

MINUTES

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY

March 9, 2009, 2:00 p.m.



GENERAL AND CEREMONIAL ITEMS:

1. **CALL TO ORDER WAS MADE BY THE CHAIRMAN, MR. H.B. RUCKMAN III, AT 2:00 P.M.**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **THE SECRETARY, MS. ADAIR SUTHERLAND, CALLED THE ROLL:**
**Board members present for this meeting are indicated with a checked box:*
 - John Flieller**
 - Hector Morales**
 - Názirite Rubén Pérez**
 - H.B. Ruckman III**
 - Adair Sutherland**
 - Thomas G. Weaver**
4. **CERTIFICATION OF A QUORUM WAS MADE BY THE SECRETARY, MS. SUTHERLAND**

Staff members present were:

Steve Graham, Assistant General Manager
Steve Raabe, Director of Technical Services
Larry Anderson, Director of Support Services
John Chisholm, Director of Operations
Susan Eason, Internal Resources Director
Jim Boenig, Engineering Manager
Claude Harding, Real Estate Manager
Sharon McCoy-Huber, Financial Services Manager
Rudy Farias, Water Resources & Community Development Manager
Jim Blair, Watershed Operations Manager
Al Astran, Utilities System Manager
Gilbert Jimenez, Real Estate Representative

Mark Sorenson, Engineer
Jim Doersam, Engineer
Albert Vega, Engineer
Melissa Bryant, Project Engineer
Lupe Moreno, Executive Assistant

Others present were:

David Ross, Legal Counsel

5. INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Ms. Moreno announced there were none.

6. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Ms. Moreno announced that no citizens were signed up to speak.

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2009

Staff recommended a motion to approve the minutes as presented to the Committee.

Motion made by Thomas G. Weaver

Second made by Hector Morales

Motion passed unanimously

8. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE GENERAL MANAGER TO CONVEY TWO TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENTS AND ONE PERMANENT EASEMENT TO UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD ACROSS AND ALONG THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER IN VICTORIA AND REFUGIO COUNTIES, TEXAS

Staff recommended a motion indicating Operations Committee support for presenting to the San Antonio River Authority Board a recommendation to authorize the General Manger to convey two temporary construction easements over the San Antonio River to Union Pacific Railroad for the purpose of replacing and maintaining the railroad trestle in Victoria and Refugio counties, Texas; and, upon securing the permanent easement, indicating Operations Committee support for presenting the permanent easement directly to the Board of Directors for their review and appropriate action.

Motion made by Adair R. Sutherland

Second made by Hector Morales

Motion passed unanimously

9. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER AUTHORITY'S SUPPORT FOR THE GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY'S GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR REGIONAL FACILITY PLANNING IN KENDALL COUNTY

Staff recommended a motion indicating Operations Committee support for presenting to the San Antonio River Authority Board a recommendation to authorize the General Manager to execute the application documents in support of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's grant application to the Texas Water Development Board for Regional Facility Planning in Kendall County.

Motion made by Thomas G. Weaver

Second made by Hector Morales

Motion passed unanimously

10. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE STATUS OF THE CITY OF KENEDY DESALINATION PROJECT

There being no action taken on this item, Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 11.

11. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON THE STATUS OF SARA WATER SYSTEM UPGRADES

There being no action taken on this item, Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 12.

12. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND APPROPRIATE ACTION REGARDING THE STATUS OF SUBMITTAL OF JOINT APPLICATIONS WITH THE TEXAS A&M INSTITUTE OF RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE FOR THE CONSERVATION INNOVATION GRANT PROGRAM AND THE AGRICULTURAL WATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

There being no action taken on this item, Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 13.

13. BRIEFING ON WATER RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

There being no action taken on this item, Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 14.

14. STATUS REPORT ON THE SAN ANTONIO RIVER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

There being no action taken on this item, Mr. Ruckman called for Agenda Item 15.

15. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Mr. Weaver requested a detailed briefing of how SARA is preparing for the operations and maintenance (O&M) for the Museum Reach and how it's looking so far.

16. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING:

● **UPDATE ON CPS ENERGY REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) SCHEDULE**

Mr. Graham informed the Committee that, to date, SARA still has not heard anything from CPSE regarding this issue.

● **UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR,**

Mr. Graham recalled Mr. Raabe's earlier mention of a joint meeting with GBRA is to be held on March 25, 2009.

● **FUTURE BOARD AND/OR COMMITTEE MEETINGS,**

Mr. Graham announced that there will be a Special Board meeting held on March 18, at 1pm regarding SAWS 50 year water plan. Also, on April 6, there will be an Operations Committee and Fiscal Committee meeting.

● **MEETINGS INVOLVING THE ATTENDANCE OF ONE OR MORE BOARD MEMBERS.**

Mr. Boenig announced that there will be a public meeting at 7pm later on in the evening to discuss the Stream Restoration Program. There will be a consultant visiting from North Carolina and another from Alabama to discuss the success stories of stream restoration in their area.

17. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Operations Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2009 at 2:00 pm.

18. ADJOURN

There being nothing further to report, Ms. Sutherland moved to adjourn, and therefore, Mr. Ruckman called the meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

PREPARED AND RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD APPROVAL BY THE MANAGER.

SUZANNE B. SCOTT, General Manager

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AT
THE MEETING HELD ON APRIL 6, 2009.**

H.B. RUCKMAN III, Committee Chairman

ATTEST:

ADAIR SUTHERLAND, Committee Secretary