

Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
January 11, 2024

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Lily Lucas, Vanessa Puig-Williams, and Dan Pickens. Christy Williams arrived at 5:31pm. Staff present included: Tim Loftus, Kendall Bell-Enders, Erin Swanson, Jacob Newton, Justin Camp, Jeff Watson, and Hannah Riggs. 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 5:05pm.

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

There were no citizen communications on items not listed on the agenda.

3. 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.)

a. Approval of Financial Reports under the Public Funds Investment Act, Directors' Compensation Claims, and Specified Expenditures greater than \$5,000.

President Stansberry brought up note that in the future credit card statements should be added to this section.

b. Approval of minutes of the Board's December 14, 2023, Regular Meeting and Public Hearing.

Vice President Pickens moved to accept items 3a and 3b. Director Lucas seconded. The motion passed 4-0.

4. General Manager's Report. Discussion and possible action.
Topics

a. New staff/staff changes

Welcomed Hannah Riggs and spoke on process improvements being made to admin tasks.

b. **Leadership training**

Leadership training had wrapped up.

c. **Database**

Update on Database progress was given. The task is moving along. Dr Loftus felt he learned from Leadership Training on better time management within this project.

d. **Monitoring Wells in City Parks project**

New amendment will be proposed later in meeting with Magellan Pipeline Company, L.P. that will get this process underway. Drilling will start the week of 1/15/2024 at Garrison Park and Zilker will be after. Need to get grant approval for funds for the Zilker well.

e. **Well-impact analysis**

Justin gave an update on well-impact analysis.

b. Aquifer status update.

c. Upcoming events of possible interest.

5. **Presentation.**

Trinity Sustainable Yield staff presentation

The board moved from Item 7a to the presentation.

Kendall Bell-Enders gave a presentation on the Trinity Sustainable Yield.

6. **Public Hearing.**

Paradis Vineyard and Winery, LLC, (7585 Ranch Road 12, San Marcos, TX 78666) filed a well-drilling application on September 29, 2023 with the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District for one new nonexempt well. The well is proposed to be discretely completed in the Middle Trinity Aquifer. The well is planned to be used as a public water supply well for the winery's tasting room and the domestic needs of a single home located on the property. The well will also be used to irrigate the vineyard's grape vines. A separate Production Permit Application will be required in order to operate and produce groundwater from the well in the future. The proposed well is to be located in Hays County at 7585 Ranch Road 12, San Marcos, TX (29.925706°, -98.066992°).

President Stansberry opened the public hearing at 5:21pm.

Erin Swanson presented on the well-drilling application of Paradis Vineyard and Winery, LLC. Staff recommendation is to approve the application. The applicant, Alan Paradis, was in attendance.

Secretary Williams arrived at 5:31pm.

Vice President Pickens has questions around the use of the water. President Stansberry moved the conversation to Item 7a.

President Stansberry closed the Public Hearing at 5:37pm.

7. Discussion and possible action.

7a. Discussion and possible action on a new nonexempt well drilling application filed by Paradis Vineyard and Winery, LLC, as described in the Public Hearing agenda item above.

Alan Paradis, the applicant, spoke on his plans for his business and uses of the potential well. Director Puig-Williams moved to approve the application. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

7b. Discussion and possible action on EEOC No. 451-2024-00138 charge of discrimination by Brian Smith against the District.

Executive session began at 6:22pm.

Executive session ended at 7:26pm.

No final decision or action was made.

7c. Discussion and possible action on amendment to the April 15, 2013 Letter Agreement between the BSEACD and Magellan Pipeline Company, L.P.

Vice President Pickens moved to approve the changes. Secretary Williams seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

7d. Discussion and possible action on resolutions to remove/recognize staff members, former staff members, and/or Directors from having signature authority on the District's Truist bank accounts and TexPool accounts.

There was discussion about changing the signatories on the Truist account, but it was decided to table that discussion for another meeting.

Director Puig-Williams moved to approve the changes. Director Lucas seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

7e. Discussion and possible action related to the performance and compliance of District permittees with their User Drought Contingency Plan curtailments.

Jacob Newton presented on overages.

8. Director 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.

Board members had no updates.

9. **Adjournment.**

With no objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Approved by the Board on February 8, 2024.

By: 
Dan Pickens, Board Vice President

Attest: 
Christy Williams, Board Secretary