



MINUTES

UPPER TRINITY CONSERVATION TRUST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MAY 12, 2011

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 8:45 A.M. on Thursday, May 12, 2011, 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:

Janet Aune, Place 2	Bruce Arledge, Place 3
Doug Franklin, Place 4	Robert Harpool, Place 5
Thomas Muir, Place 6	Trent Lewis, Place 7
Ken Dickson, Place 8	Don Hill, Place 9

Trustees Absent:

Linda Williams, Place 1

Also present was Shirley Haisler.

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

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Trent Lewis led the Pledge of Allegiance. Thomas Muir provided the Invocation.

4. Consider appointment of Trustee for Place 8 on the Board of Trustees for a three-year term beginning June 1, 2011.

The current term for Dr. Ken Dickson in Place 8 expires May 31, 2011. Dr. Dickson agreed to reappointment.

Don Hill made a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Ken Dickson to Place 8 on the Trust Board for a 3-year term starting June 1, 2011. Seconded by Janet Aune. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

5. Oath of Office for newly appointed Trustees.

Tom Taylor briefed the Board that the Upper Trinity Board of Directors, at their May meeting, voted to reappoint Robert (Bob) Harpool to Place 5. Mr. Harpool's new 3-year term will expire May 31, 2014.

Linda Williams, serving in Place 1, declined reappointment. The Upper Trinity Board of Directors voted to appoint Shirley Haisler to Place 1 for a 3-year term expiring May 31, 2014.

Ms. Haisler is very active in the Farm Service Agency, has served on the Appraisal Review Board for Denton County, and her son-in-law was appointed by Past President Bush to serve as the National Director for the NRCS Program. She has insight into the rural needs, culture, and environment; and, she and her husband have a 280-acre farm on Clear Creek.

President Lewis administered the Oath of Office to Shirley Haisler (Place 1), Bob Harpool (Place 5), and Dr. Ken Dickson (Place 8). The new terms of office are effective June 1, 2011.

6. Conduct election of Officers for the year beginning June 1, 2011.

Officers of the Trust serve a one-year term. Officers currently serving are:

Trent Lewis, President
Thomas Muir, Vice President
Linda Williams, Secretary / Treasurer

Staff recommended the re-election of the current Officers, with the exception of the office of Secretary / Treasurer. Linda Williams declined reappointment.

Janet Aune made a motion to re-elect the present President and Vice President as recommended by Staff for a one-year term beginning June 1. Seconded by Dr. Dickson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

President Lewis opened the floor for nominations for the office of Secretary / Treasurer.

Bob Harpool made a motion to elect Janet Aune as the Secretary / Treasurer for a one-year term beginning June 1. Seconded by Thomas Muir. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

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

Tom Taylor discussed the momentum that is building regarding the topic of watershed protection. A meeting was held on May 10, 2011 by the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) to discuss watershed protection for area reservoirs. Interested stakeholders (city officials, consultants, developers) attended this meeting about the watersheds of Grapevine, Lewisville and Ray Roberts Lakes. Representatives from Dallas and Denton were present, who hold the water rights in Lewisville and Ray Roberts Lakes. There is a growing interest in

watershed protection, which is encouraging, while we still have something to protect - - not waiting until the water in the lakes are polluted.

UTRWD sent Dallas and Denton official inquiries about their interests in participating in UTRWD's watershed protection program - - with an option to become directly involved in the Trust. Dallas has indicated they would like to meet and discuss the program. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

Tom Taylor reminded the Trustees about their required Open Meetings training, and asked if anyone hadn't turned in their Certificate of Completion to do so as soon as possible.

8. Adopt minutes of March 10, 2011 Board Meeting.

Dr. Janet Aune made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2011, meeting. Seconded by Dr. Ken Dickson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

9. Discuss recent Committee meetings.

Promotions / Events Committee – Focus of the committee is to assist with developing brochures, presentations, and other marketing materials for the Trust. This committee also helps organize events, and educate the public. Their first meeting was held on May 9, 2011.

The committee also discussed initiating a “branding” effort with the UTCT logo in order that the brochure, website, and an introductory powerpoint presentation would be synonymous with each other, look the same and be tied to one another. In addition, the general brochure and the development of the UTCT website are needed.

Mr. Taylor offered funds from the UTRWD's watershed protection program fund in order to have a consultant assist with the “branding” effort.

Acquisition Committee – The Acquisition Committee will focus to identify potential land owners who have riparian corridors on their property and who are interested in conservation easements.

At the suggestion of Dr. Ken Dickson, Tom Taylor approached Lantana to inquire whether or not the development would be interested in placing the riparian / hike and bike areas in Lantana in a conservation easement. Lantana may be interested in pursuing a conservation easement after the fact, and will discuss with their HOA.

Development Committee – This committee's primary focus is on fundraising. This committee feels there is a need for social marketing, possibly a symposium or a summit to help educate landowners about conservation easements.

10. Discuss plans for proposed events to be hosted or co-hosted by the UTCT.

The Trustees discussed the possibility of having a breakfast with local Mayors, Council Members, professionals, decision makers and city staff to announce UTCT's land conservation program and pull together potential partners in the overall watershed protection efforts of both UTCT and UTRWD. On a continuing basis, the partners program would be used to share information about watershed related issues and to find ways to work together.

Trustee Bruce Arledge mentioned an article in the Cowboy & Indians magazine (cowboysindians.com) regarding Land and Water Conservatorship of Land Trusts. It is an educational article on a nationwide effort to conserve land.

11. Confirm date, time and location of next meeting.

President Lewis suggested having the Trustees attend UTRWD's annual Member's Breakfast to be held on July 13. He feels it would be an excellent time to meet some of the people that might be involved in the Partners Program.

Next meeting date was set for Wednesday, July 13 following the UTRWD Member's Breakfast.

12. Review future agenda items, activities and announcements for future Board Meeting.

Agenda topics for next Trustee's meeting:

1. Trustee pledges to donate to UTCT, subject to IRS approval of 501(c)3.
2. Partner Program
3. Project for Acquisitions Committee

13. Visitor Comments.

None.

14. Adjournment.

Doug Franklin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Janet Aune. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Recorded By:



Brenda Scott, Asst. Secretary
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust

Certified By:



Trent Lewis, President
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust