



**ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES WEDNESDAY
December 5, 2012**

The Environmental Board convened in a public hearing meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2012, at City Hall Council Chambers. 301 W. Second Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Board Members in Attendance:

Bob Anderson, Mary Gay Maxwell, Robin Gary, Marisa Perales, Mary Ann Neely, James Schissler and Jennifer Walker

Staff in Attendance:

**Chuck Lesniak
Erin Wood
Kevin Thuesen
Marilla Shepherd
Mary Priddy
Matt Hollon
Sherri Kuhl**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Chair Mary Gay Maxwell called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

2. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS: GENERAL**
Speaker should sign up to speak prior to the meeting called to order; you will receive a three-minute allotment for concerns not posted on the agenda.
 - **Tomas Pantin signed up to speak about Emma Long Park Trails.**
 - **Ben Douglas signed up to speak about Emma Long Park Trails.**
 - **Scott Johnson signed up to speak about clean air initiatives.**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND ACTION ITEMS**
Approve the minutes of the Environment Board regular meeting on November 7, 2012
The minutes from the November 7, 2012 regular meeting were approved on Board members Robin Gary's motion and Mary Ann Neely second.
[Vote 7-0-0-0]
 - a. Environmental Officer's report on, hot topics, and past Board actions – Chuck Lesniak, Watershed Protection Department
 - **Chuck reported that Jeremiah Ventures Wastewater Permit is being heard at the State of Texas Administrative Law. The hearings have been postponed for 60 days.**

- **The TXI Ordinance regarding the ground water monitoring program is being discussed by the City and County. Staff is monitoring this Chuck will ask the County to respond to the citizens emails.**
- **The Green Water Treatment Plant Heritage Trees are being review by the contractor and city arborist and should have a plan for the trees soon.**
- **Austin Water Utility is requesting additional funding from City Council for Water Treatment Plant 4. Staff will update the Environmental Board on this in January 2013.**

4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
None.

5. STAFF BRIEFING AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Environmental Awareness Awards – Mary Priddy, Office of Sustainability
This item was conducted as posted.
- b. RCA for WQPL Land Management– Kevin Thuesen, Austin Water Utility
This item was conducted as posted. Kevin Thuesen will take the Environmental Board members on a tour of the Water Quality Protection Lands.
- c. Briefing on Watershed Protection Ordinance –Matt Hollon, Watershed Protection Department
This item was conducted as posted.

6. OLD BUSINESS AND REPORTS

- 1) Update on the Joint Environmental/Parks Board Subcommittee – Mary Ann Neely, and Jennifer Walker.
No report this week.
- 2) Urban Growth Policy Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, James Schissler, P. E., and Marisa Perales
No report this week.
- 3) Water Treatment Plant #4 Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Chair, Bob Anderson, Robin Gary & Mary Ann Neely.
No report this week.
- 4) Development Committee – Bob Anderson, Chair, Mary Gay Maxwell, Marisa Perales, and James Schissler.
No report this week.
- 5) Water Quality Regulations Committee – Mary Ann Neely, Chair, Robin Gary, & Jennifer Walker.
Mary Ann Neely discussed a field trip to the Water Quality Protection Lands.
- 6) Watershed Protection Budget Committee – Mary Gay Maxwell, Mary Ann Neely & Bob Anderson
No report this week.
- 7) Reports from Board representatives to other committees.
No report this week.

7. NEW BUSINESS - Future agenda items
 1. **Update date on Air Quality – Pharr Andrews**
 2. **Update on what the City of Austin’s position on Air Quality.**
 3. **Update from Sherri Kuhl regarding the closing of the Emma Long Park trail.**
 4. **Request for a special work session meeting on January 9, 2013 with PDRD Environmental Review Staff.**

8. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Mary Gay Maxwell adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.