

## **GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY**

### **Minutes of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority met in a regular monthly meeting on September 17, 2014, at the GBRA River Annex Board Room, 905 Nolan, Seguin, Guadalupe County, Texas. Directors present were Oscar H. Fogle, Tommy Mathews, Robert “Rusty” Brockman, Grace G. Kunde, Kenneth Motl, Dennis L. Patillo, and Don B. Meador. Directors Darrel McLain and William R. Carbonara were absent. Also present were W. E. West, Jr., General Manager; Tom Bohl, General Counsel; James Murphy, Executive Manager of Water Resources and Utility Operations; Alvin Schuerg, Executive Manager of Finance and Administration; LaMarriol Smith, Executive Manager for Strategic Communications and Public Affairs; Todd Votteler, Executive Manager of Science, Intergovernmental Relations and Policy; David Welsch, Executive Manager of Business Development and Resource Management; Gary Asbury, Manager of Project Engineering; Barbara Gunn, Human Resources Manager; Tommy Hill, Chief Engineer; Debbie Magin and Michael Urrutia, Director(s) of Water Quality Services; Bryan Serold, Operations Manager-Lower Basin; John Smith, Operations Manager-Upper Basin; Teresa Van Booven, Project and Community Representative; Cricket Dietert, Executive Assistant to the General Manager; Leigh Crettenden, IT Manager; Carl Westergard, Web Master; Jaynellen Ladd, Natural Resource Specialist; Tommy Schulte, Regional Representative; Darel Ball, Division Manager-Hays/Caldwell; Tammy Beutnagel, Public Communications

Assistant; Rod Voss, Maintenance Supervisor-Guadalupe Valley Hydroelectric Division; Clint Retzloff, Control Room Operator-Guadalupe Valley Hydroelectric Division; Jeremy Stanton, Operator-Rural Utilities Division; Jorge Rojas, Division Manager-Comal/Kendall; Carrie Kasnicka, Grant Writer/Administrator; Justin Turner, Lab Technician-Seguin Regional Laboratory; Jeff McKee, Assistant Division Manager-Hydro/Rural Utilities; Dan Alonso, Executive Director of the San Antonio Bay Foundation; Roger Nevola, legal counsel; Jim Dublin with Dublin and Associates; David Engel with Engel and Associates; Steve Holzheuser, legislative consultant; Stefan Schuster with MWH Global; Kathy Fretwell and Mat Garcia with Kennedy/Jenks; Monica Jacobs with Kelly, Hart and Hallman; Adam Conner with San Antonio Water System; Alan Thompson with LNV Engineering; Dianne Wassenich with San Marcos River Foundation; and Greg Bowen with the New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung.

Chair Fogle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and took note of the certifications presented that notice of the meeting had been properly posted in the office of the Secretary of State, in the Guadalupe County Courthouse, and at the GBRA main office and river annex in Seguin, Texas, pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code. A quorum being present, the following proceedings were had:

Chair Fogle led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and Texas flag.

The Chair called for comments from the public. There were no public comments. Chair Fogle asked for a moment of silence in memory of Skyler Ognoskie, grandson of

GBRA employee Allen Ognoskie, who was tragically killed in a car accident. Chair Fogle welcomed and recognized GBRA employees Rod Voss, Clint Retzloff, Jeremy Stanton, Michael Urrutia, Jorge Rojas, Carrie Kasnicka, and Justin Turner.

The Chair called for **Chair Item 1 - Consideration of and possible action authorizing the expenditure of funds for Directors and staff to attend the Texas Water Conservation Association fall meeting, October 15-17, 2014, at the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio, Texas.** Upon motion by Director Patillo, seconded by Director Mathews, the Board unanimously authorized the expenditure of funds for Directors and staff to attend the Texas Water Conservation Association fall meeting.

Next, the Chair called for **Consent Item 2 - Consideration of and possible action approving the minutes of the August 20, 2014, Board meeting; Consent Item 3 - Consideration of and possible action approving the monthly financial report for August 2014; Consent Item 4 - Consideration of and possible action approving the monthly operations report for August 2014; and Consent Item 5 - Consideration of and possible action approving Directors' expense vouchers.** Upon motion by Director Meador, seconded by Director Motl, the Board unanimously approved Consent Items 2, 3, 4, and 5.

