



MINUTES

UPPER TRINITY CONSERVATION TRUST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 14, 2014

REGULAR SESSION BOARD MEETING:

1. Call to Order.

The Board of Trustees of the Upper Trinity Conservation Trust convened with President Trent Lewis presiding at 8:40 AM on Thursday, August 14, 2014 in the Board Room of Upper Trinity Regional Water District at 900 N. Kealy, Lewisville, Texas.

2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum.

The attendance of the Trustees was taken. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Trustees in Attendance:

Trent Lewis, Place 7, President
Janet Aune, Place 2, Secretary/Treasurer
Leslie Maynard, Place 3
Robert Harpool, Place 5

Thomas Muir, Place 6, Vice President
Shirley Haisler, Place 1
Doug Franklin, Place 4
Ken Dickson, Place 8

Trustees Absent:

Lyle Drescher, Place 9

Vacant:

Staff & Advisors of Upper Trinity Regional Water District in Attendance:

Thomas E. Taylor, Executive Director
Jason Pierce, Manager / Watershed & Contract Services
Nancy Tam, Assistant to Executive Director
Brenda Scott, Sr. Executive Secretary

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Trent Lewis

Invocation: Leslie Maynard

4. Adopt minutes of June 12, 2014 Trust Board Meeting.

Leslie Maynard made a motion to approve the June 12, 2014 minutes as presented. Seconded by Shirley Haisler. The votes were all Yes. Motion carried.

5. Oath of Office.

President Lewis administered the Oath of Office for reappointed Trustees Shirley Haisler, Place 1, Bob Harpool, Place 5; and, newly appointed Trustee Leslie Maynard, Place 3.

6. Receive Report from Staff concerning on-going activities of the Trust.

- Mr. Taylor reported that a portion of the proposed Lake Ralph Hall is within the Caddo National Grasslands. Instead of UTRWD buying those tracks of land within the boundary from the federal government, UTRWD is purchasing other lands not currently in the Caddo National Grassland and swapping for the land that's within the lake boundary. The UTRWD Board recently authorized the purchase of 93-acres for this purpose.
- This fall may be a good opportunity for a Trust Board meeting in Ladonia. The watershed of Lake Ralph Hall is about 15% of the County - - but, the Trust can start by being a leader and getting to know the watershed and key stakeholders. UTRWD has installed its watershed signs in several strategic locations in Fannin County along the North Sulphur River.
- Updated Trust rosters were distributed to the Trustees.
- The Trust received an invitation from the local Ag Extension Office to be a sponsor of the North Texas Cattlemen's Conference on October 24. The conference covers five local counties (Grayson, Collin, Denton, Fannin and Cooke). Its purpose is to share information concerning cattle industry and ranch / land management - - and fits within the Trust's current Work Program. There are various sponsorship levels - - the Trust will participate in the \$200 level. The Conference will be held at the Covenant Cross Roads Church in the Town of Cross Roads on October 24, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Trustees were encouraged to attend.
- UTRWD has hired Blake Alldredge to assist with Education and Outreach efforts, as well as with Trust activities and programs. Mr. Alldredge is currently working for Texas AgriLife in College Station, and is the lead author of the publication distributed "Riparian Restoration on Farms and Ranches in Texas". He is well versed in land management, has done a lot of outreach, and has worked with other non-profits in water education. Mr. Alldredge's title will be Water Resources Specialist and will begin September 2nd.
- Dr. Dickson announced that the Dixon Foundation is having a workshop regarding Holistic Resource Management in September.
- Staff reported there was no update on the potential conservation easement in Flower Mound.

7. Financial Matters:

- A. Consider approval of invoices from Upper Trinity Regional Water District for reimbursement of prior costs incurred by Trust, and authorize payment thereof.

The financial statement of expenditures was reviewed and discussed. Staff recommends approval of invoice (3rd Quarter of FY2014 (April 2014 - June 2014) Invoice No. W1407UTCT for \$1,632.43).

Shirley Haisler made a motion to approve Invoice No. W1404UTCT for payment. Seconded by Dr. Janet Aune. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

- B. Review year-to-date Trust expenses; discuss proposed budget for FY 2015, and take appropriate action.

