

**Executive Management Committee Quarterly Meeting
Austin-LCRA Water Partnership**

Final Minutes

Meeting Date: June 7, 2013

Location: LCRA Board Conference Room
Hancock Building

Meeting Time: 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Greg Meszaros, Austin Water
Teresa Lutes, Austin Water
Daryl Slusher, Austin Water
Jeff Fox, Austin Water
Ross Crow, City of Austin

Henry Eby, LCRA
Karen Bondy, LCRA
Lyn Clancy, LCRA
Terry Zrubek, LCRA
Ron Anderson, LCRA

Minutes:

- I. **Welcome** – Henry Eby called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Karen Bondy is replacing Kyle Jensen who retired from LCRA. Ron Anderson is replacing David Wheelock on the Technical Committee.
- II. **Agenda and Minutes from Last Meeting** -
 - a) Reviewed Agenda
 - b) Karen Bondy asked that the draft minutes from March 22, 2012 EMC meeting be emailed back out for Robert Goode's approval.
- III. **On-going Drought Status** – Karen Bondy gave a drought update. Lakes are at 39% storage but have been as low as 31% in past years. LCRA has released 18,000 acre feet for environmental flows. To meet municipal and industrial demands we've released over 100,000 acre feet. There is a 1% chance of reaching a drought potentially worse than the drought of record in August but more likely in September if the drought intensity continues. El Nino Southern Oscillation is forecasted to be in a neutral pattern through the fall.
- IV. **LCRA Pending Water Management Plan** – Henry Eby provided an update on the Water Management Plan. TCEQ announced yesterday that there will be a stakeholder meeting on the June 26th. LCRA welcomes the review. This time next year we may be at the same place in the process. Austin staff met with Becky Motal and discussed the concept of an agreed order. With this delay, an agreed order may not be necessary but some elements remain. The city wants to stay engaged in the process on releases for next year. The city is looking at mechanism for the lakes to recover. Henry Eby stated the extension of the current Emergency Order was granted by TCEQ. The emergency Order was granted for 60 days, extending the order to July 29, 2013. LCRA staff will discuss submitting a new

Emergency Order request with the Board in June; LCRA doesn't want to get to the end of July and receive a request to release for irrigation. If LCRA seeks another order it would likely be permitted for 120 days by the TCEQ. Over the next 12 months, TCEQ will be going through review of the Water Management Plan. Until then, we will operate under the 2010 Water Management Plan if not operating under an emergency order.

- V. Technical Committee Report** – Teresa Lutes gave an update regarding their March, April and May meetings. Highlights included: sharing information about the drought, LCRA WMP and joint application for reuse and coordination with FPP. David Walker gave a workshop on the ROC's daily water measurement and accounting procedures.
- VI. Upcoming Stakeholder Committee Meeting** – Karen Bondy discussed the next stakeholder committee meeting on June 26th along with the agenda. With two new members on the committee it will be a good reminder to discuss why we have these stakeholder committee meetings and the importance of the relationship. Karen Bondy also gave an update on Lower Basin Reservoir Project. LCRA is moving forward with permitting and design. LCRA has pre-screened 6 construction firms and will receive a request for proposals in June. Hopefully within 6 weeks LCRA will have a contractor. The Lane City site should not require a membrane liner because of on-site clay. LCRA is investigating using the existing pump station with some upgrades. Karen Bondy mentioned LCRA's groundwater permit application for 10,000 acre feet for use at Bastrop Lost Pines Power Plant. The Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District granted LCRA 10,000 acre-feet when the county is in D2 drought or worse and 5,000 acre feet in non-drought times.
- VII. Workshop – Drought Response Planning** – Teresa Lutes proposed a drought report task force. It would be a subcommittee of the technical committee. The general charge of the task force would be to develop emergency drought plans. The idea is to share and exchange information. Discussion could include what kind of future plans we need to look at; explore options that neither has come up with, discuss what Austin and LCRA are doing, discuss ideas, how to coordinate, put into place plans that can be implemented and plan to coordinate together. Teresa Lutes explained the task force effort is consistent with the 2007 settlement. The task force should be convened as soon as possible with core members from the Technical Committee and others who need to be involved (Austin's Consultants should be involved in the process). The proposal is to meet monthly, in the off weeks of the technical committee. If the EMC approves, Teresa Lutes would like to have an item on next Technical Committee agenda. The Technical Committee would report back on progress made at the September meeting. This may involve a confidentiality agreement between the two entities so that information can be shared freely.
- VIII. Other Business or News Items** – Greg mentioned that Longhorn Dam is being discussed by Austin Energy's operational side; would LCRA be interested in taking over the operational side of the dam? Not the upkeep but operations?
- IX. Meeting Adjourned** – at 3:41 pm.