

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

August 25, 2021

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Member Name	Agency Represented
Dr. Francine Romero	<i>San Antonio Parks & Recreation Board</i>
Ms. Jessica Alderson	<i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.</i>
Mr. Homer Garcia	<i>COSA Parks & Recreation Dept.</i>
Mr. Brock Curry	<i>Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA)</i>
Mr. Steve Graham	<i>San Antonio River Authority (SARA)</i>
Mr. Robert Puente	<i>San Antonio Water System (SAWS)</i>
Mr. Rogelio Garcia	<i>Greater: SATX</i>
Dr. Russell Persyn	<i>Medina County</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Melinda Cerda, Assistant Director, Parks & Recreation
Phillip Covington, Special Projects Manager, Edwards Aquifer Protection Program (EAPP)
Susan Courage, Senior Management Analyst, EAPP
David Bernal, Management Analyst, EAPP
Suzette Diaz, Intern, EAPP
Steve Whitworth, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office
Victoria Shum, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Name	Organization
David Bezanson	The Nature Conservancy
Doug Dillow	Green Spaces Alliance
Clay Thompson	Green Spaces Alliance
Scott Halty	San Antonio Water System
Jenny Blair	Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan
Patricia Seidenberger	San Antonio Conservation Society

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 June 23, 2021 meeting. Dr. Russell Persyn motioned for approval of the minutes. Ms. Jessica Alderson seconded. A vote by acclamation was taken by Dr. Romero. Minutes approved. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the Mazurek Ranch conservation easement was approved by City Council on August 12, 2021. He also stated closing was scheduled for September 8, 2021 and an update would be provided at the next meeting.
- Mr. Covington stated that the EAPP had brought an intern on board to assist staff through December 3, 2021.
- Mr. Covington stated that the Open Meetings Act suspensions would expire on September 1, 2021, and that unless there was an extension on the suspensions by Governor Abbott or the City issues a legal opinion allowing virtual meetings to continue, CAB meetings would resume meeting in person next month. He also stated that the regular meeting place in the Municipal Plaza building was not available for the month of September, and he had begun looking for another place to hold the meeting. Mr. Covington also stated that the San Antonio River Authority had offered to host the CAB meeting at their office located on West Sheridan Street.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

No citizens to be heard.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

1. Discussion & update regarding Morrow Ranch: The Nature Conservancy
 - a. Mr. David Bezanson presented the Morrow Ranch for stage 1 approval.
2. Briefing & possible action on proposal to establish karst fauna preserve through the Southern Edwards Plateau Habitat Conservation Plan on the Crane Bat Cave property: City Staff

- a. Mr. Covington stated that the item would be tabled for this meeting.
3. Discussion & update regarding the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the Edwards Aquifer Authority for continued geologic assessment and conservation easement monitoring assistance: City Staff
 - a. Mr. Brock Curry recused himself from the discussion.
 - b. Mr. Covington presented to the CAB an update for the proposed ILA with the Edwards Aquifer Authority.

Closed Regular Session & Opened Executive Session at 1:15 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 1:30 pm.

5. Action on proposed items and acquisitions from Agenda items 1, 2 & 3.
 - Chairwoman Romero opened the floor for motions and a roll call was taken to ensure a quorum and a vote on the motion:
 - Dr. Russell Persyn motioned for CAB support of the new ILA between EAPP and EAA for City Council consideration. Mr. Steve Graham seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Brock Curry rejoined the meeting.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for stage 1 approval on the Morrow Ranch. Dr. Russell Persyn seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
6. Program fiscal report: Mr. Phillip Covington presented an updated expenditure report for Proposition I funds that would reflect the acquisition of the Mazurek Ranch and updates on the Proposition I Water Quality projects. He also stated that the remaining balance of the 2015 Proposition I funds was approximately \$18.5 million. Mr. Covington also presented

an updated acquisition tracker that would reflect the Mazurek Ranch acquisition and due diligence expenditures.

7. Monitoring status report: Ms. Susan Courage stated that there were no major issues with the conservation easement monitoring. She also stated that the landowner of one of the partitions on the Domino Ranch conservation easement had been contacted and advised about unauthorized discharge from a new structure was observed during the last site inspection. Ms. Courage stated that a new building envelope would need to be designated and a septic system would need to be installed to solve that issue.
8. Report, Discussion, and Action regarding Agenda and for the next CAB meeting – September 22, 2021 at 1:00 pm, at the San Antonio River Authority.
9. Adjournment at 1:51 pm.