



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY  
May 2, 2012**

**The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2012, at City Hall Council Chambers. 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Bob Anderson, Robin Gay, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, James Schissler and Jennifer Walker

**Board Member Absent:**

Mary Ann Neely

**Staff in Attendance:**

Annick Beaudet, William Conrad, Laurie Dries, Greg Griffin, Nico Hauwert, Scott Hiers, Keith Mars, Mike McDougal, Johnny Price, Chuck Lesniak, Clark Patterson, and Marilla Shepherd

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Environmental Board meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Gay Maxwell at 6:05 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 for concerns not posted on the agenda.

- **Jim Bennett signed up to speak in favor of item 3a**
- **Nicholas Dean signed up to speak in favor of item 3a**
- **Bob Sandera signed up to speak in favor of item 3a**
- **Laura Dunn signed up to speak in opposition item 3a**
- **Frank Bryan signed up to speak in opposition of item 3a**
- **Marion Molfok signed up to speak in opposition of item 3a**
- **Pat Epstein signed up to speak in opposition of item 3a**
- **Cynthia Wilcox signed up to speak in opposition of item 3a**
- **Zoila Vega signed up to speak in opposition of item 3a**

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Approve the minutes of the Environment Board regular meeting on April 4, 2012  
**The Environment Board April 4, 2012 minutes were approved on Board member James Schissler's motion and seconded by Marisa Perales**  
**Vote 4-0-2-1 Board member Mary Ann Neely was absent.**  
Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting on April 18, 2012.  
**The Environment Board April 18, 2012 minutes were approved on Board member James Schissler's motion and seconded by Marisa Perales**  
**Vote 5-0-1-1 Board member Mary Ann Neely was absent.**

### 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. **Name:** Estates at Travis Country C14-2012-0016  
**Applicant:** Austin Independent School District (Paul Turner)  
**Location:** 4806-1/2 Trail West Drive  
**Watershed:** Barton Creek Watershed-Barton Springs Zone, East Oak Hill NPA  
**Staff Reviewer:** Clark Patterson, Planning and Development Review Department  
**Request:** Planning Commission asking for the Environmental Board's review of (Zoning) P-NP to SF 2-NP.  
**Staff Recommendation:** Recommended approval  
  
**Recommendation: Not Recommended**  
**Approved on Board Member Robin Gary's motion and Board member Jennifer Walker's second vote 4-2.**  
**Board member Mary Ann Neely was absent. See attached motion**

### 4. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Discuss BCCP response to Board request for biologist review of Regents School cave – William Conrad, Austin Water Utility  
**This item was conducted as posted.**
- b. Briefing of the City of Austin Bike Master Plan, how the trails connect to the bike system, and how can the City of Austin improve air quality by increasing the use of bicycles – Annick Beaudet and Greg Griffin, Campo  
**This item was conducted as posted.**
- c. Briefing on SOS Amendment for Barton Springs Pool By-Pass Improvements Johnnie Price, P. E., Watershed Protection Department  
**This item was conducted as posted.**

### 5. OLD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

- 1) Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Mary Ann Neely, and Jennifer Walker.  
**No report this week.**
- 2) Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales  
**No report this week.**
- 3) Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair, Bob Anderson, & Mary Ann Neely.  
**No report this week.**
- 4) Development Committee – Bob Anderson, Chair, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, & James Schissler.  
**The next meeting will be May 22, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.**
- 5) Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, & Robin Gary.  
**No report this week.**
- 6) Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, & Bob Anderson  
**Meeting scheduled for May 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.**
- 7) Reports from Board representative to other committees.  
**No report this week.**

6. **NEW BUSINESS** - Future agenda items

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.**



## ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MOTION FORM

Date: May 2, 2012

Motion by: Robin Gary

Agenda Item: 3a

Seconded by: Jennifer Walker

Subject: Estates at Travis Country C14-2012-0016

Planning Commission asking for the Environmental Board's review of (Zoning) P-NP to SF 2-NP

Motion:  Approval  Approve with conditions  **Disapproval**  Consent  Postponement

### Recommendation:

Given cursory site investigations by City of Austin-Watershed Protection Department geologists, known surface geology and karstic topography, high quality native vegetation, and presence of a diverse set of high quality trees, the Environmental Board recommends that surplus Austin Independent School District (AISD) lots located at 4806-1/2 Trail West Drive optimally remain as undeveloped open space.

### Rationale

A full geologic site assessment has not been performed, but dye tracing from nearby recharge features indicate this area is likely very connected to the groundwater system. The geologic units present at the surface suggest there is a high likelihood of substantial connectivity to the groundwater system. The neighborhood has indicated a strong desire to purchase the land from AISD and keep it as undeveloped open space. Given that the neighborhood was built prior to when SOS impervious cover limitations took effect, purchasing the property as a community can help lessen the impact their current house footprints have on the groundwater system. Collaborating with AISD and the neighborhood group poses a unique opportunity to preserve a lot that does not meet WQPL criteria, but could help offset the impervious cover percentages in Travis Country and maintain high quality recharge to the aquifer which is in line with the City of Austin mission.

### Vote:

	<i>CONSENTING</i>	<i>DISSENTING</i>	<i>ABSTAINING</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>
Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair	(✓)	( )	( )	( )
James Schissler, P. E.	( )	(✓)	( )	( )
Jennifer Walker	(✓)	( )	( )	( )
J. Robert Anderson	( )	(✓)	( )	( )
Mary Ann Neely	( )	( )	( )	(✓)
Robin Gary	(✓)	( )	( )	( )
Marisa Perales	( )	( )	( )	( )

Chair Sign Off \_\_\_\_\_