The Chair then called for **General Manager Item 6 - Discussion of the Executive Report addressing various matters relating to safety, utility operations, meeting with Fair Oaks Ranch City Council, meeting with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to discuss a source water assessment and protection**

program in connection with the Cities of Luling and Lockhart and Polonia Water Supply Corporation, meeting with the City of Point Comfort, water supply contract with the City of Port Lavaca, water resources operation including engineering reports relating to meetings with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on Canyon Reservoir operations and related matters, issues relating to Region L planning meetings, dam safety studies at TP-4 and Nolte Dams, meetings on low flows in the Lower Guadalupe Basin, construction management topics, Mid-Basin Water Supply Project, Integrated Water Power Project, Johnson Ranch Subdivision, FM 110 Bypass in San Marcos, Water Quality Division and Regional Laboratory activities including reports on sampling and laboratory procedures, Clean River Program, Plum Creek Projects, Texas Water Utilities Association, meetings with the City of Buda and renewal applications for Buda, Larremore, Dunlap, Canyon Park Estates and Shadow Creek, Geronimo Creek Watershed Protection Plan, Environmental Flows Project, reports on vegetation and invasive species, water quality including meetings on bacteria issue in the Comal and Dry Comal, meetings on the Upper San Marcos Water Protection Plan, sampling in the San Marcos and Comal Rivers for impacts of heavy holiday recreation, interviews for a water quality technical position, TDA/TWIA Real Hog Farm VTA Project report, San Antonio Bay Foundation, economic and community development matters including meetings with Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative representatives, lake associations, Southwest Research Institute representatives, City of Bulverde

(regarding Singing Hills), Gorge Preservation Society Board, acquisition of property for the Six-Mile pump Station expansion, meeting with various community representatives from the lower basin, report on the H-5 Pilot Project with Goat Scapers, project development matters including water and/or wastewater services at Johnson Ranch, City of Bulverde (Singing Hills), City of Boerne (Fair Oaks Ranch), Park Village and 4-S Ranch, Dunlap area, reports on Canyon Lake Wastewater Master Plan, property management issues, Developer Project Guidelines, water supply studies, resource protection including lake management on the Hydro Lakes, Zebra Mussel campaign, water safety, flood preparedness, planned flood warning safety presentation for Gonzales County, activities at the Canyon Lake/Sattler office, reports from the Gorge Preservation Society, information technology reports, human resource reports, and accounting and finance reports. James Murphy briefed the Board on GBRA operation and engineering activities. Darel Ball briefed the Board on a water quality issue in the City of San Marcos and Hays County area relating to lead in specific areas of the City and Hays County's drinking water system. Bryan Serold briefed the Board on GBRA's log jam removal operations on the Guadalupe and San Antonio Rivers. David Welsch briefed the Board on water quality, regional laboratory, economic and community development, and business development activities. Alvin Schuerg briefed the Board on finance, human resource, and information technology activities. Mr. Schuerg also briefed the Board on the financial statements executive summary for the period ending August 31, 2014. LaMarriol Smith introduced Carrie Kasnicka, GBRA's new Grant

Writer/Administrator. Ms. Kasnicka gave the Board a brief background on her experience. David Welsch introduced Michael Urrutia and gave a brief background of his experience with GBRA in various Divisions and his promotion to Director of Water Quality Services upon the retirement of Debbie Magin. Michael Urrutia introduced Jorge Rojas and gave a background on his experience operating water and wastewater plants and congratulated him on his promotion to Division Manager-Comal/Kendall.

