



# Edwards Aquifer Authority

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

## Meeting Minutes

### Board of Directors

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

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Tuesday, March 11, 2025

1:00 PM

EAA Board Room

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

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

**Present:** 15 - 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, Secretary Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Vice Chair Ben Youngblood

**Absent:** 2 - Director Randall Perkins and Director Abe Salinas

#### B. Public Comment

*Mr. Eiginio Rodriguez, Loma Vista Neighborhood Association, addressed the board regarding asbestos cement from street reconstruction and a channelized creek. He wanted the board to be aware of the issue in order to protect citizens and employees in the area.*

#### C. Election of a Member to the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy

##### C.1 Consider appointment of an Edwards Aquifer Conservancy board member due to a resignation.

*Mr. Ruiz briefed the board on the election of a new EAC board member.*

**A motion was made by Director Carington, seconded by Director Hoyt, to nominate Director Sanborn to serve on the governing board of the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy (EAC). The motion passed without opposition.**

#### D. General Manager's Announcements and Reports

**D.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. Natasha Ponce was promoted from Groundwater Use Coordinator II to Field Operations Supervisor.*
- *The EAA would be submitting a request for grant funding from the Texas Water Development Board's agricultural grant program for \$300,000 to match grant funds provided by Microsoft for use in the EAA's agricultural equipment grant program.*
- *Staff was offering an optional visit to the Field Research Park the morning of next month's board meeting on Tuesday, April 8. Directors received a flyer with more details in their folder.*
- *Staff was working on the arrangements for the board work session. It has been scheduled for May 15 & 16 at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort. Directors received an information sheet in their folder.*
- *The EAA would be hosting an informational session for candidates seeking city positions for Mayor and City Council on Thursday, March 20, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., here at the EAA offices.*
- *Mr. Paul Bertetti, Sr. Director - Aquifer Science Research & Modeling, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.*

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

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

**F. Board Reports**

- F.1**                      **Receive report from Director Gary Middleton, South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee (SCTWAC) representative to the board, regarding downstream water conditions of the Guadalupe River Basin and current activities and issues of interest to SCTWAC.**

*Director Middleton briefed the board regarding downstream water conditions of the Guadalupe River Basin, and noted that the area was dry and flow in the river was minimal.*

**G.     Consent Agenda**

- G.1**                      **Approval of previous board meeting minutes**  
                              **- Regular Board Meeting - February 11, 2025**

*Approval of previous board meeting minutes*  
                              *- Regular Board Meeting - February 11, 2025*

- G.2**                      **Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve Groundwater Trust Transfer Contracts for 2025.**

*Authorize the General Manager to enter into a Groundwater Trust Transfer Contract with Sophora Ltd d/b/a Los Patios and Douglas Miller as presented.*

- G.3**                      **Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Lennar Homes of Texas Land and Construction, Ltd.**

*Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Lennar Homes of Texas Land and Construction, Ltd.*

*[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]*

- G.4**                      **Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$36,460, for legal services for January 2025.**

*Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$36,460, for legal services for January 2025.*

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

## H. Individual Consideration

### H.1 **Receive report from EAA staff and consider possible action regarding a proposed Services Agreement between the Edwards Aquifer Authority and the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy.**

*Mr. Ruiz briefed the board regarding a report from EAA staff and possible action regarding a proposed Services Agreement between the Edwards Aquifer Authority and the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy.*

**A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Director Patterson, the board approve a Support Agreement by and among the Edwards Aquifer Authority and the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy with changes as discussed at this meeting. Director Hoyt objected to the motion. The motion passed viva voce.**

**[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]**

### H.2 **Receive report on and consider potential action on a compliance agreement regarding the underground tank system of 4G Enterprises, LLC.**

*Mr. Marc Friberg, Deputy General Manager, briefed the board regarding a proposed potential compliance agreement for the underground tank system of 4G Enterprises, LLC.*

*Ms. Mitsuko Ramos, Government Relations Group of Texas - representing 4G Enterprises, LLC, addressed the board regarding a proposed compliance agreement for 4G Enterprises, LLC, and answered questions from the board.*

## I. Staff Reports

## 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:**

*Chairman Valdivia closed the meeting to the public at 2:02 p.m.*

**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)

*Chairman Valdivia reopened the meeting to the public at 2:19 p.m.*

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

A motion was made by Director Persyn, seconded by Director Patterson, the EAA Board of Directors authorize the General Manager and General Counsel to enter into a compromise and settlement agreement with 4G Enterprises, LLC., requiring monthly reporting of tank conditions in order to allow continued operation of the facility until December 31, 2025. The agreement will be contingent upon a TCEQ extension. The motion passed without opposition.

**L. Future Board Meeting Agendas**

*The board did not discuss future meeting agenda items.*

**M. Adjournment**

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

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*Rachel Sanborn  
Secretary, Board of Directors*

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*Jennifer Wong-Esparza  
Assistant to Board Secretary*