



RECORD OF DECISION

Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan
Scientific Advisory Committee
Regular Meeting

August 9, 2017 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Reicher Ranch BCP
3621 Ranch Road 620 South
Austin, TX 78738

Present

Jean Krejca, Chair
Craig Farquhar, Vice Chair
Sam Whitehead
John Cornelius
David Steed
Kimberlee Harvey, BCCP
Secretary

Absent

Amie Treuer-Kuehn

1. **Citizens Communication** - None
2. **Chair and Vice-chair Elections** Jean Krejca elected for Chair, and Craig Farquhar elected for Co-Chair. Appointment by acclamation with unanimous consent.
3. **Approve Record of Decision from 11/03/2016** – Krejca made a motion to approve, seconded by Cornelius, carried 5/0
4. **Review of Updated Draft SAC Guidelines** - SAC Guidelines were updated at the direction of the Coordinating Committee and with the help of the Secretary and the SAC. The Secretary read through the new guidelines with the SAC and the group discussed the changes and had opportunity for feedback. The guidelines were updated to better describe the composition of the SAC member expertise, reflect the reduction in regular meetings, and language was added stating that members would be expected to uphold the SAC By-Laws and support the BCCP Shared Vision mission. The guidelines will be presented to the Coordinating Committee for approval at their next meeting on September 1, 2017.
5. **SAC Member Replacement**- BCCP Secretary announced she will convene an Advisory Committee Task Group to review candidates and make recommendations for a new SAC member to replace Nico Hauwert. The task group will include the BCCP Secretary, Travis County BCP Manager, City of Austin BCP Manager, LCRA BCP Manager, Sunset Valley BCP Manager, Citizens Advisory Committee Chair or delegate, Scientific Advisory Committee Chair or delegate, Coordinating Committee members' delegates (appointed for staffs of each member).

6. **BCP Partner Reports Q&A** - SAC members had no additional questions pertaining to the FY17 Q1, Q2, or Q3 BCP staff reports.
7. **Status Update of Selected BCP Permit Caves and Cave Issues** – Nico Hauwert Ph. D., gave updates on research, restoration, and outreach happening in Get Down Cave, Flint Ridge Cave, Blowing Sink Cave, Slaughter Creek Cave, and the Goat Cave Karst Preserve. He also discussed a proposed road bypass connection project happening in the vicinity of BCP caves in the FM 2222 / FM 620 area and mentioned some of the CODENEXT comments regarding cave restoration.
8. **Current Topic Discussions**
 - a. Members' issues and concerns – Farquhar mentioned the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) efforts to put the Golden-cheeked Warbler into the category of least concern, and the lawsuit filed by the Texas Public Policy Foundation to delist the Golden-cheeked Warbler from the endangered species list on behalf of the Texas General Land Office. The SAC made the decision to form a special research task group to examine the science being referenced by the organizations proposing the delisting and review the literature and status assessments performed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
9. **Next BCCP SAC Meeting:** November 1, 2017 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm at Reicher Ranch BCP

Meeting adjourned at 12:05pm