

**Stakeholder Committee  
LCRA/Austin Water Partnership  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Date:** April 14, 2011  
**Location:** LCRA Red Bud Center  
3601 Lake Austin Blvd.  
Austin, TX

**Meeting Start:** 9:30 am

**Attendees:**

Committee Members:

Hank Smith  
Marion Sanchez  
Dan Wilcox  
Valarie Bristol  
Jennifer Walker  
Barbara Johnson  
Jon Beall  
Sandra Dannhardt  
Pete Dwyer

*Absent:* Andy Sansom, Ronald Gertson, Mary Ann Hefner, Debbie Gernes

Note that Mike Personett attended the meeting briefly at the beginning to announce that he is now with the City of Austin's Watershed Protection Department and has stepped down from the Stakeholder Committee

Staff:

Karen Bondy, LCRA  
James Kowis, LCRA  
David Wheelock, LCRA  
Tom Hegemier, LCRA  
Yvonne Davis, LCRA  
Nora Mullarkey, LCRA

Daryl Slusher, City of Austin (COA)  
Teresa Lutes, COA  
Jeff Fox, COA  
Doryne Valentine, COA  
Leslie O'Shea, COA (facilitator)

Public

No one from the public attended.

## **Meeting Summary:**

### *Update on the Water Partnership- Daryl Slusher (COA) and Karen Bondy (LCRA)*

- Review of the Austin – LCRA Water Partnership 2010 Annual Report.
- Also highlighted that the primary purpose of this committee is to provide input on potential water supply decisions the City of Austin long-term water demand projections.
- A copy of the annual report was provided to all committee members.

### *COA Projected Water Demands to 2100 – Teresa Lutes (COA)*

- A presentation on projected demands was shared with the Committee (see attached) and they received a hard copy as well.

### Committee Input/Questions:

- COA comparison to other projections, coordination?
- Explain Region K area.
- Gulf of Mexico desalination, who owns, who regulates?
- Data sources? Details?
- How were manufacturing demands determined? Are manufacturing and industrial trends and water quality requirements taken into account?
- Apply COA boundaries over time to estimate demand? Relation to COA distribution capacity?
- Conservation component in total demands (Slide #5 in presentation)?
- Coordination with Imagine Austin comprehensive planning effort?
- COA agrees with U.S. census?
- Austin Energy numbers, do they match AWU's numbers? How do the demand projections relate to AE's recommended 2020 generation plan?
- More evaporation in the future? "Global warming." Concerned about a constant demand for irrigation, recreation, and Lady Bird Lake evaporation.

- Do we have enough water for the future?
- Slide #6, fair to characterize above 325,000 AF as water we don't have? 325,000 AF LCRA contract line crosses demand projection line in 2060 time-frame.
- Is 325,000 AF limit related to Austin's LCRA water contract or total supplies?
- Are there other potential customers? Providers?
- Severe drought years, worst case considerations? Stepped up conservation, drought-related restrictions may be required.
- Show LCRA service capacity on Slide #6.
- What is LCRA treatment capacity?
- Basing demand projections on higher population projection or Region K projection (Slide #7)? Demand projections to be submitted to the Water Partnership are based on Region K projections but additional projection information is shown for reference and comparison.
- What are per capita water use amounts associated with municipal projections? Information related to per capita water use needed for reference and comparison.
- Slide #5, conservation projection (approximately 5%) especially in early years seems low. Suggest improving communication of water issues, expand education programs. Lawns, car washing are luxuries. Compare to other parts of the world.
- Look ahead, cost projection to meet needs in future?
- Will LCRA build new reservoirs?
- Affordability, avoid rate shock?
- Incentives to customers, reduce use, get a rate break?
- Is communication on conservation being done as effectively as possible?
- Many people don't see water bills, but pay on-line.
- What medium is most effective to communicate? Mobile phones, internet, emerging, TV and radio less efficient with some. Communication modes are rapidly changing. Twitter and Facebook are new ways to reach more people.

City and LCRA staff responded to all of the above questions, either with a verbal answer during the meeting or will provide follow-up information to the committee.

Comment Card: One comment card was shared at the end of the meeting and the feedback is provided below:

Felt like we got into the weeds on the water conservation discussion. Wasting our time. Not a huge deal but just frustrating.

City staff also identified that comments could be provided through April 22, 2011 to Ms. Teresa Lutes. In addition, an email was sent to all committee members on April 18, 2011 providing links to the State Water Planning process, an electronic copy of the presentation, and a request to submit all comments by April 22, 2011 to Ms. Lutes.

LCRA Water Planning – James Kowis (LCRA)

- A presentation on the *Water Supply Resource Plan* was shared with the committee. This plan was adopted by the LCRA Board of Directors in October 2010. In addition, each committee member received a hard copy of the information.
- A presentation on the *Water Management Plan Revision Process* was shared with the committee. The process began in the summer of 2010 per the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Order approving the 2010 LCRA Water Management Plan and is underway and includes the City of Austin as a stakeholder in the process. Again, each committee member received a hard copy of the information.

Public Input

- None, no public attendees

Action Items/Feedback

Committee term extensions were discussed at the meeting. Terms are staggered for the committee members to maintain continuity:

Terms were extended for the following committee members (the date listed indicates when their term will expire):

Mary Ann Hefner	At-large	June 2013
Barbara Johnson	Business	June 2013
Hank Smith	Business	June 2013
Jennifer Walker	Environmental	June 2012
Jon Beall	High growth area	June 2013
Valarie Bristol	High growth area	June 2013
Pete Dwyer	High growth area	June 2012
Sandra Dannhardt	Industrial	June 2012
Dan Wilcox	Industrial	June 2012
Marion Sanchez	Rate payers	June 2013

The following interest groups seats are vacant and need to be filled:

Agriculture  
Conservation (water)  
Environmental  
Rate payers  
Recreation

City of Austin and LCRA staff will seek input from this committee and other sources to nominate stakeholders to fill the above positions. LCRA staff requested that all nominations from the committee be submitted by April 25.

**Meeting Adjourned: 12:30 PM**