As required by the Bylaws, the Trust is to submit its proposed budget to UTRWD by August 1 of each year. The Trust's budget will be included as part of UTRWD's overall budget. The proposed FY'15 budget included in the packet has been sent to UTRWD, and can be modified if needed.

The proposed budget for FY 2015 was reviewed and discussed.

- Funds have been included from UTRWD and the Watershed Partners Program. Also, new funding is expected from Denton County and UTRWD to support the preparation of the Greenbelt Plan for Denton County.
- Expenses are similar to prior years. The preparation of the Greenbelt Plan for Denton County was included in the budget - - the cost of which is to be shared equally between the Trust, UTRWD and Denton County.
- After review and discussion by the Trustees, Staff recommended approval of the proposed budget for 2015.

Janet Aune made a motion to approve the proposed budget FY 2015. Seconded by Leslie Maynard. The vote was all Yes. Motion carried.

8. Consider proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Upper Trinity Conservation Trust:

At the last meeting, the Trustees discussed the possibility of amending the Bylaws regarding terms of office. Based on the discussions, Staff presented the following changes for the Board's consideration.

- A. Trustee Term of Office (Section 2.2). This section relates to term limits. Currently, Trustees can only serve two 3-year terms without going off and coming back on. The proposed change is that each Trustee could serve consecutive terms regardless of number of years served.
- B. Officer's Term of Office (Section 3.1). The Term of Office for Officers of the Trust is currently one 1-year term. The proposed change is for the Officers to serve two-year term.

To amend the Bylaws, it requires a majority of vote of the Trustees then in office. After approved by the Trust's Board, the amendments must be submitted to UTRWD for approval by the Board of Directors.

Staff recommended approval of the Bylaw changes.

After discussion and review of the proposed changes by the Trustees, **Janet Aune made a motion to approve changes to Item 8. A. and B. Seconded by Shirley Haisler.** The votes were unanimous. Motion carried.

9. Discuss progress concerning activities and goals in Trust's Annual Work Program Guidelines.
 - A. Review final draft of Request for Proposals for a greenbelt plan to provide protection of riparian zones and important natural assets and take appropriate action.

A draft Request for Proposals to complete a Comprehensive Greenbelt Plan for Denton County has been prepared and sent to Denton County for review; Dr. Ken Dickson has reviewed the proposal and has offered several comments - - now being considered as part of the final product. Mr. Taylor has discussed the concept of a greenbelt plan with County Judge Mary Horn. The County desires that the Plan be voluntary, one that coordinates existing programs - - not to be a regulatory document. Staff will finalize the Request for Proposals and have ready to release when the budget is effective October 1. Trustees were asked to submit their comments to Staff by September 1.

Thomas Muir made a motion to approve the Request for Proposal (RFP) contingent upon any comments submitted prior to September 1. Seconded by Bob Harpool. The votes were all yes. Motion carried.

- B. Discuss plans for Watershed Partners Networking Breakfast meeting tentatively scheduled for fall.

Staff provided a briefing regarding prior Breakfasts and mentioned that it has been two years since the previous Watershed Partners Breakfast. Typically, the Breakfast is held in early to mid-November. Staff suggested setting a date so plans may be started.

The purpose of the Breakfast is to educate and inform about the Trust's programs and activities. Dates discussed included the second week of November or the last week in October - - the preference being October 29th. Staff will inform the Board once a date has been set and will coordinate with the Promotions and Events Committee to plan the Breakfast

10. Review agenda items, activities and announcements for future Board meetings.
Items mentioned for next meeting review:
 - Watershed Partners Breakfast
11. Confirm date, time and location of next meeting.

If the Trust continues a 2-month schedule, the next scheduled meeting would be Wednesday, October 8, 2014.

12. Visitor Comments.

None.

13. Adjournment.

Doug Franklin made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 A.M. Seconded by President Trent Lewis. The votes were all yes. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.

Recorded By:



Brenda Scott, Asst. Secretary
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust

Certified By:



Dr. Janet Aune, Secretary / Treasurer
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust