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, October 14, 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 Steve Cargil, Director Rader Gilleland, Director Stuart Hansmann, Director Maggie Hutchins, 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 J Carnes, Director Deborah Carington, Director Matthew Hoyt 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:

- Ms. Alyson Haynes was hired as a Permit & Conservation Coordinator I for Water Resources.
- Mr. Gonzalo Loera was hired as an Automated Meter Systems Technician II for Water Resources.
- Ms. Sara Beesley was hired as a Chief Development Officer.
- Mr. Jose "Joey" Tovar, Facilities Coordinator II, completed 10 of service with the EAA.
- Directors were sent a copy of our response to City Councilwoman Marina Gavito regarding the Guajolote Ranch Wastewater Treatment facility.
- Directors were reminded that the third annual EAA Summit was next Wednesday, October 22 at the Morgan's Camp event center with tours of the Education Outreach Center and the Field Research Park planned as part of the event.
- 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 - September 9, 2025

Approval of previous board meeting minutes
- Regular Board Meeting - September 9, 2025

F.2 **Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve the 2026 plan agreement with the Texas County and District Retirement System.**

Adopt Resolution and Order No. 10-25-133 of the Edwards Aquifer Authority Board of Directors approving the plan agreement with the Texas County and District Retirement System, for the period January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

F.3 **Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of $4,300, for legal services for August 2025.**

Approve payment to Kemp Smith, in the amount of $4,300, for legal services for August 2025.

F.4 **Consider recommendation from the Permits/Enforcement Committee to approve a conversion of base irrigation groundwater owned by Jen Holdco 24, LLC.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Jen Holdco 24, LLC.

[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 KO Water Land, 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 KO Water Land, LLC, a Texas limited liability company.

[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 Cinco Blue Investments, LLC.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Cinco Blue Investments, LLC.

[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 KB Home Lone Star Inc.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by KB Home Lone Star Inc.

[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 Steve Cargil.**

Adopt a Final Order Granting Application to Convert Base Irrigation Groundwater to Unrestricted Irrigation Groundwater based on changes in land use submitted by Steve Cargil.

[Attached and made a part of these minutes.]

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Director Gilleland, to approve the consent agenda. Director Cargil abstained from the vote on Item F.8. The motion passed without opposition.

G. Individual Consideration

G.1 **Consider recommendation from EAA staff to approve water conservation grant contracts with: Lance J. Saathoff and Meredith E. Saathoff; Corazon Ranch Company, LLC; Ligocky Farms, LLC; and Mark Roberts, and to amend the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the General Fund appropriation by $300,000.**

Mr. Lawrence Jackson, Executive Director - External & Regulatory Affairs, briefed the board regarding water conservation grant contracts with: Lance J. Saathoff and Meredith E. Saathoff; Corazon Ranch Company, LLC; Ligocky Farms, LLC; and Mark Roberts, and amending the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the General Fund.

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Youngblood, seconded by Director Yanta, the board: (1) approve water conservation grant contracts with: Lance J. Saathoff and Meredith E. Saathoff ($94,900.30); Corazon Ranch Company, LLC ($43,150.29); Ligocky Farms, LLC ($102,630.00); and Mark Roberts ($59,319.41); (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. The motion passed without opposition.

G.2 **Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to approve the leasing and maintenance of EAA fleet vehicles from Commercial Vehicle Leasing, L.L.C., d/b/a D&M Leasing, in an approximate amount of $51,000 for the initial five proposed vehicle replacements.**

Ms. Shelly Hendrix, Director/Controller Financial Services, briefed the board regarding the leasing and maintenance of EAA fleet vehicles from Commercial Vehicle Leasing, L.L.C., d/b/a D&M Leasing for the initial five proposed vehicle replacements.

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Director Yanta, the board approve the leasing and maintenance of EAA fleet vehicles through Commercial Vehicle Leasing, L.L.C., d/b/a D&M Leasing, and authorize the General Manager to execute the necessary agreements. Director Patterson and Vice-Chairman Youngblood voted in opposition to the motion. The motion passed viva voce.

G.3 **Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to amend the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the Abandoned Well Fund appropriation by $150,000.**

Mr. Jackson briefed the board regarding amending the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the Abandoned Well Fund appropriation by $150,000.

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Secretary Sanborn, the board amend the 2025 EAA Operating Budget by increasing the Abandoned Well Fund appropriation for Professional Technical Services by $150,000. The motion passed without opposition.

G.4 **Consider recommendation from the Finance/Administrative Committee to authorize staff to present the 2026 proposed operating budget and associated aquifer management fee rates for public comment.**

Ms. Hendrix briefed the board regarding authorizing staff to present the 2026 proposed operating budget and associated aquifer management fee rates for public comment.

A motion was made by Treasurer Miller, seconded by Director Cargil, the board authorize staff to present the 2026 proposed budget and associated aquifer management fee rates for public comment. 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:

Chairman Valdivia closed the meeting to the public at 1:39 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 3:18 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 agenda items.

L. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 3:19 p.m.

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Rachel Sanborn
Secretary, Board of Directors

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Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary