Session.

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

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

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

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Approved by the Board on February 22, 2018

By: Blayne Stansberry
Blayne Stansberry, President

Attest: Tammy Raymond
~~Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary~~
TAMMY RAYMOND - DEPUTY