



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, May 12, 2026

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: 15 - Director Andres Campos, Director Steve Cargil, Director J Carnes, Director Rader Gilleland, Director Matthew Hoyt, Director Maggie Hutchins, Director Gary Middleton, Director Carol Patterson, Director Randall Perkins, Director Russell Persyn, Director Abe Salinas, Secretary Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Vice Chair Ben Youngblood

Absent: 2 - Director Deborah Carington and Treasurer Byron Miller

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:

- *Ms. Michelle Kastis was hired as an Office Associate I.*
- *Mr. Julian Reyes was promoted from IT Administrator II to Cybersecurity Analyst I.*
- *Mr. Ed Flores, Creative Manager, completed five years of service with the EAA.*
- *Mr. Chad Furl, Chief Science Officer - EAHCP, completed 10 years of service with the EAA.*
- *Ms. Nichelle Cunningham, Senior Records Coordinator, completed 15 years of service with the EAA.*
- *Ms. Margaret Ross, Human Resources Supervisor, completed 15 years of service with the EAA.*
- *Chairman Valdivia presented Mr. Roland Ruiz, General Manager, his anniversary gift for completing 20 years of service with the EAA.*
- *Mr. Paul Bertetti, Sr. Director - Aquifer Science Research & Modeling, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.*

D. Treasurer's Report

E. Board Reports

F. Consent Agenda

**F.1 Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - April 14, 2026**

*Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - April 14, 2026*

F.2 Consider recommendation from the Research & Technology Committee to approve a contract amendment with the U.S. Geological Survey, for mapping and cross-section development in the amount not to exceed \$80,000.

Approve a contract amendment for Contract No. 24-013-AMS between the EAA and the U.S. Geological Survey for mapping and cross-section development services in the amount not to exceed \$80,000, upon signature by both parties through December 31, 2027.

F.3 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Gaylon Trees and Debra Trees, et al.

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Gaylon Trees and Debra Trees, et al.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

F.4 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by LEC Legacy, Ltd.

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by LEC Legacy, Ltd.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.5 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Slate Creek Ranch, LLC.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Slate Creek Ranch, LLC.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.6 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by SA Rocking in the Free World, LP.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by SA Rocking in the Free World, LP.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.7 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by SA Rocking in the Free World, LP.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by SA Rocking in the Free World, LP.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.8 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by SA Landon Ridge, LP, a Texas limited partnership.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by SA Landon Ridge, LP, a Texas limited partnership.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.9 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by SA Landon Ridge, LP, a Texas limited partnership.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by SA Landon Ridge, LP, a Texas limited partnership.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- F.10 Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$12,362, for legal services for March 2026.**

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

G. Individual Consideration

- G.1 Consider recommendation from the Research & Technology Committee to approve a contract renewal with Eurofins Environmental Testing South Central LLC, for analytical laboratory services in the amount not to exceed \$230,000.**

Mr. Brent Doty, Research Manager, briefed the board regarding a contract renewal with Eurofins Environmental Testing South Central LLC, for analytical laboratory services.

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-26-144 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving the renewal of Contract No. 23-018-AMS between the EAA and Eurofins Environmental Testing South Central LLC, for analytical laboratory services in the amount not to exceed \$230,000, for the period May 31, 2026 through May 31, 2027. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

G.2 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve forbearance agreements with Robert Carl Reagan and Carolyn Reagan; Robert Carl Reagan, individually, and Trustee William Cecil Reagan GST Exempt Trust 1, and Trustee Robert Carl Reagan Trust; Cemex Construction Materials South, LLC; 4-M Ranch, LLC; Emilie E. Cowan; Frank Verstraeten; Deborah Jean Weynand Werth; Ray Griggs and Sharon M. Griggs; Sherman Mumme; and Russel A. Ellinger 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 \$203,774.40 and not to exceed \$807,550.40.