The Chair called for **Action Item 7 - Consideration of and possible action authorizing the General Manager to negotiate and execute a Joint Funding Agreement between the United States Geological Survey and the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority for the period October 2014 through September 2015.**

GBRA has contracted with the United States Geological Survey since the early 1960's to provide stage and stream flow gauging and water quality testing at various sites. The United States Geological Survey typically provides approximately 33-50 percent funding for selected sites. The contract includes funding for thirteen gauges and testing for pesticides in the Calhoun Canal System. In Fiscal Years 2014-2015, the United States Geological Survey will pick up 100 percent funding for Coletto Creek near Victoria, Coletto Creek near Schroder, and the Guadalupe River at Bloomington under the National Stream-flow Information Program. With the excess funds, GBRA is adding a gage on the Blanco River near San Marcos at the Highway 80 Bridge and on the Guadalupe River above New Braunfels at the third crossing along River Road. The proposed 2015 contract with the United States Geological Survey includes GBRA's continued participation in the Jacob's Well water quality site. Upon motion by Director

Patillo, seconded by Director Kunde, the Board unanimously authorized the General Manager to negotiate and execute a Joint Funding Agreement between the United States Geological Survey and GBRA for the period October 2014 through September 2015.

Next, the Chair called for **Action Item 8 - Consideration of and possible action authorizing the General Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority.** GBRA, the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority have prepared an agreement that provides for the Upper Guadalupe River Authority's participation and support of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust. The Upper Guadalupe River Authority supports the continuation of the existing Memorandum of Understanding for an additional five years. GBRA and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority have recognized the significant advantages of the joint support of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, which include sharing a mutual commitment to the stewardship of the Guadalupe River; sharing a mutual commitment to understand the distribution, condition of and threats to biological diversity in the Guadalupe watershed; and sharing a mutual commitment to working cooperatively with landowners, communities and others to identify, understand and resolve conservation challenges. Director Meador abstained from any discussion and vote on Action Item 8 because he is currently working with the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust to place a conservation easement on his ranch in Hays County, Texas. Upon motion by Director Brockman, seconded by Director Motl, the Board authorized

the General Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority, Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Fogle, Mathews, Brockman, Motl, Kunde, and Patillo  
Noes: None  
Abstentions: Director Meador

A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is attached and made a part of these minutes.

The Chair then called for **Discussion Item 9 - Discussion regarding the activities and transactions of the Edwards Aquifer Authority, South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee, and the Guadalupe Basin Coalition.** Todd Votteler briefed the Board on activities of the Edwards Aquifer Authority, the Edwards Aquifer Recovery Implementation Program Habitat Conservation Plan, the Guadalupe Basin Coalition, and the South Central Texas Water Advisory Committee. Dr. Votteler also briefed the Board on the current status/decline of Comal Springs as a result of the current drought conditions.

The Chair called for **Discussion Item 10 - Discussion regarding the activities and transactions of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust, the San Antonio Bay Foundation, the Gorge Preservation Society, and the Guadalupe River Foundation.** Todd Votteler briefed the Board on activities of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Trust including activities of the State Highway 130 Mitigation Project. Dan Alonso briefed the Board on the activities of the San Antonio Bay Foundation. LaMarriol Smith



briefed the Board on the activities of the Guadalupe River Foundation including receipt of their 501(c)(3).

Next, the Chair called for **Discussion Item 11 - Discussion regarding Base Flow Report, Water Quality Index, and condition of the Guadalupe Basin.** The reports were discussed with the Board. Tommy Hill briefed the Board on the Comal Springs level, San Marcos Springs level, Guadalupe River stream flows, elevation of Canyon Reservoir and other reservoirs, rainfall events, and the U. S. Drought Monitor Seasonal Outlook.

The Chair then called for **Discussion Item 12 - Discussion regarding local and State water planning and water resource issues.** General Manager West briefed the Board on an upcoming meeting with elected officials to discuss activities on the San Marcos River and an upcoming Emergency Management Coordination meeting.

The Chair called for **Discussion Item 13 - Discussion regarding national water planning and water resource issues.** General Manager West briefed the Board on activities relating to “The Waters of the United States”, the Endangered Species Act, and other national issues.

The Chair recessed the open meeting at 12:04 p.m. The Chair then closed the open meeting and convened the meeting in executive session at 12:42 p.m. pursuant to Chapter 551, Texas Government Code. The Chair reconvened the meeting in open session at 1:52 p.m.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m. subject to call by the Chair.

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Chair

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Secretary