



Edwards Aquifer Authority

900 E. Quincy
San Antonio, TX 78215
EdwardsAquifer.org

Meeting Minutes - Final

Board of Directors

*Enrique Valdivia, Chairman Ben Youngblood, Vice-Chairman
Rachel Sanborn, Secretary Byron Miller, Treasurer*

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

1:00 PM

EAA Board Room

A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Valdivia called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: 16 - Director Steve Cargil, Director J Carnes, Director Deborah Carington, Director Rader Gilleland, Director Stuart Hansmann, Director Matthew Hoyt, Director Maggie Hutchins, Director Gary Middleton, Treasurer Byron Miller, Director Carol Patterson, Director Russell Persyn, Director Abe Salinas, Vice Chair Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Secretary Ben Youngblood

Absent: 1 - Director Randall Perkins

B. Public Comment

There were no citizens who requested to address the board.

C. Recognition of Immediate Past Directors

Mr. Roland Ruiz, General Manager, acknowledged former directors, Kathleen Tobin Krueger and Bruce Alexander, for their service on the Board of Directors.

D. Election of Officers for the Board of Directors

D.1 Consider election of EAA board officers.

A motion was made by Director Miller, seconded by Director Youngblood, to nominate Director Valdivia for the position of Chairman. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Director Miller, seconded by Director Patterson, to nominate Director Youngblood for the position of Vice-Chairman. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Chairman Valdivia, seconded by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, to nominate Director Sanborn for the position of Secretary. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, to nominate Director Miller for the position of Treasurer. The motion passed without opposition.

E. Election of Additional Members to the Executive Committee**E.1 Consider election of directors to serve on the EAA Executive Committee.**

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Director Hoyt, to nominate Director Yanta as an additional member of the Executive Committee. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Director Yanta, seconded by Director Hoyt, to nominate Director Patterson as an additional member of the Executive Committee. The motion passed without opposition.

F. Election of Members to the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy

F.1 Consider appointment of Edwards Aquifer Conservancy board members.

A motion was made by Director Yanta, seconded by Director Gilleland, to nominate Luana Buckner to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Chairman Valdivia, to nominate Don Laffere to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Director Persyn, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, to nominate Director Patterson to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, to nominate Vice-Chairman Youngblood to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, to nominate Director Salinas to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Director Patterson, to nominate Treasurer Miller to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood seconded by Treasurer Miller, to nominate Director Carington to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

G. General Manager's Announcements and Reports**G.1**

- Staffing Items of Interest (anniversaries, new hires)
- Recent Activities/Events (reports on conferences attended, meetings held, etc.)
- Legislative Activity
- Upcoming Activities/Events (conferences, meetings, etc.)
- Operational Announcements (schedule changes, program updates, etc.)
- Recent Activities of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Program
- Aquifer Conditions

Mr. Roland Ruiz, General Manager, made the following announcements:

- Ms. Ann-Margaret Gonzalez, Senior Public Affairs Administrator, completed 10 years of service with the EAA.
- Directors were asked to review the EAA's Code of Ethics and sign an Acknowledgement of Review form.
- Directors received a copy of the current board directory which contains contact information for all directors.
- Mr. Paul Bertetti, Director of Aquifer Science, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.

H. Treasurer's Report**H.1 Receive report from EAA staff on unaudited financial statements for November 2024.**

The board did not have any questions for Treasurer Miller regarding the unaudited financial statements for November 2024.

I Board Reports**I.1 Receive report on Medina County Aquifer Storage and Recovery project.**

Mr. Bruce Alexander, Superintendent - East Medina County Specialty Utility District, and Mr. Scooter Mangold, General Manager - Yancey Water Supply Corporation, addressed the board regarding the proposed aquifer storage and recovery project in Medina County. Director Russell Persyn briefed the board on activities related to a proposed aquifer storage and recovery project in Medina County.

J. Consent Agenda**J.1 Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - December 10, 2024**

*Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - December 10, 2024*

J.2 Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$51,057, for legal services for November 2024.

Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$51,057, for legal services for November 2024.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Director Yanta, to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed without opposition.

K. Individual Consideration

K.1

Consider recommendation from EAA staff to ratify the General Manager's approval of forbearance agreements with Lonesome Dove Corner, LLC and Rocky Ridge Mountain, LLC; Donald E. Mosing, Larry K. Mosing, Billy F. Mosing and Mosing Land and Cattle Co. d/b/a 4-M Ranch; Thomas A. Verstuyft, Betty Verstuyft and Randal T. Verstuyft, Kenneth Cole, Nova Cole, and Jason Cole; EDMRGE Farms III, Ltd.; Larry V. Emerson and Michael E. McHugh; John T. Brigman; James Ray Carnes, Jr.; Evan B. Mathis and wife, Betty K. Mathis and Jamie Ann Mathis; Henry C. Verstraeten, Jr.; Emilie E. Cowan; Frank Verstraeten; Edwin L. Yanta; Robert M. Hendry and Amy Wolff Hendry; Dorothy Elaine Weynand Wolff; Roy M. Kothmann and Carol C. Kothmann; James E. Verstuyft; Deborah Jean Weynand Werth; Tina Marie Weynand Mumme; Lance Attaway and Mardy Attaway Foster; Russel A. Ellinger; Sherman Mumme; Frank G. DeCock; Charles Maurice Wurzbach and Jill Ann McDonald; Farr Investments, LP; Weldon Gilleland and wife, Judie M. Gilleland; Albert Townsend Consulting, LLC; Medina County ESD#6; Dennis Lee Ezell and wife Jamie Lynn Ezell; Lisa W. Morgan and James H. Morgan for Edwards groundwater withdrawal rights for the Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option in support of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan, in the total amount of not less than \$467,105.40, and not to exceed \$1,851,121.40.

Mr. Javier Hernandez, Special Projects Liaison, briefed the board regarding the approval of VISPO forbearance agreements for permitted Edwards groundwater rights between the EAA and those entities listed on Agenda Item K.1.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Patterson, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 01-25-116 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors to ratify the General Manager's approval of VISPO forbearance agreements for permitted Edwards groundwater rights between the EAA and those entities listed on Agenda Item K.1 in the total amount of not less than \$1,851,121.40, and not to exceed \$467,105.40, for the Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option in support of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan, and authorizing the General Manager to execute the Agreements, with the acknowledgement of the typo in this motion. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

L. Staff Reports

M. Closed Session

The Board of Directors of the Edwards Aquifer Authority may go into a closed session under the authority of the Government Code, Chapter 551, Texas Open Meetings Act, to discuss:

Chairman Valdivia closed the meeting to the public at 2:00 p.m.

M.1**Closed Session**

1. Consultation with Attorney - Pending Litigation (§ 551.071)
2. Consultation with Attorney - Attorney/Client Privileged Consultations (§ 551.071)
3. Consultation with Attorney - Settlement Offers (§ 551.071)
- 4. Deliberations Regarding Real Property (§ 551.072)**
- 5. Deliberations Regarding Personnel Matters (§ 551.074)**
6. Deliberations Regarding Security Devices or a Security Audit (§§ 551.076, 551.089)

Chairman Valdivia reopened the meeting to the public at 2:18 p.m.

K.2

Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to amend the employment agreement with General Manager Roland Ruiz.

This item was taken out of order on the agenda and considered after Item M. Closed Session.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Treasurer Miller, the board amend the employment agreement with Mr. Roland Ruiz, as presented. The motion passed without opposition.

N. Consider recommendation(s) regarding matters discussed in closed session.

The board did not consider any recommendations.

O. Future Board Meeting Agendas

The board did not discuss future board meeting agenda items.

P. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Rachel Sanborn
Secretary, Board of Directors

Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary