

**Executive Management Committee Quarterly Meeting
Austin-LCRA Water Partnership
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 25, 2022
Location: LCRA Redbud Center
Meeting Time: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Greg Meszaros, Austin Water	Anna Bryan-Borja, Austin Water
Kevin Critendon, Austin Water	Ross Crow, City of Austin
Teresa Lutes, Austin Water	Michael Hoffman, Austin Energy
Marisa Flores Gonzalez	John Hofmann, LCRA
Jaynell Nicholson, Austin Water	Monica Masters, LCRA
Sara Eatman, Austin Water	Greg Graml, LCRA
Helen Gerlach, Austin Water	Ron Anderson, LCRA

Meeting Minutes:

1. Standing Items:

- a. Review agenda: Agenda was reviewed; no items added.
- b. Review/approve minutes: Minutes were approved with a correction to item 2—update “Greg Graml” to “Greg Meszaros”.

- 2. EMC member composition:** Greg Meszaros updated the group that he will be leaving the City and that Robert Goode will be the interim acting director for Austin Water. Greg recommends that the Robert Goode be appointed to the EMC and take over his duties until the new director is appointed.

- 3. Update on basin conditions:** Teresa Lutes directed the group’s attention to handouts illustrating recent Highland Lakes inflows compared to historical averages, the ranking of lowest inflow years, calendar year historical inflows since 1942, and 12- and 24-month total historical inflow. Teresa pointed out how these datasets indicate the significant low-inflow period we are experiencing.

John Hofmann reviewed overall basin conditions, including the US drought monitor for Texas, review of the last seven months compared to projections, ENSO conditions, and upcoming projections for combined storage. If trends continue as expected, LCRA may implement partial or full curtailment of interruptible customers per the WMP July 1st test.

- 4. 2021 Partnership Annual Report review and approval:** The EMC reviewed the draft 2021 Partnership Annual Report and had no edits. The committee approved the report as written and provided signatures on the final, approved report.

5. Water planning updates:

- a. Water Supply Resource Report: John Hofmann provided an update on the Water Supply Resource Report (WSRR) work that LCRA has been doing. LCRA has been reaching out to customers to develop demands to use in the WSRR. Overall, most customers have been asking that projected population and demands be increased for the WSRR as compared

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to the Region K plan. Greg Meszaros stated that Austin Water wants to stay in sync with LCRA as we go through our respective resources planning processes so that we can share data and communicate about assumptions. Monica Masters informed the group that the first stakeholder meeting for the WSRR is expected to be about demand projections.

- b. Water Forward 2024: Marisa Flores Gonzalez provided an update to the group about Water Forward 2024 (WF24), which is an update to the 2018 Water Forward Plan. The update to the plan will incorporate 2020 census data and updated climate and hydrology projections, among others. Marisa commented that past climate work and the preliminary work that has been done for WF24 indicated that although average precipitation is not projected to change, it is expected to come in less frequent, more intense bursts, with longer dry periods in between. AW is hoping to coordinate with LCRA on projected demands, scenario analysis, LCRA supply strategies, and regional needs, among other things. AW plans to cover these topics at future Technical Committee and EMC meetings.

Greg Meszaros also mentioned that the WF24 update will include consideration of the Colorado River Basin land analysis that AW has been evaluating. This is a process to evaluate land in the Colorado River Basin for its water quality and water quantity impacts and consider possible land protection strategies that may be used. John Hofmann emphasized the importance of the Highland Lakes Discharge Ban.

6. Committee reports:

- a. Technical Committee: LCRA is the Technical Committee coordinator for 2022/2023. Ron Anderson updated the group on Technical Committee items so far this year. Ron suggested that we send out the schedule outlook soon after each meeting so that that information is available to everyone in a timely manner. The EMC will be reviewing assignments for the Technical Committee at today's meeting.
- b. Committee composition: Monica Masters updated the group that, per previous discussion in the Technical Committee meeting, she and Kevin Critendon will stop regularly attending Technical Committee meetings, but we will be available as needed to participate moving forward. If policy guidance is needed in between the regularly scheduled quarterly EMC meetings, the group discussed being able to have an off-cycle Teams meeting or scheduling EMC workshops to address those topics outside of the quarterly EMC meetings.

LCRA is working to identify a replacement for Rebecca Batchelder's former position on the Technical Committee. Katie Coyne will be the new City of Austin appointee to the Water Quality Committee, along with Kevin Critendon. LCRA will also review their Water Quality Committee membership and update the group with new appointees as needed.

7. 2022 Committee priorities:

- a. Technical Committee: The group reviewed the draft 2022 EMC assignments to the Technical Committee that was provided and adopted the list with no edits.

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- b. Water Quality Committee: The group reviewed the draft 2022 EMC assignments to the Water Quality Committee that was provided and adopted the list with no edits.
- 8. **Other Items**: Monica Masters updated the group that David Wheelock is planning to change roles away from the Water Resources Director position and LCRA will be seeking a new person for that role.
- 9. **Adjourn**: The EMC meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.