



**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS
WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING
CITY HALL- TEJAS ROOM
550 LANDA STREET**



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023 at 3:00 PM

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
4. **CITIZENS' COMMUNICATIONS**

This time is for citizens to address the Committee on issues and items of concerns not on this agenda. There will be no Committee action at this time.

5. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**
 - A) Elect Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions
 - B) Presentation on Dry Comal Creek and Comal River Watershed Protection Plan
 - C) Presentation on the City of New Braunfels Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System program
 - D) Presentation on the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan
 - E) Presentation on Potential White-Tailed Deer Management within the City Limits of New Braunfels
6. **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**
7. **ADJOURNMENT**

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the above Notice of Meeting was posted on the bulletin board at the New Braunfels City Hall.

Board Liaison

NOTE: Persons with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need auxiliary aids or services such as interpreters for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired, readers, or large print, are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at 221-4010 at least two (2) work days prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

11/30/2023

Agenda Item No. A)

PRESENTER:

Phillip Quast, Watershed Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Elect Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions

DISCUSSION:

Excerpt from "BYLAWS OF WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS"

Section 4.2 Duties of Officers:

Section 4.2.1 Chair - The Chair shall preside and participate at all meetings of the Committee, shall appoint sub-committee chairs, and shall have the authority to appoint sub- committee members. In addition to these duties, the Chair has the same rights and responsibilities as the other members of the Committee.

Section 4.2.2 Vice-Chair - The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair as needed and shall serve as the presiding officer in the absence of the Chair. In addition to these duties, the Vice Chair has the same rights and responsibilities as the other members of the Committee.

Section 4.2.4 Terms of Officers - Each officer appointed by the committee shall hold their office for one (1) year. All resignations from an office shall be submitted in writing to the Chair. Any resignation or removal from the Committee shall constitute a resignation from an office of the Committee. Officers appointed by the Committee cannot serve in the same position for more than three (3) consecutive terms. No member may serve in more than one officer position at a time.

RECOMMENDATION:

Elect Committee Chair and Vice-Chair positions

11/30/2023

Agenda Item No. B)

PRESENTER:

Phillip Quast, Watershed Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Presentation on Dry Comal Creek and Comal River Watershed Protection Plan

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, River and Watershed Division**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** All**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The City of New Braunfels and its project partners are currently moving forward with the implementation of a Watershed Protection Plan (WPP) to address bacteria concerns in the Dry Comal Creek and Comal River watersheds. Phase One of the Dry Comal Creek/ Comal River WPP kicked off in August 2015 and included efforts to characterize the watershed, assemble a working stakeholder group and define bacteria load reductions needed to meet applicable water quality standards for bacteria. Phase Two involved continued stakeholder involvement, identification of bacteria management measures, and development of a watershed protection plan. The current implementation phase, which began in September 2018, will take the work plans developed during Phase Two and put those plans into action. Partners on the Dry Comal Creek/ Comal River WPP include the City of New Braunfels, ARCADIS, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Edwards Aquifer Authority and Guadalupe Blanco River Authority (GBRA).

More information about the Dry Comal Creek and Comal River Watershed Protection Plan can be found at NewBraunfels.gov/wpp.

ISSUE:

No current issue or decision associated with this item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The DCCCRWPP is funded through a grant provided by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation associated with this item.

11/30/2023

Agenda Item No. C)

PRESENTER:

Phillip Quast, Watershed Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Presentation on the City of New Braunfels Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System program

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, River and Watershed Division**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** All**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

A "separate storm sewer system" includes ditches, curbs, gutters, storm sewers, and similar means of collecting or conveying runoff that do not connect with a wastewater collection system or treatment plant. To be a "municipal separate storm sewer system" (MS4), the system must be owned or operated by a public agency such as a city or town, a municipal utility district, flood control district, or other special district, a county, a state or federal agency. To manage stormwater pollution and comply with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) MS4 permit requirements, the City of New Braunfels has developed a Storm Water Management Program (SWMP). The SWMP outlines programs and Best Management Practices (BMPs) the City will implement in order to minimize pollution associated with stormwater runoff.

More information about the City of New Braunfels MS4 program can be found at NewBraunfels.gov/ms4.

ISSUE:

No current issue or decision associated with this item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The current MS4 program is funded by the City of New Braunfels General Fund.

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation associated with this item.

11/30/2023

Agenda Item No. D)

PRESENTER:

Phillip Quast, Watershed Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Presentation on the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, River and Watershed Division

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: All

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP) is a cooperative effort to protect groundwater resources of the southern portion of the Edwards Aquifer both for people in the region and the endangered species that inhabit the aquifer. Planning for the EAHCP began in 2006 and was completed in November 2012 and led to the approval of an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) under the Endangered Species Act issued by the USFWS in February 2013. The permittees under the EAHCP are the City of New Braunfels, the City of San Antonio (acting by and through the San Antonio Water System), the City of San Marcos, Edwards Aquifer Authority, and Texas State University. Issuance of the ITP was a significant milestone to balance both the human and species needs of the Edwards Aquifer.

More information about the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan can be found at NewBraunfels.gov/HCP

ISSUE:

No current issue or decision associated with this item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan is funded by the Edwards Aquifer Authority.

RECOMMENDATION:

No recommendation associated with this item.

11/30/2023

Agenda Item No. E)

PRESENTER:

Phillip Quast, Watershed Supervisor

SUBJECT:

Presentation on Potential White-Tailed Deer Management within the City Limits of New Braunfels

DEPARTMENT: Public Works, River and Watershed Division**COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED:** All**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

“White-tailed deer populations within the United States have undergone tremendous change within the past two centuries. Unregulated market hunting and extensive habitat modification resulted in the near extirpation of the species by the early 1900’s. However, white-tailed deer numbers have dramatically increased during the past few decades. Natural habitat succession, deer restoration programs, intensive management efforts, predator control programs, public education campaigns, and the deer’s natural adaptive abilities have all contributed to historic high deer densities across the United States. Currently, an estimated 4 million deer reside in Texas, alone. In many areas of the state, deer population densities have exceeded the land’s ability to sustain them. In other areas, deer densities have exceeded society’s ability to tolerate them. These unnaturally high deer densities can present significant ecological, social, and economic problems for a variety of stakeholders.” - TPWD, 2006

New Braunfels City Council has directed staff to prepare a proposal for white-tailed deer population management within the city limits. As staff is beginning to research topics related to urban wildlife management to inform this proposal, we wish to obtain the consideration of the WAC on the topic as it relates to watershed health and water quality concerns.

ISSUE:

Consider appropriateness of white - tail deer population management within the city limits to address property damage, vehicular collisions, and water quality concerns.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Information currently unavailable

RECOMMENDATION:

N/A