Executive Management Committee Austin-LCRA Water Partnership

Meeting Date: Friday, June 11, 2021 Location: LCRA TEAMS MEETING Meeting Time: 1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

Attendees:

1. Greg Meszaros, Austin Water

2. Kevin Critendon, Austin Water

3. Ross Crow, COA-Law Department

4. Helen Gerlach, Austin Water

5. Marisa Flores-Gonzalez, Austin Water

6. Anna Bryan-Borja, Austin Water

7. Sara Eatman, Austin Water

8. Richard Hoffpauir, Austin Consultant

9. John Hofmann, LCRA

10. Monica Masters, LCRA

11. Ron Anderson, LCRA

12. Valerie Miller, LCRA

13. Greg Graml, LCRA

14. David Wheelock, LCRA

15. Debbie Crisp, LCRA

Minutes:

1. Welcome.

John Hofmann opened the meeting at 1:35 p.m. by welcoming everyone and calling the meeting to order. The agenda had already been distributed to all attendees, so John moved immediately into the "minutes" approval.

2. Minutes Approval – March 12, 2021, Meeting.

John asked if everyone had reviewed the March minutes and, with no request for edits or changes, he asked for approval. Following a motion by Kevin Critendon and second by Monica Masters, the minutes were approved.

3. Update on Basin Conditions.

John gave a summarized version of conditions. May and early June have included good runoff conditions. Demand is likely to increase as we move more into summer. There had been some flow from the Llano River that required dam operations to move the water through Lake LBJ.

4. Reports.

1. Committee Reports:

- a. Technical Committee: Ross Crow reported that productive technical meetings have continued on the topics of the joint application for reuse, Lady Bird Lake accounting, zebra mussels and harmful algal blooms. Water quality meetings will be held quarterly. Austin will be providing LCRA a summary of wholesale customer contracts.
- b. Water Quality Committee and HAB Summary Report: Sara Eatman gave an update on the harmful algal bloom summary report and stated since the report was originally drafted, there has been some additional incidents (i.e., weather/freeze) that have created a need for the report to be updated. They are hoping to have it finalized by July 28. John and Monica noted the interest in the topic among attendees at the recent TWCA conference. At a recent

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Water Quality Committee meeting, Lisa Benton gave a presentation of LCRA's activities related to HABs as well as work by scientists in New Zealand. In response to a question of whether the HABs might be related to zebra mussels, Monica noted that in New Zealand they are having similar issues with HABs, but do not have zebra mussels.

c. **Committee Composition**: LCRA will be adding a replacement for the Technical Committee in the near future.

2. Workshop Items:

- a. Water Storage & ENSO Projections: Ron gave a report/presentation on these topics. He presented projections of the storage in Lakes Buchanan and Travis, including a look back over the last 6 months. Ron also explained that in making the projections we look at both hydrologic conditions and the criteria spelled out in the Water Management Plan. Under the WMP, the determination of interruptible stored water availability for second agricultural season will occur based on July 1 conditions.
- b. TWDB Surface Water / Groundwater Interaction Study: David Wheelock gave a presentation of a pilot study evaluating groundwater-surface water interaction. He explained the goals of the study, the approaches taken and presented the work schedule for the project, which began in August-February 2018 and was completed in May 2021. David noted that the study found at two sites in Bastrop County where the river is not gaining and that much more study will be needed to quantify the interactions.
- c. **Update on Austin's ASR Project**: Helen Gerlach gave a presentation of Austin's aquifer storage and recover pilot program. She explained that ASR fit with the key drivers and guiding principles of Austin Water Forward. She outlined the major aquifers near Austin they are looking at using, as well as presenting a project timeline for the entire project. The target is to have 60,000 acre-feet stored of by 2040.

5. Final Adjourn.

John noted that beginning June 28, all LCRA employees will be required to return to work at least two days/week, with the expectation of this phase continuing through Labor Day. LCRA will be assessing further steps towards returning to a new normal.

The next regularly Quarterly EMC Meeting is set for Sept. 10, 2021 (1:30-3:30 p.m.). The meeting location and format will be determined but may be "in person."

At 3:36 p.m., with there being no further business to discuss, motions were made and approved to adjourn the meeting.