

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 8, 2016**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Craig Smith, Blake Dorsett Bob Larsen and Mary Stone. Staff present: John Dupnik, Brian Smith, Vanessa Escobar, Stephen Davis 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 6:00 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 August 25, 2016 regular Meeting.**
3. **Approval of the effectiveness of Directors' communications with stakeholders and constituents for the 4th Quarter FY 2016 (June-August) per the collective judgment of the Board, as required by the District's Management Plan.**
4. **Approval of records disposition in accordance with District records retention schedule.**
5. **Approval of alternative dates for the November and December Board meetings and set the date for the District Holiday Party.**

6. **Approval of an amendment to the contract with Hicks and Company for environmental document preparation services in support of the District's draft Habitat Conservation Plan and pending Section 10(a) Incidental Take Permit application with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**
7. **Approval of Order declaring unopposed candidates and cancelling November 8, 2016 Director Elections.**

President Stansberry pulled item 3a.5. from the consent agenda for discussion.

Director Smith moved approval of consent agenda items 1,2,3,4,6 and 7 noting an invoice from Bickerstaff in the amount of \$8060.30, and one minor correction to the minutes.

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

3a.5. Approval of alternative dates for the November and December Board meetings and set the date for the District Holiday Party.

Mr. Dupnik explained that in the past years the Board has scheduled one regular meeting in November and December due to the Holiday's. He suggested November 17th and December 15th as the only regularly scheduled meetings for those two months.

Director Stone stated that she will be out of town for both of the regular Board meetings in October, and that if it did not interfere with any other Director's schedules, she would like to change the meetings from October 13th and 27th to October 6th and 20th so that she could attend.

After discussion, Director Smith moved to set the Holiday Open House on December 9th at the home of President Stansberry, and to change the meetings for October, November and December, to the following dates:

October 6th and 20th
November 17th
December 15th

Director Larsen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 5 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. **Review of Status Update Report – at directors’ discretion**
- ii. **Update on activities related to GMA and regional water planning**
- iii. **Update on District grant projects and other Aquifer Science Team projects**
- iv. **Update on the activities related to the SH 45 SW roadway project**
- v. **Update on activities related to the Travis County PGMA**
- vi. **Update on interim legislative activity**

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

4. Presentation

Presentation by the District Aquifer Science Team on the Application of Natural Fluorescence to Studies of Surface and Groundwater.

Dr. Brian Smith gave a presentation that he and Francisco Martinez, our intern from Spain, gave to City of Austin staff on his thesis on the “Application of Natural Fluorescence to Studies of Surface and Groundwater.”

5. Discussion and Possible Action.

5a. Discussion and possible action related to an update on the status of the District’s draft Habitat Conservation Plan and pending Section 10(a) Incidental Take Permit application with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Mr. Dupnik updated the Board on the status of the District’s draft Habitat Conservation Plan.

Mr. Holland and Mr. Frye gave updates on the next steps needed to complete the process, including timelines, public meetings and response to comments that are received.

No Board action was needed.

5b. Discussion and possible action related to an Interlocal Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with Travis County to support the installation of a multiport Trinity Aquifer Monitor Well in Travis County.

Director Smith stated that he is a Travis County employee and that he would not take part in a vote, or an Executive Session, due to a conflict of interest.

Dr. Brian Smith stated that this agreement came about because it is in the PGMA and the area is unknown. There is no groundwater district and it is outside of our area. He said that it is up gradient of our area with a lot of development going on. This agreement would fund studies that would benefit the District, and Travis County on groundwater availability and water quality, and show how these aquifers all relate to each other. Under the terms of the agreement, Travis County would contribute \$100,000 and the District would contribute in-kind support in the form of equipment, labor, and project management.

After discussion, Director Larsen moved approval of the Interlocal Funding Agreement for a Multiport Trinity Aquifer Monitor Well in Travis County.

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

5c. 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.

Mr. Dupnik gave a brief update.

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 7:59 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 8:42 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions were made while in Executive Session.

Director Smith made a motion to direct the General Manager and staff to prepare to supplement our previous comments on the Dripping Springs Wastewater Permit application including the draft permit and in preparation for continued negotiations with the City of Dripping Springs to try to resolve the issue.

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

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Approved by the Board on September 22, 2016:

By: Blayne Stansberry
Blayne Stansberry, President

Attest: Blake Dorsett
Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary