

**Executive Management Committee Quarterly Meeting  
LCRA/Austin Water Partnership  
MINUTES**

**Date:** October 30, 2009

**Location:** LCRA Red Bud Center  
3601 Lake Austin Blvd.  
First Floor, Conference Room 108 North  
Austin, TX 78703

**Meeting Time:** 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

**Attendees:**

Ross Crow, Austin	Karen Bondy, LCRA
Rudy Garza, Austin	Lyn Clancy, LCRA
Richard Hoffpauir, Austin	Yvonne Davis, LCRA
Teresa Lutes, Austin	James Kowis, LCRA
Greg Meszaros, Austin	Becky Motal, LCRA
Daryl Slusher, Austin	

**Minutes:**

**I. Review**

• **Agenda**

❖ Karen Bondy reviewed the agenda; nothing new was added. She encouraged the group to remain “strategic.”

• **Action Items from Last Meeting**

❖ Minutes from the July 24, 2009 Executive Management Committee (EMC) meeting were approved.

❖ Lyn Clancy presented the latest version of the Partnership’s By-laws, in particular the redline changes to page 10, item 5, where the proper date was inserted. At the July 24 EMC meeting, the members voted to approve the proposed amendment to Article 6.03(e) – by-laws and operating procedures regarding frequency of committee meetings. Clancy pointed out the changes that were made to page 11, section 6.03, regarding Stakeholder Committee Meeting frequency.

❖ Becky Motal also requested that a list of committees be posted on each entity’s website and in future annual reports.

**II. Lady Bird Lake Water Supply**

- The City of Austin (COA) and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) have had discussions at the Technical Committee level on how best to maintain the level of Lady Bird Lake and address the additional

storage issue. They discussed either 1) a new contract, or 2) putting the additional Lady Bird Lake supply under the 1999 contract.

- The amount that the COA will need for Lady Bird Lake is approximately 1500 acre-feet.
- The COA plans to discuss the issue internally, then get back to LCRA through the Technical Committee.

### **III. LCRA Emergency Relief of Water Management Plan (WMP) Provisions**

- At the LCRA Board meeting in Matagorda, the Board heard from many of its interruptible customers. The Board will hold a special meeting in Austin on November 10.
- The 2003 WMP, recommended for approval by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) staff, is consistent with what LCRA had submitted. Protestants to the proposed plan are: COA, the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, the National Wildlife Federation, and the Sierra Club.
- If the 2003 WMP is approved, it may alleviate many concerns that the COA has about its firm water supply.
- The LCRA Board will be making a decision about LCRA staff recommended drought actions on November 18, 2009.
- LCRA Meteorologist Bob Rose said that the prognosis is good that we will get more rain in the fall months. Meteorologists are predicting a wetter El Niño than originally expected.

### **IV. Technical Committee Reports**

- **Status of Waller Creek Tunnel Project**
  - ❖ Project is continuing to move forward. City has signed raw water supply contract and has sent it back to LCRA for signature.
- **Status of Stoneledge Recharge Project**
  - ❖ City staff has developed a draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) between COA, LCRA and the Barton Springs-Edwards Aquifer Conservation District to develop the proposed recharge project. LCRA staff has been involved with the intensity of the drought and has not had time to review proposed MOU.

### **V. Committee Reports**

- **Stakeholder Committee**
  - ❖ The Stakeholder Committee went on a field trip Tuesday, October 6, to tour downstream irrigation operations.
- **Water Conservation Committee**
  - ❖ Daryl Slusher asked that the EMC vote to replace Sonja Stefaniw with Drema Gross on the Water Conservation Committee. The EMC voted to approve this change.
- **Water Quality Committee**
  - ❖ Water Quality Committee has not met this quarter.

## VI. Updates

- **Permit Applications**
  - ❖ **Leander Inter-Basin Transfer (IBT)** – There is nothing new to report on the Leander IBT. The TCEQ is currently completing its technical review.
  - ❖ **Garwood** – LCRA has received a draft permit from TCEQ. LCRA submitted a number of comments on the draft permit, but there has been no response from TCEQ yet.
  - ❖ **Unappropriated Flows** – There has been an additional 9-month abatement through mid-July 2010; LCRA staff is hopeful there will be some resolution at the end of this 9-month period.
  - ❖ **Return Flows** – No new updates.
- **LCRA-SAWS Water Project**
  - ❖ SAWS filed a breach of contract suit against LCRA. There was a mediation held August 5, 2009, but it did not produce any results. The deadline for SAWS' first discovery request of LCRA is coming up soon; Lyn Clancy noted that it is a very broad request.
- **Utility Divestiture**
  - ❖ Brushy Creek sale is expected to close by the end of the year.
  - ❖ The Hutto divestiture is expected to take place around February 2010.
- **Region K**
  - ❖ The Region K Water Planning Group is working on the next regional plan; members have been meeting monthly to get this finished.
  - ❖ Drought management is being looked at as a potential water management strategy for how to meet future water demands.
- **Water Treatment Plant #4 (WTP 4)**
  - ❖ The City of Austin recently held a town hall meeting to discuss WTP 4. The City Council voted 4-3 to approve WTP 4. A series of contracts will be approved over the next few months.
- **Petition to Change TCEQ Discharge Ban on Highland Lakes**
  - ❖ Several communities have recently passed resolutions/signed petitions in favor of lifting the discharge ban.
  - ❖ TCEQ staff has recommended denial of the petition and initiate a stakeholder process.
  - ❖ LCRA is currently reviewing the environmental impacts of the City of Burnet's request to increase its discharge permit limits.
  - ❖ Austin Energy is talking to LCRA about water supply at FPP. For the last two years, Austin Energy exceeded its maximum annual quantity under its contract with LCRA. Austin Energy would like to use more of its run of river rights. The FPP management committee has had some preliminary discussions on this matter. The group discussed the need to have Austin Energy participate in Water Partnership Technical Committee meetings.

### **VIII. Workshop**

- **LCRA and City of Austin Water Rights** – James Kowis and Richard Hoffpauir presented an overview of LCRA and COA water rights on the lower Colorado River.

#### **Action items from the meeting:**

- Becky Motal requested that a list of committees be posted on each entity's website and in future annual reports.
- Teresa Lutes to provide James Kowis with copy of documents related to water planning that Austin city staff has recently prepared for the Council.

**Meeting Ended:** 4:00 p.m.