

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, December 2, 2009



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY,
December 2, 2009.**

**The Environmental Board convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday,
December 2, 2009, City Council Chambers, at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas
78701**

Board Members in Attendance:

Rodney Ahart, J. Robert Anderson, Jon Beall, Robin Gary, Mary Gay Maxwell,
Phil Moncada, & Mary Ann Neely

Staff in Attendance:

Raj Bhattharai, Jane Burazer, Pat Murphy, Chris Herrington, P.E., Philip Huang, M.D,
Kevin Anderson, and Marilla Shepherd

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:10 p.m.

1. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL

Speaker should sign up to speak prior to the meeting called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to address your concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

1. **Bill Keil a resident of Alamo Heights, and former Alamo Heights City Council member provided information regarding the benefits of Fluoride, and the reason that Alamo Heights repealed the use of Fluoride. He recommends that we look into topical use versus systemic. Bill Keil discussed how narrow the City of Austin report was.**
2. **Ray Nadler Olnick provided information on myths, social equity, and epidemics and tooth problems among lowincome people, and discussed where to locate the Material Safety DataSheets for 2 chemicals: Fluorine and Sodium Fluoride.**
3. **Dr. Neil Carman with the Sierra Club provided information on numerous omissions: See attachment.**

4. James Wilson thanked the Environmental Board members for being available to listen to the citizens and he provided information on Fluoride in toothpaste.
5. Robert Love spoke on toxic substances and proposed several question to Dr. Huang to respond to.
6. Russell Doyle provided information quoted from the Health and Nutrition Secrets by Dr. Russell Blalock and social equity.
7. Linda Greene provided information the Austin Chronicle Fluoride Facts and Fiction, fluoride and organic gardens.
8. Katy Brewer spoke on her research on fluoridation.
9. John Bush thanked the Environmental Board members for their recommendations to Mayor and City Council August 19, 2009. He provided information on the history of water fluoridation.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS

- a. Approve the minutes of the regular meetings on November 18, 2009.

The minutes for the regular meeting of November 18, 2009 were approved on Board member Rodney Ahart's motion. Seconded by Board member Phil Moncada. Vote of 7-0.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS DISCUSSION AND ACTION DEVELOPMENT CASES
None.

4. STAFF BRIEFINGS

- a. Briefing on the Center for Environmental Research and Austin-Bastrop River Corridor Partnership 2009-Kevin Anderson AWU.

This item was conducted as posted. Environmental Board members invited Kevin Anderson to a future Growth and Planning meeting.

- b. Briefing on the Water Fluoridation Report-Philip Huang, HHSD Medical Director, Chris Herrington, P. E., WPD, Jane Burazer, Assistant Director, AWU, Olga Hernandez, HHSD, and Charlie Maddox, AWU.

The Environmental Board recommends that City Council supplement the Water Fluoridation Report dated 11/13/2009 that did not address numerous questions asked by the Environmental Board and citizen's who also have scientific backgrounds. See attachment.

Recommendation Approved: [VOTE 4-3]. Motioned by Board member Phil Moncada and seconded by Board member Rodney Ahart

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee –Mary Gay Maxwell, Phil Moncada, Jon Beall & Mary Ann Neely

No report this week.

- b. Update on the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan Citizens Advisory Group – Mary Ann Neely

Mary Ann Neely reported on this item.

- c. Update on the Environmental Awareness Awards- Executive Committee of the Environmental Board

Board member Mary Gay Maxwell reported that there is a meeting set for December 3, 2009.

- d. Update on the 2009 Work Plan reports – Mary Gay Maxwell.

