

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

Meeting Date: September 28, 2023
Location: LCRA Redbud Building
Meeting Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Shay Ralls Roalson, Austin Water	John Hofmann, LCRA
Anna Bryan-Borja, Austin Water	Monica Masters, LCRA
Teresa Lutes, Austin Water	Greg Graml, LCRA
Marisa Flores Gonzalez, Austin Water	Ron Anderson, LCRA
Helen Gerlach, Austin Water	
Sara Eatman, Austin Water	
Ross Crow, City of Austin Law Dept.	

Meeting Minutes:

1. **Arrival and Welcome:** The EMC meeting began at 10:06 a.m. Shay Ralls Roalson welcomed everyone to the meeting, and the group did a round of introductions.
2. **Standing Items:**
 - a. Review agenda: Agenda was reviewed; no items added.
 - b. Review/approve minutes: There were no comments on the minutes, but since one EMC member was not present at the meeting, minutes will be approved by email by the full EMC.
3. **Basin condition update:** John Hofmann provided an update on current basin conditions. Several community members provided public comment at the last LCRA board meeting about their concerns with lake management, including concerns about water being released for agriculture and hydro. Hydro releases have generally lined up with peak demand periods, so very little water has been lost from required hydro releases. LCRA will seek to continue this as much as possible through the winter when demands are lower. Garwood has only used half of its allotted stored water for the year so far, with only about a month left in the irrigation season. LCRA customers are implementing their drought conservation plans (DCPs), but have not seen significant savings so far. LCRA may be considering adding inflow triggers or additional levels to their DCP to bring on more significant conservation measures earlier in drought. LCRA is targeting February approval of their new DCP, but anticipate approval by July at the latest, in advance of the firm customer meeting in November.
4. **Committee reports:**
 - a. Technical Committee: Ron Anderson provided an update on Technical Committee progress. The Technical Committee has met twice since the last EMC meeting. The smaller water management optimization subcommittee is continuing to work together and look for times to meet.
 - b. Water Quality Committee: Monica Masters provided an update on the water quality committee; no meetings of this committee have been held since the last EMC meeting.

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Ross and Greg are going to review the bylaws and determine if this committee can meet on an as-needed basis.

5. Water planning updates:

- a. Water Supply Resource Report next steps: Monica Masters provided an update on LCRA's Water Supply Resource Report (WSRR). LCRA presented an update on the WSRR to their board last week, including presenting a goal of achieving 60,000 AF of additional supply in the upper basin by 2040.
- b. Water Forward 2024 update: Marisa Flores Gonzalez provided an update on the Water Forward 2024 plan work. Austin Water is currently working to develop the preliminary needs analysis and are planning to present those results at the November Task Force meeting. One consultant is currently online to assist with water management strategy characterization, and another will be online shortly to assist with water management strategy assessment and vulnerability evaluation.

6. Domestic and livestock study update: Ron Anderson provided an update on the domestic and livestock study update that LCRA is conducting, including a time-lapse of Google Map images showing the proliferation of small dams in the Highland Lakes watershed. LCRA is currently working with Texas State to continue this research.

7. South Llano Dam item: Teresa Lutes shared with the group that Austin Water has been directed by Council to put together a contested case hearing submittal to oppose the South Llano Dam. TCEQ is planning to hold another public meeting on the dam permit application in Llano. LCRA is generally in alignment in opposing the dam, and has concerns with the proliferation of exempt domestic and livestock ponds in the upper basin.

8. PFAS settlement and water quality testing: Shay Ralls Roalson provided an update on Austin Water's (AW's) testing for PFAS in both tap water and raw water. AW expects to have results in the next few weeks for 29 types of PFAS. The PFAS settlements (3M and DuPont) are based on PFAS levels and water pumpage, and AW will make a determination about staying in or opting out of the PFAS settlement once testing results are back.

9. Follow-up from 9/20 LCRA Board Meeting: Monica Masters noted that many of the elected officials who came to speak at the Board meeting left after the update from Bob Rose, so did not hear the update about LCRA's planning process. Teresa Lutes also noted that we would like to regroup on this topic at an upcoming Technical Committee meeting to discuss in more detail.

10. Other Items: Monica Masters reminded the group that there is a Region K meeting on Wednesday.

11. Adjourn: The EMC meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.