



Water Operations Committee Agenda

Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023
LCRA General Office Complex
Board Room – Hancock Building
3700 Lake Austin Blvd.
Austin, TX 78703
Earliest start time: 1 p.m.

Action/Discussion Items

1. Comments From the Public 3
2. Approve Committee Meeting Minutes 5
3. Basin Conditions Update
4. LCRA Interruptible Water Proposed Rates and Rules Changes
5. Update on Firm Water Contracts and Inventory

Executive Session

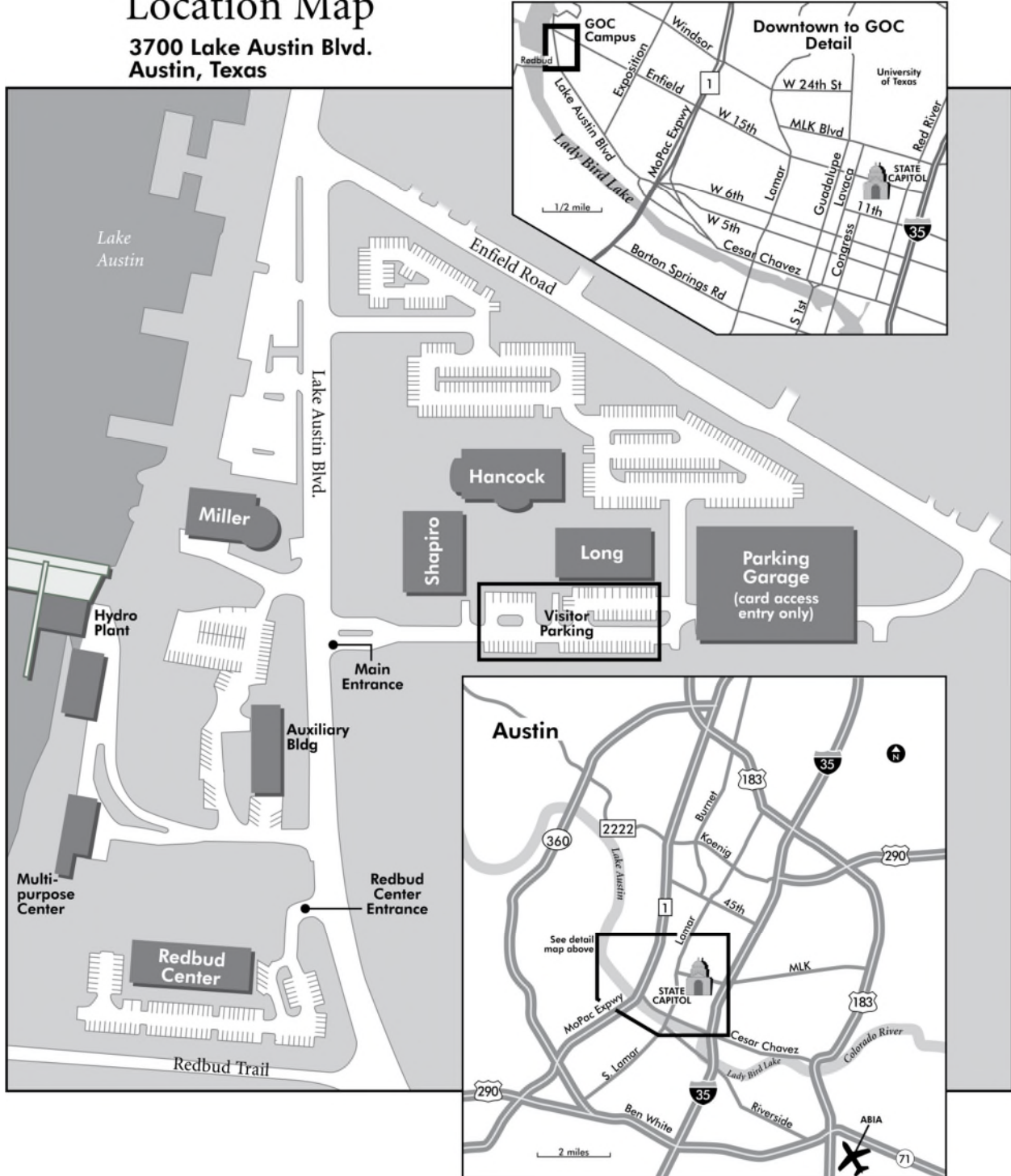
The committee may meet in executive session on any item listed above, pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code, including, but not limited to, sections 551.071, 551.072, 551.074, 551.076, 551.086, 551.089 and 418.183(f) of the Texas Government Code.

Legal Notice

Legal notices are available on the Texas secretary of state website 72 hours prior to the meeting at the following link: <https://www.sos.texas.gov/open/index.shtml>

LCRA General Office Complex Location Map

3700 Lake Austin Blvd.
Austin, Texas



FOR DISCUSSION

1. Comments From the Public

Summary

This part of the meeting is intended for comments from the public on topics within the scope of the Water Operations Committee but not related to an item on the committee agenda. No responses or action may be taken by the committee during public comments.

In order to address the committee, a member of the public is required to sign and complete the registration form at the entrance to the meeting room. Please see the Protocols for Public Communication at Board and Committee Meetings as shown in Exhibit A for details.

Any member of the public wishing to comment on an item listed on this agenda will be called to make comments at the appropriate time.

Exhibit(s)

A – Protocols for Public Communication at Board and Committee Meetings

EXHIBIT A

PROTOCOLS FOR PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AT BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Approved by the LCRA Board of Directors on Dec. 11, 2018

- 1. Oral Presentations on Issues Under LCRA's Jurisdiction.** Any person wishing to make an oral presentation at a Board meeting on any matter under LCRA's jurisdiction must complete a registration form that indicates the agenda item or other topic on which they wish to comment, along with the speaker's name, address and other relevant information. Any person making an oral presentation to the Board may distribute related materials to the Board at the meeting.
- 2. Time Allocation.** The presiding officer may limit the length of time for each speaker. Speakers may not trade or donate time to other speakers without permission from the presiding officer, and repetitive testimony shall be minimized.
- 3. Rules of Decorum.** Speakers and members of the audience must avoid disruptive behavior that interferes with the orderly conduct of a public meeting. Placards, banners, and hand-held signs are not allowed in Board or committee meetings, and speakers and members of the audience must avoid personal affronts, profanity, booing, excessive noise, and other disruptive conduct. The presiding officer may direct that anyone who disrupts a meeting be removed from the room.
- 4. Recording.** Any person making an audio or video recording of all or any part of a Board meeting must do so in a manner that is not disruptive to the meeting. During a meeting, members of the public must remain in or behind the public seating area and are not permitted to record from any other area of the meeting room.
- 5. Committee Meetings.** The protocols outlined in 1-4 above also apply to members of the public wishing to address any LCRA Board committee whose membership comprises the entirety of the LCRA Board on matters within the scope of each of those committees.

FOR ACTION

2. Approve Committee Meeting Minutes

Proposed Motion

Approve the minutes of the Sept. 20, 2023, meeting.

Committee Consideration

Section 2.09(d) of the LCRA bylaws states the committee may approve meeting minutes.

Budget Status and Fiscal Impact

Approval of this item will have no budgetary or fiscal impact.

Summary

Staff presents the minutes of each meeting to the committee for approval.

Exhibit(s)

A – Minutes of Sept. 20, 2023, meeting

EXHIBIT A

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
WATER OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LOWER COLORADO RIVER AUTHORITY
Austin, Texas
Sept. 20, 2023

Pursuant to notice posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, the Water Operations Committee (committee) of the Board of Directors (Board) of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) convened in a meeting at 10:02 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023, in the Board Room of the Hancock Building, at the principal office of LCRA, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd., Austin, Travis County, Texas. The meeting was open to the public, and the following committee members were present, constituting a quorum:

Thomas Michael Martine, committee chair
Michael L. "Mike" Allen
Matthew L. "Matt" Arthur
Melissa K. Blanding
Stephen F. Cooper
Carol Freeman
Thomas L. "Tom" Kelley
Robert "Bobby" Lewis
Hatch C. Smith Jr.
Timothy Timmerman
Margaret D. "Meg" Voelter
Martha Leigh M. Whitten
David R. Willmann
Nancy Eckert Yeary

Absent: Joseph M. "Joe" Crane, committee vice chair

Chair Martine convened the meeting at 10:02 a.m. and led the committee in pledges of allegiance to the American and Texas flags. Director Whitten provided an invocation.

The committee heard public comments [Agenda Item 1]. The following speakers provided comments related to the drought conditions, drought response and water supply:

Burnet County Commissioner Joe Don Dockery, in his individual capacity; Travis County Commissioners Brigid Shea and Ann Howard; Williamson County Commissioner Terry Cook; Llano County Commissioner Linda Raschke; Shannon Hamilton, executive director of Central Texas Water Coalition (CTWC); Kirby Brown from Ducks Unlimited, representing the Lower Colorado River Basin Coalition; Cindy Smiley, attorney who

represents CTWC; Carol Philipson; Carl Jones, a Spicewood property owner; Charles Poer; Lynne Johnson, a Lake Travis resident; Ron Del Principe, president of Barton Creek Lakeside Property Owners Association, also representing Lake Buchanan Community Association and Lake Cliff on Lake Travis; Frank Cooley, a member of CTWC Board of Directors; Patti Aarons, a Lake Travis resident; David Lindsay, a member of CTWC Board of Directors and vice president of Technical Research for CTWC.

Speakers expressed their concerns about the hotter and drier weather, increasing population growth, low inflows into the Highland Lakes, and current lake levels. Some urged LCRA to take steps to protect water supplies in light of current conditions, including move to Stage 3 of LCRA's drought contingency plan now; revise water availability models to include current and update-to-date hydrological data; and start the process now (before 2025) to update the Water Management Plan.

Some speakers requested LCRA include drought and water updates on Board agendas monthly.

A speaker representing stakeholders from lower basin counties expressed concerns about how the current drought situation affects everyone in the basin and the health of the river and bay. He expressed their belief that the current Water Management Plan is working and backed by science, and support for LCRA as it continues to implement the plan.

23-04 Upon motion by Director Arthur, seconded by Director Cooper, the committee unanimously approved the minutes of its last meeting, held Aug. 22, 2023, as presented.

Chief Meteorologist Bob Rose presented a weather update and outlook.

Vice President of Water Resources Monica Masters presented an update on LCRA firm water contracts and inventory. Masters presented the Water Supply Resource Report. Masters also presented an update on LCRA's water supply planning.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Thomas Michael Martine, Chair
Water Operations Committee

Approved: Nov. 15, 2023

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