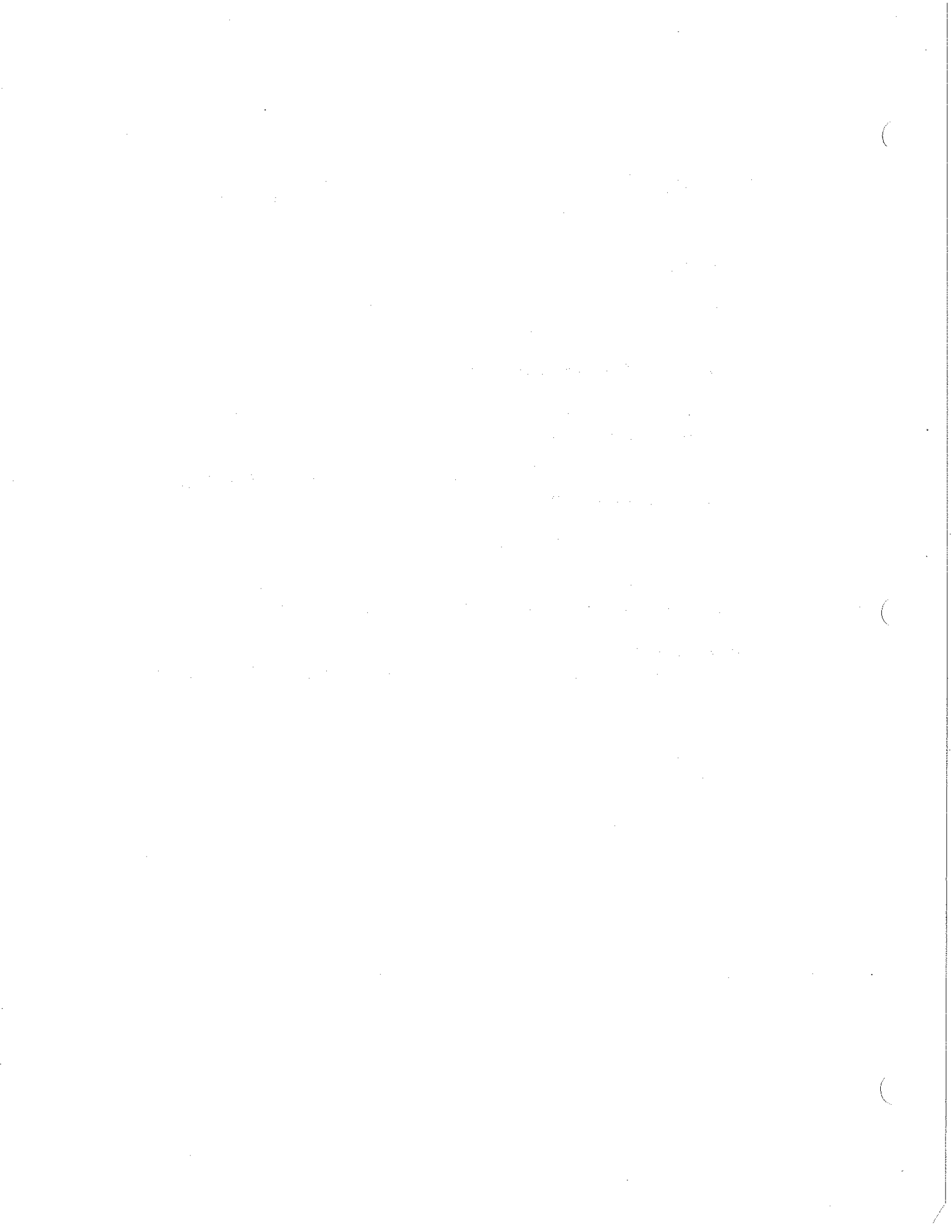
Board member Rodney Ahart report that the Growth and Planning subcommittee is scheduled for December 8, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Future agenda items: Board member Phil Moncada requested a briefing on T.X.I.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.





ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION 120209-4b

Date: December 2, 2009

Subject: Water Fluoridation Program

Motioned By: Phil Moncada

Seconded By: Rodney Ahart

Recommended Action

The Environmental Board recommends that City Council supplement the Water Fluoridation Report dated 11/13/2009 that did not address numerous questions asked by the Environmental Board and citizen's who also have scientific backgrounds.

Environmental Board Conditions:

1. The Environmental Board recommends that staff and City Council review the omissions of information provided by Neil J. Carmam, P.h.D. with Sierra Club. See Attached Minutes.
2. The Environmental Board recommends that there be an independent study.

Rationale:

The second motion was made because of lack of information in the initial Water Fluoridation Report.

Recommendation Approved: VOTE 4-3. Motioned by Board member Phil Moncada and seconded by Board member Rodney Ahart

Vote 4-3-0-0

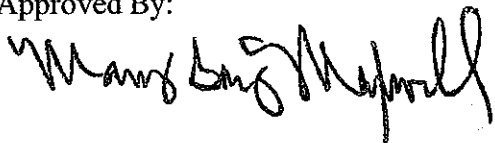
For: Ahart, Gary, Maxwell, and Moncada

Against: Anderson, Beall and Neely.

Abstain:

Absent:

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Gay Maxwell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mary Gay Maxwell
Environmental Board Chair