

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting & Public Hearing
July 14, 2022**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Craig Smith, Dan Pickens, Lily Lucas, and Christy Williams. Staff present included: Tim Loftus, Brian Smith, Dana Wilson, Justin Camp, David Marino, Jeff Watson, 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 5:03, noting that a quorum of the Board was present.

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

Mr. James Fort informed the Board that his home was built over a perched aquifer. He spoke about the ramifications and the possibility of the District investigating the use of such aquifers.

3. Consent Agenda.

3a. Approval of Financial Reports under the Public Funds Investment Act, Directors' Compensation Claims, and Specified Expenditures greater than \$5,000.

3b. Approval of minutes of the Board's June 9, 2022 Regular Meeting.

3c. Approval of Joint Funding Agreement between the District and USGS for Water Resource Investigations.

Director Smith moved approval of consent agenda items 3a. through c, noting an invoice from GSI in the amount of \$5,411.25.

Director Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 5 to 0.

4. General Manager's Report.

Topics

- a. **Review of Status Report and update on team activities/projects.**
- b. **Aquifer status update.**
- d. **Upcoming events of possible interest.**

Staff gave updates on team activities and drought status.

5. Public Hearing.

Public Hearing on the District's proposed fiscal year 2023 Budget and Fee Schedule.

President Stansberry opened the Public Hearing at 5:54 p.m.

There were no public comments on the Budget or Fee Schedule.

President Stansberry stated that without the annual budget the District cannot operate. She emphasized the importance of the spreadsheets that Ms. Wilson creates outlining all income line items and expenses throughout the year. She said that the memo from Dr. Loftus looked at the past few years and the future and hoped the Directors had a chance to read it. She said that herself and Director Pickens as the budget committee this year worked with Dr. Loftus and Ms. Wilson looking over the budget in detail, and that they recommended approval.

Dr. Loftus stated that there are two amendments to the fee schedule. The first is an increase in the Edwards Conditional Permit fee from \$0.44 to \$0.48 per thousand gallons, which is in-line with the Lower Colorado River Authority's firm water rate of \$155 per acre-foot. The second is an increase to the annual permit renewal fee from \$50 to \$75.

President Stansberry stated that each year she likes to ask if the fees are still in line with all of the staff time that it takes to review and administer applications. If not, we should be looking at the amount of time that it does take, so that we can amend the fees as needed to make sure staff time is covered.

Dr. Loftus stated that he had not looked into the staff time for applications but would do so going forward.

President Stansberry explained that the Board can amend fees throughout the year.

Director Williams agreed with President Stansberry and suggested that drought fees need to be addressed per occurrence and circumstance. She recommended an escalated scale of fees determined by the time staff has to take to service a permittee.

With no further discussion, President Stansberry closed the Public Hearing at 6:06 p.m.

6. Discussion and possible action.

6a. Discussion and possible action related to the approval of the fiscal year 2023 Fee Schedule by Resolution #071422-01.

Director Williams moved approval of the fiscal year 2023 Fee Schedule by Resolution #071422-01.

Director Pickens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 5 to 0.

6b. Discussion and possible action related to the approval of the proposed fiscal year 2023 annual Budget.

Director Smith moved to approve the proposed FY2023 fiscal year annual budget.

Director Pickens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 5 to 0.

6c. Discussion and possible action related to adopting an order calling the November 8, 2022 Election, and approving Joint Election and Election Services Agreements with Travis, Hays, and Caldwell Counties, and ordering other matters incident and related to such Election.

Mr. Dugat stated the need for calling the election and approving joint election and service agreements with the three counties in the District. He said that we have agreements with Travis and Hays counties but had not yet received one from Caldwell County. He went on to say that the agreements do not have costs associated with them at this time. He said that there will be a General and a Special Election this year. The Special Election for Precinct 3 is due to the amount of time left on the term. He said that it is up to the counties to get the coding right and will be paying special attention to Caldwell County, because there has not been an election in 10 years.

After discussion, Director Smith moved to adopt the order calling the November 8th Election, approving the Joint Election and Election Services Agreements with Travis and Hays Counties, and any other incidental election matters needed.

Director Lucas seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 5 to 0.

7. 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.

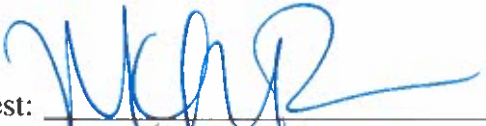
Board members gave reports on activities they have been involved with since the last meeting.

8. Adjournment.

With no objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 6:26 p.m.

Approved by the Board on August 11, 2022.

By: _____
Blayne Stansberry, Board President

Attest: 
Christy Williams, Board Secretary