



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 13, 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: 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, Secretary Rachel Sanborn, Chair Enrique Valdivia, Director Scott Yanta and Vice Chair 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. Javier Hernandez, Special Projects Liaison, completed 25 years of service with the EAA.
- Ms. Emily Thompson, Senior Aquifer Environmental Scientist, completed 25 years of service with the EAA.
- The CCN bill was voted out of committee on the House side.
- The federal Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the judgment of the federal district judge granting the EAA's motion for summary judgment on former EAA employee Geary Schindel's claim against the EAA for age discrimination, and affirming the district judge's granting of the EAA's motion to dismiss Mr. Schindel's claims.
- Directors were reminded about the board work session scheduled for Thursday and Friday, May 15-16, at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort Hotel.
- Mr. Paul Bertetti, Sr. Director - Aquifer Science Research & Modeling, briefed the board on current aquifer conditions.

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

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

E. Board Reports**F. Consent Agenda****F.1 Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - April 8, 2025**

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

F.2 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Security State Bank.

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Security State Bank

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

F.3 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Town East Crossing, LLC, a Texas limited liability company.

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Town East Crossing, LLC, a Texas limited liability company

[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 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.5 Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$52,872.33, for legal services for March 2025.

Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of \$52,872.33, for legal services for March 2025

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Director Patterson, 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 Xenco, 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 Xenco, LLC, for analytical laboratory services.

A motion was made by Director Patterson, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-25-122 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving the renewal of Contract No. 23-018-AMS between the EAA and Eurofins Xenco, LLC for analytical laboratory services in the amount not to exceed \$230,000, for the period May 31, 2025 through May 31, 2026. 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 Laurie Kay Keller and Michael Kim Keller, LLC; George D. Koch; Glenda F. Wade; Columbia Realty Limited; and Archbishop of San Antonio - St Joan of Arc Catholic Church 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 \$49,764.78 and not to exceed \$197,215.98.**

Mr. Javier Hernandez, Special Projects Liaison, briefed the board regarding forbearance agreements with Laurie Kay Keller and Michael Kim Keller, LLC; George D. Koch; Glenda F. Wade; Columbia Realty Limited; and Archbishop of San Antonio - St Joan of Arc Catholic Church for Edwards groundwater withdrawal rights for the Voluntary Irrigation Suspension Program Option.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Yanta, the board adopt Resolution and Order No. 05-25-123 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors to approve VISPO forbearance agreements for permitted Edwards groundwater rights between the EAA and: (1) Laurie Kay Keller and Michael Kim Keller, LLC; (2) George D. Koch; (3) Glenda F. Wade; (4) Columbia Realty Limited; and (5) the Archbishop of San Antonio - St Joan of Arc Catholic Church in the total amount of not less than \$49,764.78 and not to exceed \$197,215.98, 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 approve an ASR springflow protection program forbearance agreement with CHARLESHANER LP, a Texas Limited Partnership for the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Forbearance Program, in support of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan, in the total amount of \$57,780.00.**

Mr. Hernandez briefed the board regarding an ASR springflow protection program forbearance agreement with CHARLESHANER LP, a Texas Limited Partnership for the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Forbearance Program.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Yanta, the board approve a springflow protection program forbearance agreement with CHARLESHANER LP, a Texas Limited Partnership and the EAA for the Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program in support of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement. The motion passed without opposition.

- G.4 Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to conditionally rescind limited production well status for wells owned by Cayenne Creations LLC and Texas State Theta Lamda Housing Corporation, 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 wells owned by Cayenne Creations LLC and Texas State Theta Lamda Housing Corporation, based on the owners' inability to meet annual groundwater withdrawal limits.

Mr. Mike Bomberg, Owner - The Veranda Event Center, representing Cayenne Creations, LLC, addressed the board regarding their limited production well overpumping matter.

A motion was made by Director Gilleland, seconded by Director Yanta, the board adopt an Order Conditionally Rescinding Limited Production Well Status for well W107-747 owned by Cayenne Creations LLC and for well W104-445 owned by Texas State Theta Lamda Housing Corporation. The motion passed without opposition.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

- G.5 Consider recommendation from EAA staff to approve water conservation grant contracts with HABY 47 FARM, LLC; Scott Saathoff; Cole Yanta Farms; Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center; D'Hanis West 90, LLC; and Gregory M. and Jean Saathoff and amend the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the General Fund appropriation by \$300,000.**

Mr. Marc Friberg, Deputy General Manager, briefed the board regarding water conservation grant contracts with HABY 47 FARM, LLC; Scott Saathoff; Cole Yanta Farms; Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center; D'Hanis West 90, LLC; and Gregory M. and Jean Saathoff and amending the 2025 EAA Operating Budget.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Director Patterson, the board: (1) approve water conservation grant contracts with: HABY 47 FARM, LLC (\$47,525.00); Scott Saathoff (\$37,000); Cole Yanta Farms (\$34,509.14); Texas A&M AgriLife Research Center (\$41,612.99); D'Hanis West 90, LLC (\$110,000); Gregory M. and Jean Saathoff (\$29,352.87) for a total amount of \$300,000; (2) authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute the contracts; and (3) amend the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the General Fund appropriation by \$300,000. Director Yanta abstained from the vote on the motion. The motion passed without opposition.

- G.6 Consider recommendation from EAA staff to approve the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$90,000, for calendar year 2025.**

Mr. Felix Marquez, Executive Director - Administration & Financial Services, and Ms. Shelly Hendrix, Director/Controller Financial Services, briefed the board regarding the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc. for calendar year 2025.

A motion was made by Director Salinas, seconded by Director Perkins, the board approve the purchase of IT cloud server hosting services from Amazon Web Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$90,000, for calendar year 2025. The motion passed without opposition.

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:

The board did not meet in closed session.

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)

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 agenda items.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

Rachel Sanborn
Secretary, Board of Directors

Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary