



Edwards Aquifer Authority

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

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Directors

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

Tuesday, August 12, 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: 13 - Director J Carnes, Director Deborah Carington, Director Stuart Hansmann, Director Matthew Hoyt, Director Gary Middleton, Treasurer Byron Miller, Director Carol Patterson, Director Russell Persyn, Director Abe Salinas, Secretary Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Vice Chair Ben Youngblood

Absent: 4 - Director Steve Cargil, Director Rader Gilleland, Director Maggie Hutchins and Director Randall Perkins

B. Public Comment

There were no citizens who requested to address the board.

C. General Manager's Announcements and Reports

C.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:

- *Staff continues to monitor the special legislative session. Staff had a meeting with the chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee regarding general groundwater policy issues. We have offered to host tours of the Field Research Park and Education Outreach Center to members of the legislature in the fall or next spring.*
- *As follow up to our financial forecast presentation, staff began meeting with municipal permit holders regarding their thoughts on the aquifer management fee rate and would continue to do so through the budgeting process.*
- *We have reached the end of the current contract for the Precipitation Enhancement Program and have asked for results for 2024 and 2025 to be presented early next year. If the board decides to renew the contract next year, then staff would have to go through an RFQ process.*
- *We were back in Stage 4 for the San Antonio Pool due to declining aquifer conditions.*
- *Staff was replenishing the stock of EAA shirts and would like to update the board's EAA wardrobe. Directors were asked to provide their preferred shirt size to staff.*
- *Mr. Paul Bertetti, Sr. Director - Aquifer Science Research & Modeling, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.*

D. Appointment of a Member to the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy**D.1 Consider appointment of Edwards Aquifer Conservancy board member.**

A motion was made by Director Hansmann, seconded by Director Patterson, to nominate Director Deborah Carington to serve on the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy Board. The motion passed without opposition.

E. Treasurer's Report**E.1 Receive report from EAA staff on unaudited financial statements for June 2025.**

The board did not have any questions for Treasurer Miller regarding the unaudited financial statements for June 2025.

F. Board Reports**G. Consent Agenda**

**G.1 Approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - Regular Board Meeting - July 8, 2025**

*Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - July 8, 2025*

**G.2 Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to
declare certain personal property of the EAA to be surplus and
to authorize the disposal of the surplus property.**

*Adopt Resolution and Order No. 08-25-128 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of
Directors declaring certain personal property of the EAA to be surplus and authorizing
the General Manager to sell or otherwise dispose of the surplus property.*

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

**G.3 Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to
approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$27,341.14,
for legal services for June 2025.**

*Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$27,341.14, for legal services for
June 2025.*

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

H. Individual Consideration

**H.1 Consider recommendation from EAA staff to approve the
purchase of employee medical insurance from Blue Cross Blue
Shield of Texas through Marsh McLennan Agency, in the
approximate amount of \$1,528,645, for the period October 1,
2025, through September 30, 2026.**

*Mr. Felix Marquez, Executive Director - Administration & Financial Services, briefed
the board regarding the purchase of employee medical insurance from Blue Cross Blue
Shield of Texas through Marsh McLennan Agency, in the approximate amount of
\$1,528,645, for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.*

**A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Vice-Chairman
Youngblood, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 08-25-129 of the
Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving the purchase of
employee medical insurance from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas, through
Marsh McLennan Agency, in the approximate amount of \$1,528,645, for
October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, and authorizing the General
Manager to execute the necessary documents. The motion passed without
opposition.**

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

I. Staff Reports**I.1 Receive report from EAA staff regarding the Edwards Aquifer Authority's Agriculture Conservation Grant Program.**

Mr. Marc Friberg, Deputy General Manager, provided background and follow-up information regarding this item.

Ms. Isabel Martinez, Senior Permit & Conservation Coordinator, briefed the board regarding the Edwards Aquifer Authority's Agriculture Conservation Grant Program.

J. 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:

J.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)

The board did not meet in closed session.

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

The board did not consider any recommendations.

L. Future Board Meeting Agendas

The board would receive a presentation by Mr. Darcy Frownfelter during closed session at the September board meeting regarding the legalities of complying with the HCP renewal process.

M. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Rachel Sanborn
Secretary, Board of Directors

Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary