

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

May 26, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Member Name	Agency Represented
Dr. Francine Romero	<i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.</i>
Mr. Homer Garcia	<i>COSA Parks & Recreation Dept.</i>
Mr. Brock Curry	<i>Edwards Aquifer Authority</i>
Mr. Robert Puente	<i>San Antonio Water System</i>
Mr. Rogelio Garcia	<i>San Antonio Economic Development Foundation</i>
Dr. Russell Persyn	<i>Medina County</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Melinda Cerda, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation
 Grant Ellis, Natural Resources Manager, Parks & Recreation
 Phillip Covington, Special Projects Manager, Edwards Aquifer Protection Program (EAPP)
 Susan Courage, Senior Management Analyst, EAPP
 David Bernal, Management Analyst, EAPP
 Steve Whitworth, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
 Victoria Shum, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
 Victoria Shoemaker, Senior Advisor, Mayor's Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Name	Organization
David Bezanson	The Nature Conservancy
Doug Dillow	Green Spaces Alliance
Clay Thompson	Green Spaces Alliance
Jim Boenig	Edwards Aquifer Authority
Mark Hamilton	Edwards Aquifer Authority
Paul Bertetti	Edwards Aquifer Authority
Roland Ruiz	Edwards Aquifer Authority
Scott Halty	San Antonio Water System
Dr. Ron Green	Southwest Research Institution
Dr. Gordon Wittmeyer	Southwest Research Institution
Kindra Nicholaides	Southwest Research Institution
Bonnie Conner	Citizen; Former District 8 Councilmember
Patricia Seidenberger	San Antonio Conservation Society
Annalisa Peace	Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance
Liz Hardaway	San Antonio Express-News

REGULAR BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm by Chairwoman Francine Romero. Roll call was taken by Dr. Romero.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Romero asked for approval of the minutes for the April 28, 2021 meeting. Dr. Russell Persyn motioned for approval of the minutes. Mr. Brock Curry seconded. Dr. Romero called for voice vote. Minutes approved. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the total land protected was 164,060 acres under the EAPP. He also stated that EAPP closed on three conservation easements at the end of April; closing is pending on the Smart Ranch due to an unpaid lien.
- Mr. Covington introduced Mr. Clay Thompson as the new Land Acquisition Team member from Green Space Alliance.
- Mr. Covington stated that the Edwards Aquifer Authority would be hosting a tour of their Field Research Park (Cibolo Vista property) on Friday, May 28th. Mr. Brock Curry extended an invitation to the CAB as individuals.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mr. Covington stated that there was one written comment from the San Antonio Conservation Society, 107 King William Street, San Antonio, Texas 78204. He also stated the letter is addressed to the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program Conservation Advisory Board regarding the proposed plan to run an oversized water main and oversized sewer main through the Chapman Ranch and Gruendler Ranch conservation easements.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

1. Discussion on framework for future water study for the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program: Edwards Aquifer Authority
 - a. Mr. Paul Bertetti presented a model that would be used as a tool to evaluate the past, current and future efficacy of the EAPP in identifying potential acquisitions.

2. Discussion & update regarding the Headwaters Ranch, Mazurek Ranch, Middle Verde Ranch, Storrs (Fern Springs) Ranches, and Mikeska and Powell Properties: The Nature Conservancy

- a. Mr. David Bezanson presented the Headwaters for final approval.
- b. Mr. Bezanson presented the Mazurek Ranch for final approval.
- c. Mr. Bezanson presented the Middle Verde Ranch for stage 2 approval.
- d. Mr. Bezanson presented the Storrs Ranches for stage 2 approval.
- e. Mr. Bezanson presented the Mikeska property for stage 1 approval.
- f. Mr. Bezanson presented the Powell property for stage 1 approval.

3. Discussion & update regarding the Harris Ranch: Green Spaces Alliance

- a. Mr. Phillip Covington presented on behalf of Green Spaces Alliance the Harris Ranch for stage 1 approval.

Closed Regular Session & Opened Executive Session at 2:11 pm.

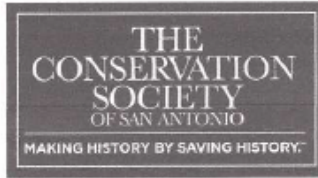
4. Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and discuss related legal issues pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.072 (real property) and 552.071 (consultation with an attorney).

Closed Executive Session & Opened Regular Session at 2:30 pm.

5. Action on proposed acquisitions in Bexar, Medina, and/or Uvalde Counties:

- Chairwoman Romero opened the floor for motions and a roll call was taken to ensure a quorum and a vote on the motion:
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for final approval on the Headwaters Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for final approval on the Mazurek Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for stage 2 approval on the Middle Verde Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for stage 2 approval on the Storrs Ranches. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.

- Mr. Brock Curry motioned for stage 1 approval on the Mikeska Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for stage 1 approval on the Powell Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry motioned for stage 1 approval on the Harris Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
6. Program fiscal report: Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the expense tracker was updated to reflect the closings for the Jagge-Foley addition, Klaus Ranch and Marshall Smith property conservation easements. He also stated that the closing on the Smart Ranch conservation easement was dependent on resolution of a lien. Mr. Covington presented updates on the due diligence on the current properties under consideration.
7. Monitoring status report: Ms. Susan Courage discussed items regarding the Pack, Laurel Canyon, Cibolo Vista/Morgan's Wonderland, and Madla Park conservation easements. She stated that the Laurel Canyon HOA contacted the EAPP regarding sedimentation issues being caused by an adjacent quarry. Ms. Courage also stated that the ESS Ranch and Jordan Ranch conservation easements had recent changes in ownership as a result of sales/partitions.
8. Report, Discussion, and Action regarding Agenda and for the next CAB meeting – June 23, 2021 at 1:00 pm, via a virtual meeting.
9. Adjournment at 2:51 pm.



April 28, 2021

TO: Edwards Aquifer Protection Program's Conservation Advisory Board
(EAPP-CAB)

The Conservation Society of San Antonio objects to the proposed plan to run an oversized water main and oversized sewer main through the Chapman and Gruendler Ranches' conservation easements which were acquired by the City of San Antonio for the purpose of protecting the Edwards Aquifer under the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program to protect the water supply. This area is over the sensitive recharge zone. New development is encroaching and threatening an already precious resource and this plan should be denied. We urge you to vote no on this proposal.

Respectfully,

SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Patti Zaiontz, President