

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting & Public Hearing  
July 11, 2019**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Mary Stone, Bob Larsen, and Blake Dorsett. Craig Smith was absent. Staff present included: Alicia Reinmund-Martinez, Brian Hunt, Vanessa Escobar, Jackie Vay, and Tammy Raymond. These minutes represent a summarized version of the meeting; the complete discussion of the following items is recorded digitally.

**Note:** The Board of Directors of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District reserves the right to adjourn into 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.**

President Stansberry called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

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

Vanessa Puig-Williams, the Executive Director of TESPAs, said that she would like to start a conversation with the Board about the District adopting a moratorium on permits in the Middle Trinity Aquifer, until further science is developed.

**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 June 27, 2019, Regular Meeting.**

**3. Approval for out-of-state travel for Robin Gary to attend the Geological Society of America Annual Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona from September 22-25, 2019.**

President Stansberry stated that she would like to postpone action on item 3a.3. until the FY 2020 Budget is finalized.

Director Stone moved approval of Consent Agenda Items 1 and 2, noting an invoice from Bickerstaff, Heath in the amount of \$18,336.90.

Director Larsen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 4 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 for consideration.)*

## **Topics**

1. **Personnel matters.**
2. **Aquifer conditions and status of drought indicators.**
3. **Upcoming public events of possible interest.**
4. **Review of Status Report Update – at directors' discretion.**
5. **Update on projects and activities of individual teams.**
6. **Update on Board Committee activity.**
7. **Update on development activities over aquifer recharge and contributing zones.**
8. **Update on activities related to area roadway projects.**
9. **Update on the Permian Highway Pipeline project.**
10. **Update on GMA and regional water planning activities.**
11. **Update on HCP activities.**
12. **Update on the State Office of Administrative Hearings proceedings for the Electro Purification LLC permit applications.**

Updates were given by Ms. Reinmund-Martinez, Bill Dugat and staff.

## **4. Public Hearing.**

### **4a. The Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed FY 2020 Fee Schedule.**

President Stansberry opened the Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m.

Ms. Reinmund-Martinez gave a presentation on the proposed revisions to the excess pumpage fees that were posted. She also suggested additional changes to permit applications fees and meter reading fee.

Chris Mullins of Save our Springs Alliance, stated that they are in support of increasing excess pumping fees and would like to see fees assessed for under 500,000 gallons as well.

Blake Neffendorf of the City of Buda, stated that they are in support of the increase in excess pumping fees, and had a few other suggestions.

President Stansberry closed the Public Hearing at 6:49 p.m.

## **5. Discussion and possible action.**

**a. Discussion and possible action to adopt the proposed FY 2020 fee schedule by Resolution #071119- 01.**

President Stansberry stated that the Board would take action on the revisions that were posted. She also said that for transparency they would hold another public hearing on August 15<sup>th</sup> for the additional changes suggested by Ms. Reinmund-Martinez.

After discussion, Director Stone moved approval of the FY 2020 fee schedule as posted in the backup, noting the change to tier 3b. by removing 1,000,000,000 gallons and keeping more than 500,000,000 gallons per year, and adopting Resolution 071119-01.

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

**b. Discussion and possible action to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District for purposes of Joint Planning within Groundwater Management Area 9 specifically in regard to the preparation of and payment for the DFC Explanatory Report.**

Ms. Reinmund-Martinez explained that this is an Interlocal Agreement that all 8 of the GCD's in GMA 9 will consider for approval. This agreement is for the preparation and payment to the consultant to do the DFC Explanatory Report in GMA 9. She said that our Management Plan requires us to participate in GMA 9. She then gave the timeline of events leading up to the final adoption of the DFC's.

Director Larsen asked if the total cost of \$55,000 to \$60,000 would be divided between all 8 of the Districts in an equal amount.

Ms. Reinmund-Martinez answered yes.

Director Larsen then asked what would happen if a District backed out of adopting this Agreement.

Mr. Hunt explained that it did happen in the past and that everyone shared the additional cost. He also said that it is believed that all of the Districts are in agreement for bearing the cost of this report.

After further discussion, Director Stone moved approval of the Interlocal Agreement for Groundwater Area Management 9 DFC's Explanatory Report's third planning cycle, with a maximum contribution of \$7500.

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

**c. Discussion and possible action related to the Validation Monitoring Protocol for the HCP under the BSEACD Incidental Take Permit # TE10607C-0.**

Ms. Reinmund-Martinez explained that the Validation Monitoring Protocol for the HCP is our methodology to evaluate our "Take" of the salamanders associated with our covered activities.

Mr. Hunt gave a presentation on the annual report completed for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife. He said that the report shows the activities that the District will conduct each year, and our estimated "Take" while completing those projects.

After discussion, Director Stone moved approval of submission of the Validation Monitoring Report to U.S. Fish & Wildlife.

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

**7. Adjournment.**

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Approved by the Board on July 25, 2019

By: Blayne Stansberry Attest: Blake Dorsett  
Blayne Stansberry, President Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary