

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

August 28, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Member Name	Agency Represented
Dr. Francine Romero	<i>San Antonio Parks & Recreation Board</i>
Ms. Jessica Alderson	<i>Texas Parks & Wildlife Department</i>
Mr. Homer Garcia	<i>COSA Parks & Recreation Dept.</i>
Mr. Thomas Marsalia	<i>Edwards Aquifer Authority</i>
Mr. Brian Mast	<i>San Antonio River Authority</i>
Mr. Temple (Scooter) Mangold	<i>Medina County</i>
Mr. Rader Gilleland	<i>Uvalde County</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Grant Ellis, Natural Resources Manager, Parks and Recreation
 Phillip Covington, Special Projects Manager, Edwards Aquifer Protection Program (EAPP)
 Susan Courage, Senior Management Analyst, EAPP
 David Bernal, Management Analyst, EAPP
 Steven Whitworth, City Attorney, City Attorney’s Office

GUESTS PRESENT

Name	Organization
David Bezanson	The Nature Conservancy
Jeff Francell	The Nature Conservancy
Clay Thompson	Green Spaces Alliance
Joseph Plappert	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department
Mikel Wilkins	San Antonio River Authority
Dr. Lani May	University at San Antonio at San Antonio
Dr. Brian Laub	University at San Antonio at San Antonio
Mel Garcia	University at San Antonio at San Antonio

REGULAR BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 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 26, 2024, meeting. Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for approval. Mr. Thomas Marsalia seconded. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Mr. Phillip Covington introduced Mr. Temple “Scooter” Mangold. Mr. Mangold provided a brief summary of his background.
- Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the Seco Valley Ranch Conservation Easement was approved by City Council on August 8 and was scheduled to close on August 30. Mr. Covington also stated that with the 1,870-acre acquisition the total protected acreage would increase to 184,611 acres under the program.
- Mr. Phillip Covington stated the Mr. Tom Rothe passed away and a tree would be planted in his honor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

1. Briefing on University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Proposition I-funded water quality project: San Antonio River Authority and UTSA
 - a. Dr. Brian Laub presented a summary of the UTSA Leon Creek watershed project and construction of the Mesquite Living Laboratory at the UTSA Main Campus. Dr. Laub also provided information from the final report and recommendations for the Proposition I water quality project.
2. Discussion and update regarding the Hoover Property, Gilleland Ranch Phase II, and Stoner Ranch Divisions 1 and 3: The Nature Conservancy
 - a. Mr. Jeff Francell presented the Hoover Tract for final approval.
 - b. Mr. David Bezanson presented the Stoner Ranch Divisions 1 & 3 for final approval.
 - c. Mr. David Bezanson presented the Gilleland Ranch Phase II for final approval. Mr. Rader Gilleland and Mr. Thomas Marsalia both recused from the meeting.
3. Discussion and update regarding the Bryant Ranch and Rocamontes Property: Green Spaces Alliance
 - a. Mr. Clay Thompson presented the Bryant Ranch for final stage approval.
 - b. Mr. Clay Thompson presented the Rocamontes Property for stage 1 approval.

Closed Regular Session & Opened Executive Session started at 1:44 pm.

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 ended at 2:28 pm.

4. Action on proposed items and acquisitions from Agenda items 2 and 3.

- Chairwoman Romero opened the floor for motions:
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for final approval of the Gilleland Ranch Phase II. Mr. Brian Mast seconded. No further discussion. Edwards Aquifer Authority and Uvalde County CAB members recused from voting on motion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for final approval of the Hoover Property. Mr. Thomas Marsalia seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Mr. Thomas Marsalia motioned for final approval of Stoner Ranch Divisions 1 & 3. Ms. Jessica Alderson seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for final approval of the Bryant Ranch. Mr. Rader Gilleland seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for stage 1 approval of the Rocamontes Property. Mr. Thomas Marsalia seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.

5. Program fiscal report: Mr. Phillip Covington presented an updated copy of the program expenditure report which reflected the acquisition of the Seco Valley Ranch conservation easement. Mr. Covington also presented an updated expense tracker which reflected the Seco Valley Ranch acquisition, SA MUD No.1 Phase II, which was pending City Council approval, and the Gilleland Ranch Phase II, Hoover property, Bryant Ranch and Stoner Ranch Divisions 1 & 3 which were given final approval by the CAB at today's meeting.

6. Monitoring status report: Ms. Susan Courage reported that some annual monitoring inspections were rescheduled in July due to rain and site visits were abbreviated due to extreme heat in August. Ms. Courage also reported that there were some land management plans that required review and updates. She noted the team was coordinating with the owners of the Heep Ranch to review their brush clearing activities.

7. Report, Discussion, and Action regarding Agenda and for the next CAB meeting – September 25, 2024, at 1:00 pm, at the San Antonio River Authority.

Adjournment at 2:43 pm.