

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District**  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
January 9, 2025

Board members present at commencement: Vanessa Puig-Williams, Blayne Stansberry, Lily Lucas, Jon Cradit, and Christy Williams who arrived at 5:12pm. Staff present included: Tim Loftus, Erin Swanson, Jacob Newton, Justin Camp, Jeff Watson, Bri Moore, 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 Puig-Williams called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

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

There were no public comments at this time.

**3. Discussion and possible action related to finalizing the November 5, 2024 General Election and qualifying Director(s) for office including, but not limited to, approval of Director bonds.**

No discussion was necessary on this item. Vice President Stansberry moved to approve the bond for new Director, Jon Cradit. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

**4. 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, Specified Expenditures greater than \$5,000.**

b. **Approval of minutes of the Board's December 12, 2024, Regular Meeting and Public Hearing.**

c. **Approval of out-of-state travel for two staff members to attend conference.**

Dr. Loftus informed the Board that Jeff Watson and Justin Camp requested approval to attend an out-of-state conference. Both Jeff and Justin have submitted abstracts for the Geological Society of America Meeting, scheduled to take place in Arkansas in March 2025. Tim provided ample justification for supporting staff attendance at this conference and recommended Board approval for their travel to and participation in the event. Vice President Stansberry requested that the Board receive a summary of their presentations upon completion.

Vice President Stansberry moved to approve the financial reports, the December 12, 2025, minutes, and the out-of-state travel for Jeff Watson and Justin Camp. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

5. **General Manager's Report. Discussion and possible action.**

**Topics**

a. **Review of key team activities/projects.**

Dr. Loftus called attention to the Status Report and Team Summaries prepared by Staff in the Board Back-Up materials.

b. **MoPac South Comment Period extension (to 1/28/25)**

Dr. Loftus updated that the comment period on the MoPac South expansion has been extended. The expansion would span through Precincts 4 and 5.

c. **Antioch Cave tour in February**

Dr. Loftus mentioned that Staff is planning a tour of the Antioch Cave facility in February and asked if Board Members have not already answered the poll sent out by Shay Hlavaty to do so.

d. **Response to RFQ for TAS modeling support**

Dr. Loftus reported that three responses were received for the RFQ. After reviewing the submissions, proposals are being requested from two of the responding teams. A recommendation could be presented as early as the next Board meeting.

e. **Update on proposed Agreed Order with Aqua Texas, Bliss Spillar Lower Trinity**

Secretary Williams arrived during the discussion of this item.

Dr. Loftus updated that we are still awaiting a response from Aqua Texas, Inc., with the deadline set for Monday, January 13, 2025.

g. **Upcoming events of possible interest**

Dr. Loftus called attention to the upcoming events of possible interest in the Status Report.

Dr. Loftus provided an update on the progress of acquiring the necessary equipment for conducting hybrid Board meetings. There was discussion regarding whether Board approval is required before proceeding. It was decided that Dr. Loftus has the authority to approve the scope of work, with the possibility of adding it as a DPA item in February if necessary.

**f. Aquifer status update.**

Justin Camp provided the drought update, noting that December was just short of average rainfall for the month. Lovelady is 1 foot above Stage 4 and Barton Springs' USGS gauge is not reading accurately so we are still relying on manual measurements. The Trinity aquifer has flatlined and Jacob's Well saw little to no response from the rains in December.

**6. Discussion and possible action.**

**c. Discussion and possible action related to the receipt and approval of the FY 24 Financial Audit report provided by P. Andrew Hall, LLC.**

Patrick Hall presented the findings of the FY 2024 annual audit, reporting that the District passed with no concerns.

Vice President Stansberry moved to approve the FY 2024 audit. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

**a. Discussion and possible action authorizing GM to declare the next stage of drought.**

This item was tabled as it was determined that granting the General Manager the authority to declare the next stage of drought before the next Board meeting was unnecessary.

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

Jacob Newton went through the UDCP.

**d. Discussion and possible action related to an ESRI Small Utility Cloud-Based Enterprise, a three-year agreement that will grant District staff access to ESRI term license software.**

No discussion was necessary on this item. Vice President Stansberry moved to approve the three-year agreement with ESRI. Director Lucas seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

**7. Presentation by Dr. Jordan Furnans, LRE Water on Well-Impact Analysis project findings.**

Dr. Jordan Furnans of LRE Water presented the findings of the Well Impact Analysis for the Middle Trinity Aquifer. He explained that the study assessed how declining aquifer levels affect existing wells within the District. The final recommendations included continuing water level monitoring, enhancing the well database by collecting additional specifications, and sharing the study data on the District's website to inform well users about water level impacts.

**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.

President Puig-Williams proposed restructuring the Board committees. The recommendations included dissolving the Legislative and Communications committees, as they are currently inactive but can be reinstated if needed. The Budget Committee will comprise President Puig-Williams and Vice President Stansberry, while the Trinity Sustainable Yield Committee will include President Puig-Williams and Director CREDIT. The Regulatory Compliance and Personnel Committees will remain unchanged, with President Puig-Williams and Secretary Williams serving on the Regulatory Compliance Committee, and Vice President Stansberry and Director Lucas on the Personnel Committee.

Vice President Stansberry provided an update that Hays Commons is scheduled to go before the Planning Commission, and she may attend the meeting.

**9. Adjournment.**

With no objection, President Puig-Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:39pm.

Approved by the Board on February 13, 2025.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Blayne Stansberry, Board Vice President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Christy Williams, Board Secretary