

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Special Called Meeting
March 5, 2015**

Board members present at commencement: Mary Stone, Craig Smith, Bob Larsen, Blake Dorsett and Blayne Stansberry. Staff present: John Dupnik, Brian Smith, Dana Wilson, and Tammy Raymond. These minutes represent a summarized version of the meeting; the complete discussion of the following items is recorded digitally.

1. Call to Order.

Ms. Stone called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

2. Citizen Communications (Public Comments).

There were no comments of a general nature.

3. Discussion and possible action related to pursuit of the District's legislative agenda including proposed legislation to expand the District's territory and authority.

Mr. Dupnik gave a presentation on the estimates of revenue and expenses associated with the annexation of the unregulated area of Hays County, and other issues of concern.

The presentation or projected permit revenue provided estimates based on a range of pumping scenarios varying from existing Trinity wells with a projected growth factor only up to the full-contracted Electro Purification project volume plus existing Trinity with a growth factor.

The expense estimates presented projected expenses in two phases – a Start Up Period and Continuing Operations. The summary conclusions of the revenue and expenses estimates were as follows:

	Low Estimate	High Estimate
Start Up Cost	\$500,000	\$800,000
Continuing Op Cost	\$270,000	\$300,000
Projected Revenue	\$130,000	\$400,000-\$600,000

1. The majority of Start Up period expenses includes costs for redistricting, facilities upgrades (remodeling/new building), a partially funded multi-port monitor well, and two new FTEs.

2. The difference between the low and high estimates for Start Up period expenses is attributed to legal contingency expenses and an estimate of unaccounted expenses.
3. The majority of the Continuing Operations expenses include salaries and benefits for two new FTEs, new directors' expenses, and continuing aquifer science projects.
4. The difference between the low and high estimate for Continuing Operation expenses is attributed to the estimate of unaccounted expenses.
5. The low estimate of projected revenue is based on existing and a conservative estimate of permitted Trinity in Hays County not associated with the EP project if the EP project is determined to be not viable.
6. The range of the high projected revenue estimates is attributed to the differences between projections with and without a \$900,000 COA fee cap.

Additional issues discussed by the Board related to possible annexation included: the possible addition of new precincts/directors, inclusion of new area along the saline Edwards buffer zone in Travis County, options for reconciling the Plum Creek Conservation District overlap, well exemptions, and changing the District's name.

After Board discussion, Dr. Larsen moved that the Board supports the proposed fee cap in the bill for the City of Austin at \$1,000,000 per year with an adjustment based on the consumer pricing index.

Mr. Smith seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 5 to 0.

Mr. Smith made a motion that the Board supports the draft legislation before the Board tonight and as previously adopted to include a fee cap on the City of Austin's contribution of \$1,000,000 for all District production. The draft legislation was supported with amendments to include: the expansion of the Board from 5-7 Directors, the proposed method for reconciling the Plum Creek Conservation District overlap, and inclusion of the saline Edwards buffer zone in Travis County.

Dr. Larsen seconded the motion and it passed with a vote of 5 to 0.

The Board requested that staff provide additional information on the issue of well exemptions and deferred action to the following meeting on March 12, 2015.

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, Ms. Stone adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Approved by the Board on March 26, 2015:

By: Mary Stone
Mary Stone, President

Attest: Blayne Stansberry
Blayne Stansberry, Secretary