



Edwards Aquifer Authority

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

Meeting Minutes Board of Directors

Friday, September 13, 2019

9:00 AM

The Bevy Hotel - Boerne, Texas

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

Chairman Buckner called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Present: 15 - Chairman Luana Buckner, Treasurer Ron Ellis, Director Rader Gilleland, Director Kathleen Krueger, Director Don Laffere, Director Gary Middleton, Director Byron Miller, Director Carol Patterson, Director Abe Salinas, Director Rachel Sanborn, Director Pat Stroka, Secretary Enrique Valdivia, Director Ron Walton, Director Scott Yanta and Vice Chairman Ben Youngblood

Absent: 2 - Director Deborah Carington and Director Clark Ward

B. Team Building

Dr. Richard Lewis, Round Top Consulting Associates, provided the board with a work session overview.

Dr. Lewis and Dr. Siri Blitzler, Round Top Consulting Associates, led the board in a morning activity.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 10:29 a.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

C. Inclusion, Imagination, Innovation

A Look Back at EAA Successes

Mr. Roland Ruiz, General Manager, briefed the board regarding a look back at EAA successes. He highlighted each goal of the strategic plan.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 11:58 p.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Dr. Lewis led the board in an afternoon activity.

Chairman Buckner closed the meeting to the public at 1:16 p.m.

Chairman Buckner reopened the meeting to the public at 3:07 p.m.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 3:29 p.m.

Mr. James Mathis and Mr. James Clark, Carriage House Partners, briefed the board regarding successes of the 86th Texas Legislature.

Dr. Lewis provided the board with a work session wrap up.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 3:56 p.m.

A Look Forward to the EAA's Future

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Dr. Lewis led the board in a morning activity.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Mr. Ruiz briefed the board regarding the strategic planning process, and a look into the future.

Mr. Chuck Ahrens, Director - Water Resources, briefed the board regarding the current strategic plan, and staff's thoughts on the plan. He highlighted the summary of staff visits which included the initial process, interviews and results, interview highlights, and next steps.

Mr. Ruiz also briefed the board regarding a look forward to the EAA's future, and adaptive leadership.

Mr. Felix Marquez, Executive Director - Administration & Financial Services, briefed the board regarding support through service in the Human Resources Department, the Information Technology Department, and the Finance Department.

Mr. Mark Hamilton, Executive Director - Aquifer Management Services, briefed the board regarding the Aquifer Management Division and provided a summary of each team. He also noted past accomplishments, present day accomplishments, and goals for the future.

Mr. Scott Storment, Executive Director - HCP, briefed the board regarding background information, what has been accomplished in the Habitat Conservation Program, and what the path would be going forward.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Marc Friberg, Executive Director - External & Regulatory Affairs, briefed the board regarding regulation, and program development as a whole.

Mr. Michael De La Garza, Senior Director - Communications & Development, briefed the board regarding the communications department and achievements, and future plans for the Edwards Aquifer Conservancy.

2021-30 Strategic Planning

Mr. Ruiz briefed the board on three main objectives: sustainability, credibility, and certainty.

Chairman Buckner recessed the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

Chairman Buckner reconvened the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Mr. Ruiz briefed the board on the process for strategic planning development, the selection of a consultant, reemphasizing the policy role for the board, and providing research updates.

D. Legal Update

E. Legislative Recap

F. Staff Reports

G. 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.

H. Adjournment.

Dr. Lewis briefed the board regarding the work session wrap up.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Enrique P. Valdivia
Secretary, Board of Directors

Jennifer Wong-Esparza
Assistant to Board Secretary