

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 13, 2020**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Bob Larsen, and Blake Dorsett. Craig Smith arrived at 4:06 p.m. Mary Stone was absent. Staff present included: Vanessa Escobar, Dana Wilson, Brian Smith, Justin Camp, 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 4:02 p.m., noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

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

No public comments of a general nature were given.

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 January 16, 2020, Regular Meeting and January 30, 2020, Special Called Meeting.**
 - 3. Approval of an amendment to the Investment Policy as suggested by the State Auditor's Office.**
 - 4. Approval of designating Vanessa Escobar as the District Representative to GMA 10.**

5. Approval of designating Vanessa Escobar as the General Assembly Representative to the Capital Area Council of Governments.

Director Smith moved approval of Consent Agenda Items 3a. 1 through 5.

Director Dorsett 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. 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.)*

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 Roadway Projects
7. Update on Sustainable Yield Study of the Trinity Aquifer.
8. Update on GMA and regional water planning activities.

Ms. Escobar and staff gave updates to the Board.

4. Presentations.

Staff presentation on the draft Annual Report for the US Fish & Wildlife Incidental Take Permit.

Ms. Escobar and Dr. Smith gave a presentation on the contents of the draft Annual Report.

5. Discussion and Possible Action.

5a. Discussion and possible action on approval of the draft US Fish & Wildlife ITP Annual Report.

Director Larsen moved approval of the draft ITP Annual Report with edits to be submitted to US Fish & Wildlife.

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

5b. Discussion and possible action on approval of a once-a-month Board meeting schedule and summer Board meetings.

President Stansberry stated that several months ago the Board voted to schedule one Board meeting per month starting at 4 p.m. on a trial basis, with the option of keeping the 4th Thursday available if a Special Called Meeting was needed. She asked the Board members and staff for their feedback.

Ms. Escobar stated that from the staff perspective one meeting per month has been a noticeable improvement. She said that it saves time not having to prepare for a second meeting, and also saves on costs to produce, mail, and post meetings. She ended with saying that she does not feel that it has held up business, and that staff has more time between meetings to devote to other projects.

Dr. Larsen asked if there has been any concerns from the public about not being able to attend a 4 p.m. meeting.

Ms. Escobar said that she has not heard any negative feedback.

President Stansberry said that a 4 p.m. once a month meeting works out well with her schedule.

Director's Smith and Dorsett stated that they were on board with having one meeting per month.

Director Smith moved that the Board adopt a schedule of one meeting per month on the 2nd Thursday at 4 p.m., with the option of a second meeting on the 4th Thursday if needed.

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

5c. Discussion and possible action on the status of the Needmore Water LLC permit.

Mr. Dugat stated that TESPAs filed a lawsuit against the District in the Travis County District Court, for approving Needmore Water LLC's permit.

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 5:19 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 5:39 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions were made while in Executive Session.

No Board action was taken in open session.

5d. Discussion and possible action on Strategic/Budget Planning.

After discussion, President Stansberry asked the team leaders to present updates on their team's Strategic Plan at the March 12th Board meeting.

Dr. Larsen suggested using a Gantt chart to organize and prioritize team activities.

No formal action was taken.

6. Directors' Reports.

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;
- Board committee updates;
- Conversations with public officials, permittees, stakeholders, and other constituents;
- Commendations; and
- Issues or problems of concern.

The Directors gave reports on their activities for the month.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

Approved by the Board on March 12, 2020

By: Blayne Stansberry
Blayne Stansberry, President

Attest: Blake Dorsett
Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary