



Record of Decisions

**Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan
Citizens Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting
July 28, 2015 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
Room 104, Waller Creek Center
625 East 10th Street
Austin, Texas 78701**

Attending:

Peter Torgrimson
Annie Kellough
John Gosdin
David Whatley
Tom Hegemier
Forrest Arnold

Excused:

Ken Beck

Four positions are vacant

After call to order, Chair Torgrimson introduced Annie Kellough as the new member representing the Water and Wastewater Commission.

1. **Citizens Communication**

Pam Thompson representing Save Barton Creek Association read a statement from their board into the record. It reiterated the Associations' support for BCP.

Dick Kallerman spoke to the committee representing himself. He urged BCCP to buy the Horse Thief Hollow Ranch from the heirs of Joe Neal. He said they are interested in selling to BCP.

2. **BCP Partner Reports**

- a. **City of Austin BCP** - Sherri Kuhl reviewed her written report with the committee.
- b. **Travis County BCP** - Melinda Mallia reviewed her written report with the committee.
- c. **LCRA BCP** - Erik Huebner reviewed his written report with the committee.
- d. **Other BCP Partners** - none

3. New Business
 - a. **Members' issues and concerns** - Willy Conrad briefed members about plans to fill the BCCP Coordinating Committee Secretary position after he retires August 31, 2015. For the short term Sherri Kuhl will serve as acting Secretary. Travis County is negotiating to provide her with support through the UT School of Law Environmental Law area. They may ask to have Melinda Taylor serve in that role. Long term the City and County will jointly fund a staff position through Austin Water Utility. The funding for this is currently working its way through the budget processes, for the City and County. It might be after the Christmas Holiday season, before the position is actually filled.

4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Approve the Record of Decision from 5/12/15** - Motion to accept from Whatley, Second Hegemier, Carried 6/0.
 - b. **CAC action regarding positive press coverage from 10/22/14** - Conrad noted that staff is working with PIO and others to advance this recommendation.
 - c. **Funding concerns for rural and small community fire departments adjacent to BCP** - Conrad advised members that there is a task group formed from the Austin Travis County Joint Wildfire Coalition to consider this issue. They will meet on July 30, 2015.
 - d. **Update on BCCP Karst Substitution Process planning and take action as appropriate** - Conrad advised members that the near-final draft policy document was presented to the Coordinating Committee during their June 26, 2015 meeting. Member Daugherty asked that the final version include a time line for review and action. Chair Torgrimson asked if the task group had considered whether there could be unintended consequences from the policy. Member Whatley commented that the best way to test that would be through evaluating a real world project using this. After discussion members took no action. Conrad asked members to forward any additional comments directly to him and he will address them in the final draft or present them to the Coordinating Committee for consideration.
 - e. **CAC vacant positions and expected changes from City Boards and Commission changes** - Conrad advised members that two consensus positions are vacant, Travis County has one vacant position, and the City positions from the newly created Environmental Commission (formerly Environmental Board) and Parks and Recreation Board are still vacant. Sherri Kuhl will be convening the Advisory Committee Task Group soon to develop recommendations for the two CAC consensus positions and one pending vacant position on SAC.
 - f. **CAC Annual Work Plan** - no action was taken on these items due to numerous vacant positions on the committee.
 - i. Report from subcommittees.
 1. Wildfire and fire support.
 2. Invasive species in landscaping.
 3. State of BCP report (joint with SAC).