

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE
SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 8, 2008

The Operations Committee of the SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY Board of Directors was called to order by H. B. Ruckman III, Chairman, at 2:00 p.m., Monday, September 08, 2008, in the Boardroom of the San Antonio River Authority, 100 E. Guenther, Bexar County, Texas.

Secretary, Adair Sutherland, called the roll and certified a quorum for the Operations Committee Meeting as follows:

John Flieller	Present
Hector Morales	Present
Názirite Rubén Pérez	Present
H.B. Ruckman III	Present
Adair R. Sutherland	Present
Thomas G. Weaver	Present

Staff members present were:

Suzanne B. Scott, General Manager
Steve Graham, Assistant General Manager
Larry Anderson, Director of Support Services
Steve Raabe, Director of Technical Services
John Chisholm, Director of Operations
Sharon McCoy-Huber, Finance Manager
Jim Blair, Watershed Operations Manager
Jim Boenig, Engineering Manager
Nefi Garza, Watershed Management Manager
Mike Gonzales, Environmental Sciences Manager
Claude Harding, Real Estate Manager
Rudy Farias, Water Resources & Community Development Manager
Jim Doersam, Engineer III
Melissa Bryant, Engineer III
Lupe Moreno, Executive Assistant

Others present were:

David Ross, Legal Counsel

Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 5: **INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:** Ms. Moreno announced that there were none.

Mr. Ruckman called for **Agenda Item 6: CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:** Ms. Moreno announced that there were no citizens signed up to speak.

Mr. Ruckman called for **Agenda Item 7: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2008**

Mr. Weaver moved to approve the minutes as written, and, seconded by Mr. Pérez, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Ruckman called on Claude Harding for **Agenda Item 8: PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A PUBLIC NECESSITY FOR THE ACQUISITION OF FEE SIMPLE TITLE ON CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN NEW CITY BLOCK 10933, IN BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS, TO PERFORM THE PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT DATED MAY 10, 2006, BETWEEN THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY AND THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MISSION REACH ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION AND RECREATION SAN ANTONIO CHANNEL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING ALL APPROPRIATE ACTION BY THE GENERAL MANAGER, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS OF SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY IN THE INSTITUTION AND PROSECUTION OF EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS TO ACQUIRE SAID PROPERTY INTERESTS AND RELATED RIGHTS OF INGRESS AND EGRESS THAT CANNOT BE ACQUIRED THROUGH NEGOTIATION; RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING ALL ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS PREVIOUSLY DONE OR INITIATED BY EMPLOYEES, AGENTS AND ATTORNEYS OF SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE SUCH PROPERTY INTERESTS; AND AUTHORIZING SUCH OTHER LAWFUL ACTION NECESSARY AND INCIDENTAL TO SUCH ACQUISITION OR EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS TO SURVEY, SPECIFY, DEFINE AND SECURE THE NECESSARY INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY**

Staff recommended a motion indicating Operations Committee support for presenting to the San Antonio River Authority Board of Directors a recommendation to approve and authorize the acquisition of all land rights identified and required by the Programmatic Agreement dated May 10, 2006, between US Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, the San Antonio River Authority and the State Historic Preservation Officer regarding the implementation of the Mission Reach Ecosystem Restoration and Recreation San Antonio Channel Improvement Project in San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Ms. Sutherland moved to approve said motion, seconded by Mr. Weaver, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ruckman called on Mike Gonzales for **Agenda Item 9: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION AUTHORIZING DEVELOPMENT OF GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO FUND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A WATERSHED PROTECTION PLAN FOR THE LOWER LEON CREEK AND TO SUPPORT THE CREEK BOOK PROJECT**

Staff recommended a motion to authorize SARA staff to proceed with the development and submittal of proposals to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality for EPA 319 grants to fund the Lower Leon Creek Watershed Protection Plan Development and the Creek Book Project.

Mr. Morales moved to approve said motion, seconded by Ms. Sutherland, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Ruckman called on Melissa Bryant for **Agenda Item 10: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2007/2008 JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR STREAM MONITORING AND WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS**

Staff recommended a motion indicating Operations Committee support for presenting to the San Antonio River Authority Board a recommendation to amend the 2007/08 Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey in the amount of \$25,000 for the Mission Reach, Phase I Project and to increase by one year, at no additional cost, the Sutherland Springs Study.

Mr. Weaver moved to approve said motion, seconded by Mr. Morales, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Ruckman called on Melissa Bryant for **Agenda Item 11: DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE 2008/2009 JOINT FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR STREAM MONITORING AND WATER RESOURCE PROJECTS**

Staff recommended a motion indicating Operations Committee support for presenting to the San Antonio River Authority Board a recommendation to enter into a 2008/09 Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for a total amount of \$458,500.

Mr. Morales moved to approve said motion, seconded by Mr. Flieller, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Ruckman called on Jim Boenig for **Agenda Item 12: PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE STATUS OF THE GRAYTOWN ROAD WASTEWATER SYSTEM PROJECT**

There being no action taken on Item 12, Mr. Ruckman called on Steve Raabe for **Agenda Item 13: BRIEFING ON WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

Steve Raabe reminded the Board that the Stakeholders Texas Instream Flows meeting will be held on Tuesday in Floresville, Texas.

Mr. Ruckman called on Suzanne Scott for **Agenda Item 14: STATUS REPORT ON THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT, INCLUDING THE INTEGRATION OF THE VISITOR TAX-FUNDED PROJECT ELEMENTS**

Ms. Scott stated that since the Special Board meeting, the Mayor has asked SARA to restore the Catalpa Creek. There will be a meeting on Wednesday, October 10, and Chairman Weaver will be attending. Ms. Scott also gave a short briefing on the outcome of the Bexar County Commissioner's Court meeting.

Mr. Ruckman called for **Agenda Item 15: ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

Ms. Scott discussed the agenda item topics to be presented at the October Regular Board Meeting in Karnes County.

Mr. Ruckman called on Suzanne Scott for **Agenda Item 16: GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**.

Ms. Scott had nothing to report.

Mr. Ruckman called for **Agenda Item 17: NEXT MEETING DATE**. The next meeting date was tentatively set for Monday, October 6, 2008.

Regarding **Agenda Item 18: Adjourn**. There being nothing further to report, Mr. Ruckman adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

PREPARED AND RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY THE GENERAL MANAGER.

SUZANNE B. SCOTT, General Manager

APPROVED BY THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AT THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2008.

H. B. "TRIP" RUCKMAN III, Chairman

ATTEST:

STEPHEN T. GRAHAM, Assistant Secretary