

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY
MAY 12, 2008

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY was called to order by the Chairman, Thomas G. Weaver, at 10:03 a.m., Monday, May 12, 2008, at the General Offices of the San Antonio River Authority, 100 East Guenther Street, San Antonio, Bexar County, Texas.

Ms. Buchanan called the roll and certified a quorum present as follows:

BEXAR COUNTY

Sally Buchanan	Present
Hector Morales	Present
Názirite Rubén Pérez	Present
Roberto G. Rodríguez	Present
Thomas G. Weaver	Present

GOLIAD COUNTY

Terry E. Baiamonte	Present
Adair R. Sutherland	Present

KARNES COUNTY

H. B. Ruckman III	Present
Gaylon Oehlke	Present

WILSON COUNTY

John Flieller	Present
A. D. Kollodziej, Jr.	Present

Staff members present were:

Suzanne B. Scott, General Manager
Steve Graham, Assistant General Manager
Sharon McCoy-Huber, Financial Services Manager
Susan Eason, Director of Internal Resources
Steve Raabe, Director of Technical Services
Jim Boenig, Engineering Manager
Jim Blair, Watershed Operations Manager
Steven Schauer, Manager of External Communications
Dale Bransford, Park Services Manager
Ken Englehart, Information Technology Manager
Nefi Garza, Watershed Management Manager
Rudy Farias, Water Resources and Community Development Manager
Mike Gonzales, Environmental Sciences Manager

Claude Harding, Real Estate Manager

Other individuals present were:

David Ross, Legal Counsel
Lupe Moreno, Temporary Administrative Assistant
Jeff Neathery, DNA GeoSciences

Mr. Weaver called on Sharon McCoy-Huber and Executive Staff regarding **Agenda Item 7 - Presentation, Discussion, and Appropriate Action by the Board of Directors of the San Antonio River Authority relating to the Preparation of the Five Year Service and Financial Plan and Fiscal Year 2008/09 Annual Budget:**

Staff reported as follows:

Service goals and performance measures:

Over the past several months under the direction of the General Manager, Suzanne Scott, the management staff has been working together to assess the San Antonio River Authority's current activities and chart a path for the future. As discussed with the Board in January, the management team has consulted planning tools to guide this assessment and goal setting. One of the tools that staff is using is a book called *Good to Great* by Jim Collins.

At the January board meeting, Ms. Scott presented the Board with service goals developed by the management team which have guided the creation of the budget and will be expanded in the five year service and financial plan. As part of the goal setting process, management has worked to develop performance objectives to measure attainment of the goals. Organizational performance measures are being developed for each goal supported by performance measures set within each department. The agency goals and performance measures are attached behind tab "Goals/Measures" for review and discussion at the Special Meeting.

Operating funds summaries: On April 7, 2008, the River Authority staff presented to Fiscal Committee the proposed status of the operating funds: General Fund, Park Services Fund, SARA Wastewater System Fund and the SARA Water System Fund. Staff provided an updated summary of these operating funds.

Operations and maintenance tax rate for the 2008 tax year: Staff provided detailed information regarding tax rate funding. Mr. Weaver asked each Board member to voice where she/he stood regarding the tax rate.

Maintenance and operations of the San Antonio River: The City of San Antonio and Bexar County along with the River Authority are actively constructing improvements in the Museum and Mission Reaches of the San Antonio River Improvements Project. The River Authority has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of San Antonio for the operation and maintenance of the Museum Reach and has an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to ensure that the ecosystem restoration of the Mission Reach is maintained to Corps standards. The maintenance plan for the Mission Reach is currently being developed and will require a different level of maintenance than what is currently performed on the existing flood

channel by the City of San Antonio and the River Authority. In addition to the Corps project, Bexar County is seeking voter approval of another \$125 million to offset the shortfall in federal funding for the Mission Reach while also adding enhancements to the Mission Reach and Eagleland Reach and construction of a trail system in the Park Segment of the Museum Reach. The County is seeking a commitment from the River Authority and the City for the maintenance of these improvements. The City is also requesting the River Authority to expand our maintenance responsibilities on the river. The San Antonio River Oversight Committee, citing a preference for the River Authority's maintenance standard, has also requested the River Authority to take on a larger role in the maintenance of the Eagleland and Mission Reaches.

River Authority staff has projected the costs of maintenance for the San Antonio River over the next seven years. Maintenance on the Museum Reach Urban Segment will begin next year and the Mission Reach maintenance could begin in 2010. Staff provided detailed projected maintenance costs during the meeting.

Projects considered in the preliminary fiscal year 2008/09 budget: This year the projects have been presented by program to link together projects supporting common objectives. The programs are included in the preliminary budget with estimated funding requirements. The projects are included for the general fund, capital projects funds, and special revenue funds.

Discussion on dues and conferences to national organizations: In response to Mr. Weaver's request for a discussion regarding participation in professional organizations, staff reported that the River Authority pays dues to the Texas Water Conservation Association (TWCA) in the amount of \$5,900, of which \$1,500 is forwarded to the National Water Resource Association (NWRA). The TWCA holds three conferences annually throughout Texas, while NWRA holds three conferences annually throughout the United States. Staff has proposed to explore membership in the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA). The dues to NAFSMA are \$6,000, and they hold a conference and technical meetings annually.

Mr. Weaver called on Sharon McCoy-Huber and Suzanne Scott regarding **Agenda Item 8 - Briefing on the Contract Audit Being Conducted by the Office of the City Auditor for the City of San Antonio:**

As presented previously, the River Authority received a letter dated July 3, 2007, from the City of San Antonio expressing intent of auditing the interlocal agreements and memorandums of understanding between the City and the River Authority. During the meeting, staff briefed the committee on the status of the audit.

Mr. Weaver called on Sharon McCoy-Huber regarding **Agenda Item 9 - Presentation and Discussion Regarding 2008/09 Budget Items for future consideration by The Board:**

The following items will need to be presented to the San Antonio River Authority Board of Directors.

May 2008 Items

- Board Meeting – Draft 2008/09 Operating Budget and Five Year Services and Financial Plan are presented, Wednesday, May 21, 2008

June 2008 Items

- Special Board Meeting – Budget Workshop, Wednesday, June 4, 2008
- Board Meeting – Adopt 2008/09 Operating Budget, June 18, 2008

August 2008 Committee Items

- Board Meeting – Discuss Tax Rate, Vote to Hold a Public Hearing on the Proposed Tax Rate, August 20, 2008
- Special Board Meeting – Public Hearing and Adopt Tax Rate, Tuesday, September 2, 2008

Mr. Weaver called on Suzanne Scott for **Agenda Item 10 - General Manager's Report**: Ms. Scott had no report to make.

ADJOURN: There being no further business; the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Weaver, at 2:00 p.m.

PREPARED AND RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD APPROVAL BY THE MANAGER.

SUZANNE B. SCOTT, General Manager

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 20, 2008.

THOMAS G. WEAVER, Board Chairman

ATTEST:

STEPHEN T. GRAHAM, Assistant Secretary