



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*

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

1:30 PM

EAA Board Room

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

Chairman Valdivia called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Present: 17 - 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 Randall Perkins, Director Russell Persyn, Director Abe Salinas, Vice Chair Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Secretary Ben Youngblood

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:

- *Mr. Roger Andrade was promoted from Groundwater Regulation Manager to Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs.*
- *Ms. Isabel Martinez, Senior Permit & Conservation Coordinator, completed 15 years of service with the EAA.*
- *Mr. Joseph Sterzenback, Electronic Technician, completed 25 years of service with the EAA.*
- *An update was provided regarding conservation easement developments.*
- *Directors were reminded about the Board of Directors' Dinner/Christmas Party.*
- *Mr. Paul Bertetti, Director of Aquifer Science, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.*

D. Treasurer's Report

D.1 Receive report from EAA staff on unaudited financial statements for October 2024.

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

E. Board Reports

E.1 Receive report from Gary Middleton - South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee (SCTWAC), regarding the SCTWAC 2024 Biennial Report on the Effectiveness of the Edwards Aquifer Authority.

Director Middleton, South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee (SCTWAC), provided background information regarding this item. Mr. Tom Brown, MRB Group, provided highlights regarding the SCTWAC 2024 Biennial Report on the Effectiveness of the Edwards Aquifer Authority.

F. Consent Agenda

**F.1 Approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - Regular Board Meeting - November 12, 2024**

*Approval of previous board meeting minutes
 - Regular Board Meeting - November 12, 2024*

F.2 Consider EAA staff recommendation to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$44,570, for legal services for October 2024.

Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$44,570, for legal services for October 2024.

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

G. Individual Consideration

- G.1 Consider recommendation from the Executive Committee to approve a contract with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, Texas Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Conservation Office for the San Marcos Salamander Monitoring Study, in the amount of \$111,322.24.**

Dr. Chad Furl, Chief Science Officer - HCP EAA Projects, briefed the board regarding a contract with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, Texas Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Conservation Office for the San Marcos Salamander Monitoring Study.

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Vice-Chairman Sanborn, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 12-24-115 of the Edwards Aquifer Board of Directors approving Contract No. 24-030-TES between the EAA and United States Fish & Wildlife Service, Region 2, Texas Fish and Wildlife Aquatic Conservation Office, for San Marcos Salamander Monitoring Study, in the amount of \$111,322.24, for the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2026. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

H. Staff Reports

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 2:03 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 2:24 p.m.

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

The board did not consider any recommendations.

K. Future Board Meeting Agendas

The board did not discuss future board meeting agenda items.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Benjamin F. Youngblood III
Secretary, Board of Directors

Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary