

**Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting
Telephone & Videoconference
March 11, 2021**

Board members present at commencement: Blayne Stansberry, Christy Williams and Dan Pickens. Craig Smith arrived at 4:05 p.m. and Blake Dorsett was absent. Staff present included: Vanessa Escobar, Michael Redman, Dana Wilson, Brian Smith, Justin Camp, Erin Swanson, Kendall Bell Enders, 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 virtual 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).

There were no public comments of a general nature.

5. Discussion and Possible Action.

5d. Discussion and possible action related to a legislative update by Sledge Law Group.

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 4:05 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 4:22 p.m. President Stansberry stated that no final actions or decisions were made while in Executive Session.

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.
- b. Approval of minutes of the Board's February 11, 2021 Special Meeting.
- c. Approval of a Master Services Contract with MORF Consulting for services related to staff and board team building and leadership development.
- d. Approval of a Master Services Contract with Hanson Professional Services Inc. for services related to strategic planning facilitation.

Director Smith moved approval of Items 3.a. through d.

Director Pickens seconded the motion and it passed unanimously with a vote of 3 to 0.

4. General Manager's Report.

- a. Update on personnel matters.
- b. Update on Aquifer conditions and status of drought indicators.
- c. Update on Electro Purification LLP application.
- d. Update on the Rulemaking efforts and timelines.
- e. Review of Status Report and update on team activities/projects.
- f. Upcoming public events of possible interest.

Ms. Escobar and staff gave updates on the items above.

6. Presentations.

6a. Discussion and update on the Regulatory Compliance programmatic activities.

Michael Redman and Erin Swanson of the Regulatory Compliance Team gave a presentation on the teams activities.

6b. Discussion and update on timeline and schedule for the Trinity Aquifer Sustainable Yield Study.

Dr. Brian Smith and Kendall Bell-Enders gave an update on the Trinity Aquifer Sustainable Yield Study schedule and timeline.

The Board took a short recess from 6:01 p.m. to 6:19 p.m.

5. Discussion and Possible Action.

5a. Discussion and possible action related to permittee's monthly drought compliance.

Mr. Redman gave a report on the February pumpage. He then stated that several permittees had called and explained that they had overpumped due to leaks from broken pipes during the winter storm.

5b. Discussion and possible action on waiving Drought Management Fees for February 2021.

Mr. Redman explained that several permittees called to let him know that they had over pumped due to broken pipes from the winter storm and asked for a reprieve. He went on to say that it would be an administrative nightmare to distinguish which permittees overpumped due to the winter storm.

Ms. Escobar asked if the Board would consider waiving all of the permittees over pumpage fees for the month of February.

After discussion and advice from the District's Attorney, Director Smith moved approval of the General Manager's request to waive over pumpage fees for all Permittees for the month of February, due to financial hardships caused by property damage, as stated in Rule 3-7.9.

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

5c. Discussion and possible action on the District's role in emergency planning, including information, resources, and communications.

The Board discussed ways of communicating with permittees and homeowners during emergency situations.

Director Williams suggested that it would be a good topic for Strategic Planning.

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.

Board members that had outside and Zoom meetings gave reports.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, President Stansberry adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Approved by the Board on April 8, 2021

By: Blayne Stansberry
Blayne Stansberry, Board President

Attest: Blake Dorsett
Blake Dorsett, Board Secretary