



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD RETREAT
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The Environmental Board Retreat convened in a special called meeting on Wednesday, June 22, 2011 City Hall Bull Pen, at 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Board Members in Attendance:

Anderson, Beall, Gary, Hernandez, Maxwell, Neely and Schissler

Staff in Attendance:

Victoria Li, Mike Personett, George Adams, Jean Drew, Matt Hollon, Kathy Rock, George Zapalac, Edward Peacock, Ingrid McDonald, Jacqueline Ramos, Dana McGehee, Erin Wood, Chris Herrington, Mitzi Cotton, and Marilla Shepherd.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell called the Environmental Board retreat to order at 6:30 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.

2. Introduction and Meet and Greet – 6:00 - 6:15 p.m.

This item was conducted as posted.

3. Discussion Topics for Retreat

**a. Roles and Responsibilities of Environmental Board and COA Support Staff
6:15 - 7:00 p.m.**

1) Environmental Board's mission and purview - Chair, Mary Gay Maxwell

This item was conducted as posted.

- Board member Robin Gary asked for a report from Austin Energy. She requested a detailed description of how air quality is being handled.**

- **Board member Mary Ann Neely requested to have a presentation on the new water quality pond near Slaughter Lane.**

2) Watershed Protection Department (WPD) organization & functions Mike Personett

This item was conducted as posted

3) Planning and Development Review Department (PDRD) organization and functions
George Adams

This item was conducted as posted

b. Briefing re: Land Development Process and Variance Requests – 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

1) Review land development process – Ingrid McDonald

This item was conducted as posted

2) Presentation template for environmental variances – Ingrid McDonald

This item was conducted as posted

3) Potential mitigation measures for environmental variances - Matt Hollon

This item was conducted as posted. The Environmental Board and staff discussed the “Common Variance Requests & Logical Methods for Their Evaluation” chart and how it is intended to be used. In particular, the relevance of the condition to the type of variance requested and the preference for on-site conditions was discussed. The discussion then moved to a recent variance reviewed on June 15, 2011 for Senna Hill, how the chart may have been used, and the issues raised by adding conditions for monetary donations. The Board asked staff to schedule a special meeting the following week to consider amending the recommendation made on the Senna Hills variance.

c. Environmental Board Support for WPD Programs and Initiatives – 7:30-8:00 p.m.

1) Avoiding Awkward Moments: Board Member Training Refresher Mike Personett

This item was conducted as posted

2) Ordinance and Rules Process – Jean Drew

This item was conducted as posted

3) Stakeholder Involvement and Input:

This item was conducted as posted

1. Workgroup for Watershed Protection Ordinance – Matt Hollon

This item was conducted as posted

2. HCP/EA for Barton Springs Salamander ESA 10a Permit Renewal -
Chris Herrington
This item was conducted as posted

d. Electronic delivery of Environmental Board agendas and back-up

Marilla Shepherd 8:00 - 8:15 p.m.

This item was conducted as posted. Environmental Board members Jon Beall, Eva Hernandez and James Schissler opted to receive packets electronically and staff will send an electronic notification 72 hours prior to the Environmental Board meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the retreat at 9:20 p.m.