

**Meeting Minutes
Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program
November 13, 2008
Trinity University
San Antonio, TX**

Administrative Matters

Roll call of the Steering Committee was taken and a quorum was present for all purposes

The Minutes for the October 16, 2008 meeting were approved.

The Agenda for meeting was approved.

Discussion and possible decision regarding approval of the contract with SEI for independent peer review of the “k” –charge recommendations of the Science Subcommittee.

Jim Bower made a motion authorizing TAMU to execute the contract with Sustainable Ecosystems Institute to conduct the independent peer review of the Science Subcommittee’s recommendations on the “k” charges. Kirk Patterson seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

Discussion and possible decision regarding the nomination of officers for the Steering Committee for 2009.

The recommendations of the Nominating Work Group for the officers for the Steering Committee for calendar year 2009 were attached to the Agenda as Attachment 3. No nominations were made from the floor. Cindy Loeffler made a motion that the recommended nominees, Con Mims – Chair, Myron Hess – Vice Chair, and Steve Raabe – Secretary, be elected as the officers for the Steering Committee for 2009. The motion was seconded by Roger Biggers. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

Discussion and possible decision to approve the proposed Project Management Budget for 2009.

Jerry James facilitated the discussion of the proposed Project Management Budget for calendar year 2009. Jerry James made a motion to approve the budget for 2009 as set out in Attachment 4. Kirk Patterson seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

Dianne Wassenich made a motion to authorize Con Mims to execute the Memorandum of Agreement with TAMU regarding TAMU’s receipt, handling and disbursement of money

received from the EARIP stakeholders and other sources. Bruce Alexander seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

Report of the Recharge Facility Subcommittee

Steve Raabe gave a report of the activities of the Recharge Facility Subcommittee.

Report of the Public Outreach Subcommittee

Diane Wassenich a report on the activities of the Public Outreach Subcommittee.

Report on efforts to raise funds

Jerry James gave a report on the efforts to obtain an appropriation from the Texas Legislature to pay for the part of the cost of the development of the Habitat Conservation Plan and Structured Decision-making process that is not funded by the Section 6 Habitat Conservation Planning Assistance Grant and the cost of peer review of the Hardy Study and recommendations of the Science Subcommittee on the “j” charges. It was moved and seconded to authorize Weir Labatt, Con Mims and Jerry James, with the support of the Project Manager, to continue the efforts to obtain the above-described appropriation. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

The Steering Committee asked Messrs. Labatt, Mims, and James to prepare a recommended legislative agenda for the EARIP at the next meeting of the Steering Committee.

Report on the Program Operational Rules Work Group

Myron Hess discussed the issues that the Program Operational Work Group planned to address in making recommendations for revisions Program Operational Rules. The Work Group’s goal is to have the recommendations ready for discussion and possible decision by the Steering Committee in January or February 2009.

Report from the Expert Science Subcommittee

Susan Aragon-Long reported that the Science Subcommittee completed its recommendations on the “k” charges on November 11, 2008. Fourteen of the 15 members attended meeting on November 11 and reached consensus to approve the report. Report will be posted under program documents on EARIP website.

Discussion of the upcoming Texas legislative session

Myron Hess facilitated a discussion of the issues related to the EARIP in upcoming legislative session. It was agreed that the EARIP would only ask the Legislature for funding for non-project management costs.

Discussion of the Hardy/USGS presentation

Dr. Gulley discussed the schedule for Thom Hardy's visits to Texas to work on the study of the various impacts affecting listed species associated with the Comal and San Marcos springs.

Discussion for the agenda for the next meeting at the Dunbar Recreations Center in San Marcos on December 11, 2008.

After a discuss of the agenda items for the December meeting, Bruce Alexander made a motion to cancel the Joint Meeting of the Steering Committee and EARIP for December 2008. Jim Bower seconded the motion. There were no objections; thus, the motion passed.

The next Joint Meeting of the Steering Committee and EARIP will be held on in January 8, 2009, at SAWS.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.