

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
June 13, 2013**

Board members present at commencement: Gary Franklin, Craig Smith and Blake Dorsett. Mary Stone and Bob Larsen were absent. Staff present: Kirk Holland, John Dupnik, Brian Smith, Brian Hunt, Kendall Bell-Enders, Vanessa Escobar, Jeff Watson and Tammy Raymond. Bill Dugat of Bickerstaff Heath 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. Franklin, 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 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 May 23, 2013, Regular Meeting.**
3. **Ratification of changes to the employee policy manual.**
4. **Approval to discontinue the formal terms of the MOU with the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District in favor of providing informal supporting services as warranted.**

Mr. Holland stated that the staff-initiated changes to the Employee Policy Manual were concerning timekeeping and account balance administration, and that the MOU with Hays Trinity GCD was very old and no longer needed.

Mr. Smith moved approval of the consent agenda items 1 through 4, noting an invoice from Bickerstaff in the amount of \$6718.75.

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

3b. 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 on them in this meeting, unless the topic is specifically listed elsewhere in this as-posted 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. Discussion related to current staff work areas and specific activities of staff teams and directors. 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. Update on recent activities of teams and directors;**
- ii. Update on permitting and non-drought regulatory activities;**
- iii. Update on GMA 10 planning activities.**

Mr. Holland and the staff updated the Board and answered directors' questions on the items listed above.

3c. Directors' Reports. Note: Board Member comments in this part of the agenda cannot address any aspect of an agenda item posted elsewhere on this agenda, and no substantive discussion among the Board Members or action by the Board on these comments will be allowed in this meeting.

Individual Board Members may, on a voluntary basis, make a brief report to the entire Board on their personal involvement in activities and dialogue that are of likely interest to the rest of the Board, in one or more of the following topical areas:

- Meetings and conferences attended or that will be attended;
- Conversations with public officials, permittees, other stakeholders, and private citizens;
- Kudos and recognition of people doing good things for groundwater management in the District;
- Concerns about specific issues or problems for groundwater management in the District.

A report was given by Mr. Franklin.

4. Board Discussion and Possible Action.

4a. Discussion and possible action related to the District’s approved management plan including direction on the preferred method for measuring progress toward achieving the objectives, reporting progress to the Board, and the Board’s role in achieving certain objectives.

After brief discussion, the Board agreed to postpone this item until a full Board is present.

No Board action was taken.

4b. Discussion and possible action related to supporting a collaborative effort to fund and conduct a study of wastewater management practices in the Contributing Zone of the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer.

Mr. Dupnik briefed the Board on discussions held to date concerning a jointly funded study of wastewater management practices in the Contributing Zone of the aquifer that was anticipated in the failed legislation. He noted that ultimately the Board would be asked to participate financially in supporting this study, along with the other 12 political subdivisions, and that this would be included in the FY 2014 budget, but for now, the staff wanted to be sure the Board was aware and supportive of its continuing efforts in this regard.

No Board action was taken.

4c. Discussion and possible action related to GMA 9 planning activities including direction to District representative, Brian Hunt, in the consideration of declaring the Ellenburger, Hickory, Marble Falls, and Upper Glen Rose aquifers, along with the Edwards Aquifer in Bandera County as “non relevant” aquifers for regional planning purposes.

Mr. Hunt briefed the Board on the issues and positions of various GMA members concerning this matter, and assured the Board that the term “non-relevant” referred to joint planning purposes only, and did not mean that the aquifers were not significant to their users or that they could not be regulated by local GCDs if they chose to do so. He noted that the GMA 9 Coordinator was asking the Boards of each member GCD to consider the choices and provide direction to their District Representatives on the GMA 9 Planning Committee.

After discussion, Mr. Smith moved to declare the four local aquifers in designated parts of GMA-9 (the Ellenburger, Hickory, Marble Falls, and Upper Glen Rose aquifers) as non-relevant for joint planning purposes, and to direct Brian Hunt to vote that way on the item in the upcoming GMA-9 meeting.

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

4d. Briefing, discussion, and possible action related to activities that occurred and bills that passed in the 83rd Legislative Session that may affect or are of interest to the District.

Mr. Holland briefed the Board on the legislative session with respect to groundwater bills, noting that our desal/ASR-enabling bill and a handful of Open Meetings Act-related bills were among the

few bills that passed that would affect our GCD. He reminded the Board that a full Legislative Debriefing Report was required by the new Management Plan before the end of this fiscal year, and that it would provide a more comprehensive re-cap of relevant bills that passed and failed.

No Board action was taken.

4e. Discussion and possible action related to approving the conditions of an employment agreement with John Dupnik, the selected candidate for General Manager.

At the suggestion of Mr. Holland, the Directors returned this item to the next agenda when a full Board is expected to be present.

No Board action was taken.

5. Adjournment.

Without objection, Mr. Franklin adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Approved by the Board on June 27, 2013:

By: Mary Stone
Mary Stone, President

Attest: Craig Smith
Craig Smith, Secretary