

# ***CITY OF SAN ANTONIO CONSERVATION ADVISORY BOARD***

## **MINUTES**

March 23, 2022

### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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  
Stephen Whitworth, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office  
Victoria Shum, Assistant City Attorney, City Attorney's Office (via WebEx)

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
David Bezanson	The Nature Conservancy
Clay Thompson	Green Spaces Alliance
Karen Bishop	San Antonio River Authority
Patricia Seidenberger	San Antonio Conservation Society

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 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 February 23, 2022, meeting. Mr. Steve Graham motioned for approval of the minutes. Mr. Brock Curry seconded. Minutes approved. Motion carried.

## **ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST**

- Mr. Phillip Covington stated that the Galewsky Ranch conservation easement was approved by City Council on March 3, 2022 and the closing would occur after addressing a few issues.
- Mr. Covington stated that the Edwards Aquifer Protection Program was mentioned in the State of the Hill Country Report. He also stated that he forwarded via email the article to the CAB members last week.
- Mr. Covington stated that Land Acquisition Team (LAT) Request for Qualifications (RFQ) closed on March 7, 2022. Mr. Covington also stated that the proposals would be evaluated and a recommendation would be provided for City Council consideration in May or June 2022.

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

No citizens to be heard.

## **INDIVIDUAL ITEMS**

1. Briefing and update by San Antonio River Authority (SARA) on Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance's Proposition 1 water quality project: SARA
  - a. Ms. Karen Bishop presented an update on two of the Proposition 1 water quality projects. Ms. Bishop stated that the UTSA study was completed and a final report was submitted by deadline. She also stated that due to a remaining balance of funds at the end of the project, the Greater Edwards Aquifer Alliance's (GEAA) study would be allowed to perform additional post-construction monitoring, update the report with the data, resubmit the final report, hold a press conference and tour of the project site which would necessitate a one-year extension. Ms. Bishop stated that no CAB action was required.
2. Discussion & Update regarding the Curd Ranch: Green Spaces Alliance
  - a. Chairwoman Romero stated that this item was pulled from today's meeting.
3. Discussion regarding the Cool Water Acres property: City Staff
  - a. Mr. Covington presented the Cool Water Acres property for stage 1 approval.
4. Briefing on impervious cover limitations for Edwards Aquifer Protection Program conservation easements: City Staff
  - a. Mr. Covington briefed the CAB members on the maximum impervious cover on the EAPP conservation easements. The current maximum increased impervious cover limit of ½ of 1% on properties under 100 acres is sometimes too restrictive to allow property owners to make necessary or

desired future improvements which otherwise would have been grandfathered if already in existence when a conservation easement is being negotiated. CAB members provided direction that the LAT may negotiate up to 1% maximum increased impervious limit on smaller properties which will be considered by the CAB on a case-by-case basis.

**Closed Regular Session & Opened Executive Session did not occur.**

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 did not occur.**

5. Action on proposed items and acquisitions from Agenda items 3, & 4.
  - 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 stage 1 approval on the Cool Water Acres property. Mr. Steve Graham seconded. No further discussion. Motion passed.
6. Program fiscal report: Mr. Phillip Covington presented an updated expenditure report that reflected the approval by City Council of the Galewsky Ranch. Mr. Covington presented an updated expense report that reflected the Galewsky Ranch that was approved by City Council pending closing and due diligence costs to projects in the queue.
7. Monitoring status report: Mr. David Bernal stated that there were no issues observed on the annual monitoring site visits.
8. Report, Discussion, and Action regarding Agenda and for the next CAB meeting – April 27, 2022, at 1:00 pm, at the San Antonio River Authority.
9. Adjournment at 1:41 pm.