
LCRA BOARD POLICY

403 – COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sept. 21, 2016

403.10 PURPOSE

This policy establishes guidelines for LCRA staff in developing and carrying out community services programs.

403.20 PARKS, RECREATION, AND NATURAL RESOURCE PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION

403.201 Policy. Under the provisions of the LCRA enabling legislation and other applicable laws and regulations, LCRA will develop and manage parks, recreational facilities and natural science centers and laboratories; preserve adequate open space for conservation and public recreation; promote the preservation of fish and wildlife; and promote soil and water conservation within its 10-county statutory district and Lampasas County.

LCRA will provide recreational access, as appropriate, to its non-utility lands and water. In recognition of LCRA's stewardship role of providing public access for recreational and conservation use on LCRA lands and on the surface of LCRA lakes, and to promote an appreciation and awareness of the value of water resources, LCRA may acquire land rights for such purposes within the 10-county LCRA statutory district and Lampasas County.

The GM/CEO will notify the LCRA Board of Directors within 30 days after any adjustment has been made to the schedule of park fees.

403.202 Cost Recovery for Parks. The Board recognizes the need for park operations to establish a cost-recovery goal to promote efficient operations and continually challenge existing procedures. Funding sources counting toward this goal include all park-related sources of income, including but not limited to user fees, sales and revenues from contractual agreements.

403.203 Location of LCRA Parks. LCRA has a unique responsibility in the state in its stewardship of the Colorado River and associated tributaries and properties. In keeping with this responsibility, LCRA's parks will be located in its statutory district along the Highland Lakes, the Colorado River, its tributaries, associated bays and estuaries, or its power plant reservoirs, unless decided otherwise by action of the Board. LCRA may consider trades of its existing lands without water access to acquire lands adjacent to such water bodies.

403.204 Participation with Other Entities. LCRA may participate with other state and local governments to develop parks, conservation use areas and other public recreational facilities within the LCRA 10-county statutory district and Lampasas County wherever feasible for the public benefit. Consistent with Chapter 152 of the Texas Water Code, LCRA may participate in recreation projects outside of the 10-county district but within the electric and water service area.

403.205 Agreements with the Private Sector. LCRA may enter into contractual arrangements with private, public and nonprofit entities for the development, use, operation and management of its lands and public recreational facilities.

403.206 Natural Science Education. LCRA's natural science programming will be directed toward an improved understanding of the natural sciences as they relate to LCRA's mission and resources under LCRA's stewardship and care.

403.207 Creekside Conservation Program. The Creekside Conservation Program is a voluntary cost-share (grant) program made available to private land owners for the purpose of conserving soil and water resources. Through agreements with landowners, the program will promote the implementation of best management practices consistent with LCRA's role as a conservation and reclamation district. Education and outreach are used to enhance the effectiveness of the treatments.

This program is implemented within the boundaries of LCRA's 10-county district and Lampasas County and is intended to conserve soil and water resources within the 11-county area.

LCRA operates the Creekside Conservation Program in cooperation with the local soil and water conservation districts, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other federal, state and local agencies and associations that promote soil and water conservation.

Soil and water conservation projects are funded on a cost-share basis not to exceed a 50 percent LCRA match.

403.30 LCRA RANGERS

403.301 Purpose and Policy. This policy establishes guidelines pertaining to the LCRA Rangers' role and responsibilities.

The GM/CEO is authorized to employ and commission peace officers licensed by the state of Texas pursuant to the Texas Water Code and the LCRA enabling legislation to meet the requirements of this policy.

The LCRA Rangers will enforce the laws, rules, regulations and ordinances of the state of Texas and LCRA in accordance with the authority given under state law. The Rangers

may provide assistance to other public safety agencies in law enforcement and emergency response.

The chief of Public Safety will establish and maintain written policies and procedures describing the required conduct, authority and training of the LCRA Rangers.

The GM/CEO or his or her designee may determine the priority and level of services to be provided by the LCRA Rangers. Such services will include, but are not limited to:

- A. Protecting people, assets, and interests of LCRA and the natural resources of Texas;
- B. Enforcing laws and rules on LCRA-managed waterways and in LCRA parks and other lands; and
- C. Responding to requests for assistance.

403.40 AUTHORITY

Texas Water Code, Section 49.216

Chapter 152, Texas Water Code

LCRA enabling legislation, Chapter 8503, Texas Special District Local Laws Code

Texas Water Code, Section 49.226

Texas Constitution, Article XVI, Section 59 and Article I, Section 17

EFFECTIVE: Nov. 17, 2004. Amended Jan. 21, 2009; and Sept. 21, 2016.