



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 2, 2013

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at City Hall Council Chambers, 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Environmental Board Members in Attendance:

James Schissler
Jennifer Walker
Mary Ann Neely
Mary Gay Maxwell
Robert Deegan
Robin Gary
Marisa Perales

Staff in Attendance:

Marilla Shepherd
Chuck Lesniak
Bart Jennings
Virginia Collier
Chris Herrington
Leah Haynie

Others present:

Richard Suttle
Chris Kite
Patrick Brewer

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Chair May Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.
2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL**
Speaker should sign up to speak prior to the meeting being called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment to discuss topics not posted on the agenda.
There were no citizens signed up to speak under citizens communication.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS**
 - a. Approve the minutes of the Environmental Board regular meeting of September 18, 2013.

The September 4, 2013 minutes were approved on Board member James Schissler's motion and Mary Ann Neely's second.

[Vote 6-1-0-0] Board member Marisa Perales abstained.

- b. Environmental Officer's report on hot topics and past Board actions – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department
 - **Update on drought stages**
This item was conducted as posted. The Austin Water Utility is scheduled to make a presentation to the Environmental Board at the 10/16/13 meeting.

4. ITEMS POSTPONED FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Consider a petition requesting City consent to the creation of the Cascades Municipal Utility District No. 1 and make a recommendation to Council on the petition – Virginia Collier, Planning and Development Review Department and Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department
Justin Spillman signed up to speak on item 4.
Board member Robert Deegan moved to recommend approval of Cascades Municipal Utility District No. 1, Board member Schissler seconded. Motion failed [vote 3-4]. No other action was taken.

5. STAFF BRIEFINGS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Briefing and request for recommendation on the Austin Urban Forest Plan – Patrick Brewer, Urban Forestry Board and Leah Haynie, Parks and Recreation Department
Michael Fossum signed up to speak on item 5a.
Zoila Vega signed up to speak on item 5a
- b. Briefing on an Implementation Plan for fecal bacteria TMDLs in four Austin watersheds - Chris Herrington, PE, Watershed Protection Department
This item was conducted as posted. No action taken.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, Jennifer Walker, and James Schissler, P.E. **No report this week.**
- b. Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales. **No report this week.**
- c. Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Robin Gary and Mary Ann Neely - **No report this week.**
- d. Development Committee –Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, Robert Deegan, and James Schissler, P.E.. **No report this week**

- e. Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, Robin Gary, and Jennifer Walker. **No report this week.**
- f. Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell and Mary Ann Neely. **No report this week.**
- g. Other reports from Board member– **Mary Ann Neely reported on this item.**

7. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items

- 1. Development Committee Meeting to review the Austin Urban Forest Plan
- 2. Add presentation on Imagine Austin back to future agenda items.
- 3. Officer Elections 10/16/2013.
- 4. Presentation on the Reznicek Field.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 8:47 p.m.



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD RECOMMENDATION 20131002 004

Date: October 2, 2013

Subject: Consider a petition requesting City consent to the creation of the Cascades Municipal Utility District No. 1 and make a recommendation to Council on the petition.

Motioned By: Robert Deegan

Seconded By: James Schissler, P. E.

Rationale:

Whereas the proposal provides for development that is substantially environmentally superior to what would be required under current code and anticipated entitlements if the property were annexed, and

Whereas the existing preliminary plan would otherwise provide a disincentive to re-planning the site to a more desirable development pattern, and

Whereas, the recommendation is based primarily on Environmental Superiority and does not fully factor in other potential trade-offs for the City of Austin,

Recommendation

Therefore, the Environmental Board recommends the creation of the Cascades Municipal Utility District No. 1 with the following Board conditions:

1. Compliance with the floodplain modification requirements of the new Watershed Protection Ordinance,
2. Portable irrigation be reduced by 50% from a baseline case for all sites.

Vote 3-4-0-0 Motioned failed.

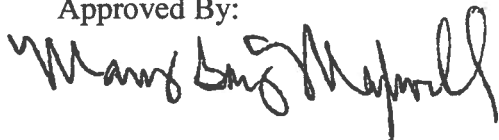
For: Deegan, Neely and Schissler

Against: Gary, Maxwell, Perales and Walker

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Approved By:

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

Dr. Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair