

## Llano River Watershed Alliance

Board of Directors Meeting August 3, 2023, 6:00pm

### Kimble County Historical Museum Meeting Room

**Attendees:** Linda Fawcett, Scott Richardson, Melissa Burnard, Martha Richardson Andrew Burnard, Glen Coleman, Nol Dear, Art Mudge

**Absent:** Ruthie Russell

**Visitors:** Joe Hernandez, Bill and Barbara Barnes, Kellie Early (Rep. Andrew Murr's representative) Wendy and Craton Hastings, Mark and Rene Cole, Steve Totten

1. Approval of Consent Agenda Scott made the motion to accept. Glen seconded, unanimous
  - a. June 8, 2023 Minutes
  - b. Treasurer's Report 6/8/23 to 8/2/23
2. **Linda welcomed to Visitors. Introductions**
3. **Volunteer Action Item:** Call for Volunteer Hours related to the mission of the Alliance **SINCE June 8, 2023.** Pass sign-in sheet around the Board for volunteer hours.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
  - a. Scott Richardson, Martha Richardson, Andrew Burnard, Linda Fawcett: Efforts to galvanize Llano Watershed support due to TCEQ's granting of Public Meeting on August 10 in Rocksprings, with a new 30-day Comment Period in-progress until then.
    - **Visitor, Kellie Early, Rep. Andrew Murr's representative,** spoke about TCEQ's public meeting procedure. She stated that there were 2 parts to the public meeting. The first part would be opportunities for questions and comments, but would not be on the record. The second part of the meeting would go on the record, time allowed for people signed up to speak will be determined by number wishing to speak. All comments, both at the meeting and on TCEQ's online site will be counted equally.
    - Linda stated that there were 782 public comments on the TCEQ's online database. She has been sorting them on a spreadsheet to determine duplicates. There have been 110 new comments this year. (2023)
    - LRWA continues to promote the public meeting in Rocksprings, on the listserve, in newspaper articles. On 8/2 Linda had an interview with KXAN (an Austin TV station) regarding the Waterstone dam, which will be aired on Wed. 8/9.
    - Linda and Andrew have attended both Junction City Council meeting and Kimble County Commissioners' meeting to promote Rocksprings public meeting.
  - b. Andrew made a recording of the Liberty Hill Wastewater July 26-28 contested hearing. He questioned the board on whether to publish it on the LRWA website or listserv. The board decided he should keep his copy and make it available if needed
  - c. Linda made a brief report on timeline for the Wastewater Conservation Coalition Group Grant and LRWA's Wish List. No particular timeline as of yet. She will include this information in the next newsletter.
  - d. **SARP GRANT Linda and Scott**
    - Grant extension status. Linda reported that she had filed for the extension and was waiting for approval or not. The current extension expires at the end of September 2023.
    - LRWA may collaborate with Upper Llanos Soil and Water Conservation District on a "land management for drought" workshop, scheduled for Sept. 27. Linda and Scott will attend a meeting with ULSWC on 8/9 to discuss. Scott asked the board for a motion to allow he and Linda to have the authority to make a decision on whether to participate. Nol made the motion, as stated above, Glenn seconded it, and it was unanimous.
    - Linda had reported that there had been no landowner consultation visits since the last board meeting.
    - Next proposed workshop report: Scott reported that he had sent Meredith Allen a draft outline of a possible workshop on groundwater/surface water, consisting of panel, tentatively made up of Meredith Allen, KCGWD manager, Allison McDonald, hydrologist, and Dr. Douglas Tolleson,

associate professor with the Texas A&M AgriLife Research station in Sonora. He read over the draft outline and asked for input on number of attendees to pursue. Everyone agreed to around 100 and thought it would be a popular topic. This may be contingent on whether or not the SARP grant is extended.

- Scott then reported that the plans for streambank/riparian restoration demonstration site was temporarily held up until the state Historical Commission had made a survey of the site. He said survey was made and site approved for planting, which will begin in the Fall or after conditions improve.

**e. Arundo Grant Report:** Linda, Melissa, Glen

- Melissa stated that one reimbursement invoice had been paid by TPWD the others are still pending
- Glen reported that he had some contact with landowners, but because of the heat and drought conditions he had not been working at it too hard.
- Linda made the announcement that Blake Leslie had taken a job on a South Texas Ranch and has resigned from LRWA board

**f. Website and city or county government news:** Andrew

- A two year extension has been made on the WIX agreement, which administers the website
- There have been many hits on the website since the most recent developments with the Waterstone dam.
- Information from the website on the dam has been shared on Instagram by Sarah Yant, an Austin based landscape designer.
- Andrew reported on 2023 and 2024 eclipse: numbers expected: 5,000 for 10/2023, 30,000 for 2024

**g. Newsletter:** Linda

- Now will be soliciting content for September 30 edition.

**h. In executive session** the board reviewed and discussed the attendance record of board member Ruthie Russell

- After going out of executive session, a motion was made by Scott to remove Ruthie from the board and it was seconded by Art. Board members, Scott, Martha, Art, Linda, Andrew, Melissa, and Nol voted "yes". Board member Glen voted "no".

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

**a. Recruitment of new members**

- Steve Totten, a visitor at this meeting, has expressed interest in being on the LRWA board He was given the board participation policy to read and attend the next board meeting if he wants to be considered.
- There was a discussion of possible ways to recruit from downstream populations. A social event was suggested to be held in Llano.

**b. HCA's leadership summit**

- Linda expressed interest in attending again this year. Scott made a motion for Linda to be LRWA's representative and to pay for her attendance. Nol seconded it, unanimous.

## 6. NEXT MEETING DATE: Oct. 12, 2023. Meeting Adjourned.