

## ATTACHMENT 1

### MINUTES

**For the Joint Meeting of the Steering Committee and Stakeholders Regarding  
the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program  
San Antonio Water System, San Antonio, Texas  
March 11, 2010, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

1. Administrative Matters

The Chair, Con Mims, called the meeting to order. Secretary Steve Raabe called roll of the Steering Committee. A quorum was present for all purposes.

The agenda for the meeting was approved with the exception of moving agenda item 12 after agenda item 2.

Calvin Finch made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2010 meeting. Sam Helmle seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

Robert Gulley reported that the EARIP and USFWS will conduct seven NEPA scoping meetings. The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, April 1, 2010	Victoria Community Center, 2905 East North Street Victoria, Texas, 77901, from 6-8 p.m.
Monday, April 12, 2010	New Braunfels Civic Center, 375 S. Casteel Avenue, New Braunfels, Texas, 78130, from 6-8 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14, 2010	AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 1619 Garner Field Rd., Uvalde, Texas, 78801, from 6-8 p.m.
Monday, April 19, 2010	San Marcos Activity Center, 501 East Hopkins St., San Marcos, Texas, 78666, from 6-8 p.m.
Monday, April 26, 2010	San Antonio Water System, 2800 North US Highway 281, San Antonio, Texas 78212, from 6-8 p.m.
Wednesday, April 28, 2010	Harte Research Institute, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas, 78412, from 6-8 p.m.
Thursday, April 29, 2010	Schreiner University, Cailloux Activity Center, 2100 Memorial Blvd., Kerrville, Texas, 78028, from 6-8 p.m.

The meetings will be noticed in local newspapers two weeks prior to the meeting.

2. Report and possible decision regarding recommendations of the Additional Studies Work Group.

Rick Illgner reported that the ASWG recommended by consensus the approval of the Scope of Work for the recreation study by Halff Associates. (Attachment 5). Halff's budget for its scope estimated the cost of the project at \$60,630. Robert Gulley pointed out that the EARIP had approved the study only for \$50,000. A motion was made by Calvin Finch to approve the study for \$60,630 contingent upon securing the extra \$10,630. Kirk Patterson seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

The ASWG did not recommend approving the amended FWS drought proposal. Tom Taggart moved that the EARIP rescind the action by the Steering Committee on February 16, 2010 that directed the Steering Committee to pay for field work conducted after January 4, 2010, and to analyze the results of the data collected. Gary Middleton seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

3. Report and possible decision regarding recommendations of the A&M Grants and Contracts Work Group (Tier 1) (Mims).

Jim Bower, Chair, reported the A&M Grants and Contracts Work Group strongly recommended raising Robert Gulley's salary from the project management budget by \$20,000 (\$15,000 plus the \$5,000 already approved for his health insurance). In addition, the Work Group also recommended paying Micaela Bandel's full salary out of the project management budget. Colette Barron made a motion to suspend the program rules to allow Robert Gulley to facilitate the discussion on the recommendations. Calvin Finch seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed. Carl Adkins made a motion to accept the Work Group's recommendation. Kirk Patterson seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

4. Discussion and possible decision regarding the PRG contract.

Robert Gulley explained that he has negotiated a contract with PRG, however it has not been signed. During the course of negotiations, Robert Gulley had concerns about whether Dr. Courtney could effectively implement the scope of work sought by the EARIP. He was concerned that Dr. Courtney strongly believed that his review panel should be allowed to work directly with the Science Subcommittee to arrive at a mutually acceptable report rather than simply review the report prepared by the Science Subcommittee. Similar concerns were raised by Dr. Robert Mace and Susan Aragon-Long and the Science Subcommittee when they met with Dr. Courtney. Dr. Robert Mace and Susan Aragon-Long were sufficiently concerned about the potential lack of integrity of the process that they recommended that Dr. Courtney not be retained. Robert Gulley concurred in that recommendation.

Weir Labatt made a motion not to sign the contract with PRG and to have Robert Gulley offer to pay Dr. Courtney for his out-of-pocket travel expenses to meet with the Science Subcommittee

so long as the payment does not exceed \$1,000.00. Kirk Patterson seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

The EARIP instructed Robert Gulley to attempt to put together an alternative review option and to report back to the EARIP at its next meeting.

5. Recommendation of the Public Outreach Subcommittee and possible decision on a contractor for the website update

Dianne Wassenich reported that the POC put an RFP out last week, and received three bids to update the website to enable it to receive public comments in the NEPA scoping process (Attachment 6). The POC had additional discussions with the low bidder, Josieque Designs, and concluded that it might make more sense to simply set up a separate website to receive the comments. The POC recommended that it put out to the other bidders the information that it received from the discussions with Josieque Designs and ask for revised bids by COB Monday, March 15, 2010. Roger Biggers made a motion to accept the recommendation of the POC and to authorize Robert Gulley to select the successful bidder and to enter into a contract not to exceed \$10,000. Jim Bower seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

6. Presentations

The EARIP heard presentations by Neal Wilkins, Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources, on brush management and recharge enhancement; Nathan Pence, City of New Braunfels, on mitigation and minimization measures; Ed Oborny, Bio-West, on flow regime for evaluating the options for getting water to the species during drought and in-situ refugia; Tom Brandt, USFWS National Fish Hatchery and Technology Center ("NFH&TC"), on upgrading the refugia capability of the NFH&TC; and Sam Vaugh, HDR, on costs and key considerations regarding options to get water to the species. Each presentation was followed by a facilitated discussion.

There being no further business, Calvin Finch made a motion to adjourn. Weir Labatt seconded the motion. There being no objections, Chair Con Mims, adjourned the meeting at 4:03 p.m.