Mr. Javier Hernandez, Special Projects Liaison, briefed the board regarding forbearance agreements with Robert Carl Reagan and Carolyn Reagan; Robert Carl Reagan, individually, and Trustee William Cecil Reagan GST Exempt Trust 1, and Trustee Robert Carl Reagan Trust; Cemex Construction Materials South, LLC; 4-M Ranch, LLC; Emilie E. Cowan; Frank Verstraeten; Deborah Jean Weynand Werth; Ray Griggs and Sharon M. Griggs; Sherman Mumme; and Russel A. Ellinger for Edwards groundwater withdrawal rights for the Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option in support of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Yanta, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-2-145 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors to approve VISPO forbearance agreements for permitted Edwards groundwater rights between the EAA and those entities listed in agenda item D.8 in the total amount of not less than \$203,774.40 and not to exceed \$807,550.40 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. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

G.3 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to conditionally rescind limited production well status for the wells owned by MacArthur Park Church of Christ, based on the owners' inability to meet annual groundwater withdrawal limits.

Mr. Jorge Paramo, Sr. Regulatory Compliance Coordinator, briefed the board regarding conditionally rescinding limited production well status for the wells owned by MacArthur Park Church of Christ, based on the owners' inability to meet annual groundwater withdrawal limits.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Hoyt, the board adopt an Order Conditionally Rescinding Limited Production Well Status for well W111-351 owned by MacArthur Park Church of Christ. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- G.4 Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve an Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan FY2026 Funding Application Amendment submitted by the Edwards Aquifer Authority and associated 2026 EAA Operating Budget amendment by increasing the Habitat Conservation Plan fund by \$32,000.**

Mr. Damon Childs, Contract Administrator, briefed the board regarding an Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan FY2026 Funding Application Amendment submitted by the Edwards Aquifer Authority and associated 2026 EAA Operating Budget amendment by increasing the Habitat Conservation Plan fund by \$32,000.

A motion was made by Director Salinas, seconded by Director Patterson, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-26-146 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving an amendment to the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan FY2026 Funding Application for the Edwards Aquifer Authority increasing the funding request from \$1,440,632 to \$1,472,632 and amending the 2026 EAA Operating Budget accordingly. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- G.5 Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to declare certain personal property of the EAA to be surplus and to authorize the disposal of the surplus property.**

Ms. Shelly Hendrix, Director/Controller Financial Services, briefed the board regarding declaring certain personal property of the EAA to be surplus and to authorize the disposal of the surplus property.

A motion was made by Director Cargil, seconded by Director Campos, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-26-147 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. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- G.6 Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$80,000, and the purchase of software and support services from SHI Government Solutions, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$156,989, for calendar year 2026.**

Mr. Felix Marquez, Executive Director - Administration & Financial Services, briefed the board regarding the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$80,000, and the purchase of software and support services from SHI Government Solutions, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$156,989, for calendar year 2026.

A motion was made by Director Hoyt, seconded by Director Patterson, the board approve the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$80,000, and adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-26-148 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving the purchase of software and support services from SHI Government Solutions, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$156,989, for calendar year 2026. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- G.7 Consider EAA staff recommendation to approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford Transit Van, using the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Membership Program, in an amount not to exceed \$54,166.60.**

Ms. Hendrix briefed the board regarding the purchase of a 2026 Ford Transit Van using the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Membership Program.

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Director Yanta, the board approve the purchase of a 2026 Ford Transit Van, using the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Membership Program, in an amount not to exceed \$54,166.60. The motion passed without opposition.

H. Staff Reports

- H.1 Receive report from EAA staff regarding the EAA's Permitting Programs.**

Mr. Lawrence Jackson, Executive Director - External & Regulatory Affairs, briefed the board regarding the EAA's Permitting Programs.

I. 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 1:50 p.m.

I.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 1:54 p.m.

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

A motion was made by Director Cargil, seconded by Director Yanta, the board authorize the General Manager to execute a lease of 20 acre-feet of Edwards Aquifer Groundwater Withdrawal Permits from Groff Land Enterprises, L.P., under the terms discussed in closed session. The motion passed without opposition.

K. Future Board Meeting Agendas

The board did not discuss future agenda items.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

*Rachel Sanborn
Secretary, Board of Directors*

*Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary*