

CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES

June 26, 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>
Ms. Melinda Cerda for 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. 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
Victoria Shum, 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
Karen Bishop via WebEx	SARA
Mikel Wilkins	SARA
Mark Black	Texas A&M University at San Antonio
Dr. Walter Den	Texas A&M University at San Antonio
Gian Villarreal	Seagull PME

REGULAR BUSINESS

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 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 May 22, 2024, meeting. Mr. Thomas Marsalia motioned for approval. Ms. Jessica Alderson seconded. Motion carried.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the current total acreage for the EAPP was 182,334 acres protected under the program.
- Mr. Phillip Covington stated the owner of the Hilthon Ranch parcels had accepted the CAB's request for a more significant bargain sale on Hilthon Ranch Division II. Mr. Covington also stated that the City Council had approved the acquisition of both Hilthon Ranch Divisions I and II and both tracts would close in July 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS

1. Briefing and update on Texas A&M University San Antonio's Proposition 1 funded water quality project: SARA and TAMUSA
 - a. Dr. Walter Den and Mr. Mark Black presented a summary of the Texas A&M University at San Antonio First Responder Training project and provided information from the final report and recommendations for the TAMUSA Proposition 1 water quality project.
2. Discussion and update regarding the Dutton Ranch, Hoover Property, and Michalak Ranch: The Nature Conservancy
 - a. Mr. Jeff Francell presented the Dutton Ranch for stage 2 approval.
 - b. Mr. Jeff Francell presented the Hoover property for stage 2 approval.
 - c. Mr. David Bezanson presented the Michalak Ranch for stage 1 approval.
3. Discussion and update regarding the Seco Valley Ranch project: Green Spaces Alliance
 - a. Mr. Clay Thompson presented the Seco Valley Ranch for final stage approval.
4. Discussion and update regarding the Bloomfield Hills and San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II projects: EAPP Staff
 - a. Mr. Phillip Covington presented the Bloomfield Hills property for stage 1 approval.
 - b. Mr. Phillip Covington presented the San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II property for final stage approval.

Closed Regular Session & Opened Executive Session started at 1:59 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 2:35 pm.

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

- Chairwoman Romero opened the floor for motions:
 - Mr. Thomas Marsalia motioned for stage 1 approval of the Michalak Ranch. Ms. Jessica Alderson seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for final approval of the Seco Valley Ranch. Mr. Thomas Marsalia second. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for stage 1 update of Bloomfield Hills. Mr. Thomas Marsalia second. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for final approval of the SA MUD No. 1 Phase II property. Mr. Rader Gilleland second. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for stage 2 approval for Phase I of the Dutton Ranch. Mr. Thomas Marsalia second. No further discussion. Motion passed.
 - Ms. Jessica Alderson motioned for stage 2 approval of the Hoover property. Mr. Rader Gilleland second. No further discussion. Motion passed.

6. Program fiscal report: Mr. Phillip Covington presented an updated copy of the program expenditure report which reflected the acquisition of the Hilthon Ranch Division 1 & II conservation easements. Mr. Covington also presented an updated expense tracker which reflected the Hilthon Ranch properties, Stoner Ranch properties, Seco Valley Ranch and San Antonio MUD No. 1 Phase II acquisitions that would total about 7,700 acres and that would be protected under fiscal year 2024.

7. Monitoring status report: Mr. David Bernal reported that there were about 20 CE inspections scheduled since May; however, some had to be rescheduled due to landowner requests and weather-related issues. Mr. Bernal also reported that there were some minor items such as land management plans that required updates on current and future grazing and brush maintenance activities and lack of properly secured chemicals.

8. Report, Discussion, and Action regarding Agenda and for the next CAB meeting – August 28, 2024, at 1:00 pm, at the San Antonio River Authority.

Adjournment at 2:43 pm.