

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
April 27, 2017**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Craig Smith, Bob Larsen, and Mary Stone. Blake Dorsett was absent. Staff present: John Dupnik, Vanessa Escobar, Robin Gary, Kendall Bell Enders, Brian Smith and Tammy Raymond. Bill Dugat of Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, Acosta also 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 6:02 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

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

There were no 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 an item of Regular Business.

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 13, 2017 regular Meeting.**

Director Smith moved approval of consent agenda items 1 and 2 noting invoices from Bickerstaff in the amount of \$32,350.93, and Carollo in the amount of \$14,991.00.

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

**3. Routine Business.**

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

**1. Standing Topics.**

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

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

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

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

**4. Discussion and Possible Action.**

**4a. Discussion and possible action related to the selection of the recipient of the Kent S. Butler Memorial Groundwater Stewardship College Scholarship.**

Ms. Gary stated that we had received five essays this year and that they were scored by the following list of judges:

Zachery Garza - BSEACD  
Aaron Swink - EARDC Texas State University  
Anne Ruthstrom - Texas Rural Water Association  
Bob Moore - Comm. Daugherty's Office  
Betty Verbeke - Texas Campaign for the Environment  
Krista McDermid - Zara Environmental

She explained that the essays were assigned numbers instead of names so that the judging would be anonymous. The Board subcommittee consisting of President Stansberry and Director Smith reviewed the two highest scored essays. The directors gave praise to both essays but ultimately chose Applicant #2 as the scholarship winner.

After discussion, Director Smith moved to award Applicant #2 with the essay titled "It Ain't Easy Being Green" as the winner of this year's scholarship.

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

Ms. Gary announced the winner as Raden Bowerman from Westlake High School. She said that the awards for the college scholarship and camp scholarships would be at the second meeting in May.

**4b. Discussion and possible action related to approval of a resolution to: 1) approve the form of an easement to the Hays Caldwell Public Utility Agency (HCPUA) and authorize the General Manager to execute the easement, 2) authorize the General Manager to take necessary action to close the sale of the easement, and 3) approve a purchase agreement in connection with the purchase of the easement by HCPUA and authorize the General Manger to execute the purchase agreement.**

Mr. Dupnik explained that on March 23<sup>rd</sup> the Board directed himself and Mr. Dugat to finalize the documents, and authorized him to execute them. He said that the title company requested that the Board's direction be in the form of a resolution.

After discussion, Director Smith moved approval of Resolution #042717-01 to approve the execution of the Purchase Agreement with HCPUA, to approve the form of the easement and authorize the GM to execute the easement, and to authorize the GM to take all necessary action to close the sale of the easement to HCPUA.

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

**4c. 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.**

Ms. Sarah Faust stated that she is representing "Protect Our Water." She said that it is a community based group of land owners in Dripping Springs that are concerned about the consequences of discharging wastewater into Onion Creek. She then updated the Board on the group settlement negotiations with the City of Austin.

President Stansberry stated that this item would remain open for discussion in Executive Session.

**4d. Discussion and possible action related to activities in the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative session of interest to the District.**

President Stansberry stated that the Board would meet in Executive Session as authorized by the Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney) on items 4c. and 4d. at 7:12 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 9:36 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions were made while in Executive Session.

Director Stone left the meeting at 9:36 p.m.

**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. 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.

**Director Smith reported the following:**

Attended two Regional Water Quality Protection Plan group meetings  
Attended a meeting with the Austin Water Forward Initiative

**Director Larsen reported the following:**

Met with our contractor on the desal project  
Met with the Homeowners Association representatives of the Flood Control District  
Met with Judge Eckhardt on the ILA

**Director Stansberry reported the following:**

Attended Legislative hearings at the capital

**6. Adjournment.**

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Approved by the Board on May 11, 2017

By:   
Blayne Stansberry, President

Attest:   
Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary