

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 8, 2015**

Board members present at commencement: Craig Smith, Blayne Stansberry and Bob Larsen. Mary Stone and Blake Dorsett were absent. Staff present: John Dupnik, Brian Hunt, Kendall Bell-Enders, Vanessa Escobar, 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.

Mr. Smith presiding in Ms. Stone's absence called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

2. Citizen Communications (Public Comments).

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 September 24, 2015 Regular Meeting.**
3. **Approval of the date, time, and place for the District's Holiday Party.**

Ms. Stansberry moved approval of consent agenda items 3a. 1 and 3, noting invoices from TML in the amount of \$7357.34 and Bickerstaff in the amount of \$5698.90. Also noting that the Holiday Party will be hosted by Mr. Smith, on December 11th.

Mr. Dorsett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 3 to 0.

The minutes were tabled until the next meeting.

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 activities related to annexation of the shared territory in Hays County**
- iv. **Update on ongoing and prospective District grant projects**
- v. **Update on the activities related to the SH 45 SW roadway project**
- vi. **Update on activities related to the HCP and the associated draft EIS**

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

4. Presentation.

Presentation by Chris Herrington with the City of Austin of a proposal for a TCEQ rule petition to expand wastewater management options in the region.

Mr. Herrington gave a presentation on a regional wastewater management stakeholder process and potential rulemaking petition to the TCEQ. He stated that the City of Austin is proposing a new rule to TCEQ that, if adopted, would add another option for managing wastewater in Texas. The new rule would enable land application permittees to take credit for their beneficial reuse authorizations against the area of land that would otherwise be required for dedicated disposal of wastewater effluent, while adding some important environmental protections for beneficial reuse of effluent utilized for this credit.

5. Discussion and Possible Action.

5a. Discussion and possible action related to negotiating an agreement with Texas Disposal Systems for hydrologic investigations pursuant to the District's Regional Facilities Planning Grant to evaluate the feasibility of brackish groundwater development.

Mr. Dupnik stated that there is a critical need for an access agreement with TDS and that the clock is ticking now that we have received the grant from the TWDB.

Dr. Larsen explained that TDS has concerns, and want safeguards in the agreement, but are still very interested in the project.

Mr. Dupnik stated that it is his understanding that the landfill's principal source of income takes priority before everything. They are concerned that there might be some product of this study that would elevate the water supply project above the landfill, and might even affect the operations of the landfill. The top four bullets of the proposed agreement would take care of those concerns.

After discussion, Ms. Stansberry made a motion to move forward with negotiations with TDS.

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

5b. Discussion and possible action related to setting the FY 2016 District Goals.

Mr. Dupnik explained that this item was on the last agenda for discussion purposes, and to receive feedback from the Board on the staff's recommended goals, alternates, and a proposed goal presented by Director Smith. He said that he took all of the feedback from the Board and made the provisions that were before them tonight.

Dr. Larsen stated that he appreciated that, but that he was not at the last meeting and would like to add flood control, management, and ASR activities to one of the goals. He explained that we need that as a District goal if we expect to receive grant money for those kinds of projects.

After discussion, Mr. Dupnik proposed goal #4 to read as follows:

Conduct scientific studies and develop regulatory framework that supports the development and use of alternative water supplies through methods such as aquifer storage and recovery and flood waters, and desalination that may substitute for use of the Edwards and explore opportunities where such methods might provide the added benefit of flood control.

Dr. Larsen moved approval of the FY2016 goals with the general manager's proposed language for item #4 as stated above.

Ms. Stansberry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 3 to 0.

5c. Discussion and possible action related to setting the FY 2016 performance objectives for the General Manager.

Mr. Dupnik explained that his objectives are based on the District goals but are more specific. He read the proposed objectives for FY 2016.

After discussion, Ms. Stansberry moved approval of the General Manager's FY 2016 performance objectives as presented.

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

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, Mr. Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Approved by the Board on October 22, 2015:

By: 
Craig Smith, Vice President

Attest: 
Blayne Stansberry, Secretary