



UPPER TRINITY
CONSERVATION TRUST

MINUTES

UPPER TRINITY CONSERVATION TRUST
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

REGULAR SESSION BOARD MEETING

1. Call to Order.

The Board of Trustees of the Upper Trinity Conservation Trust convened with Vice President Thomas Muir presiding at 8:31 AM on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

2. Roll Call and Certification of Quorum.

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

Trustees in Attendance:

Thomas Muir, Place 6, Vice President

Lissa Shepard, Place 2

Russell McNamer, Place 4

Lyle Dresher, Place 9

Shirley Haisler, Place 1

Leslie Maynard, Place 3

Robert Harpool, Place 5

Trustee Absent:

Trent Lewis, Place 7, President

Trustee Vacancy:

Vacant, Place 8

Staff in Attendance:

Jason Pierce

Blake Alldredge

Larry Patterson

Rae Langston

3. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation.

Pledge: All

Invocation: Thomas Muir

4. Adopt minutes of November 11, 2021 Trust Board Meeting.

Leslie Maynard made a motion to approve Minutes of November 11, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Lyle Dresher. The votes were all yes. 0 no. Motion carried.

5. Receive report from Staff concerning on-going activities of the Trust.

- Concerning Lake Ralph Hall, construction of the State Highway 34 bridge and the Leon Hurse Dam construction is progressing. Staff shared a video of the Annual Status Report and the January 2022 Project Update Brochure. The Mitigation Contract was awarded for Lake Ralph Hall. Land Acquisition for Lake Ralph Hall is nearly complete.
- Staff will be presenting to the American Society of Civil Engineers Dallas Chapter about the Trust and Denton County Greenbelt Plan during their monthly meeting on March 14th.
- There may be a future County-wide bond election regarding open space and water supply preservation and the Trust was asked to provide examples of programs from other areas. Staff provided examples from Collin and Hays counties to Denton County Judge Eads for his information in developing a bond proposal.

6. Discuss the vacancy of Place 8 on the Trust Board.

The Trust still has a vacancy for Place 8, which is a direct appointment by the Trust Board. Trustees have expressed an interest in having someone from the Ladonia area on the Trust Board to represent landowners near the future Lake Ralph Hall. Staff is working to present candidates for the Board's consideration soon.

7. Financial Matters.

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

Leslie Maynard made a motion to approve two invoices (W2111UTCT for \$4,384.06, and W2201UTCT for \$4,565.65) from Upper Trinity Regional Water District for reimbursement of prior costs incurred by Trust and authorize payment thereof. Seconded by Lyle Dresher. The votes were all yes. 0 no. Motion carried.

8. Receive report from Acquisition Committee on potential acquisition of conservation easement in the Lewisville Lake watershed and take appropriate action.

The Acquisition Committee met February 9th, 2022, to discuss a potential conservation easement opportunity. Steve Ray, the Natural Resources Conservation Service Conservationist in Denton, introduced Staff to a landowner with 118 acres of land east of the City of Aubrey. The property has been in the landowner's family since the 1890's. There are no heirs, and the landowner is interested in preserving and protecting the family land against future development with a conservation easement.

Staff presented an assessment of the property to the Acquisition Committee, and the Committee recommends the Board authorize staff to move forward with the process of acquiring a conservation easement from the landowner.

Leslie Maynard made a motion to authorize Staff to move forward, in taking the necessary steps to acquire a conservation easement on the approximately 118-acre property east of the City of Aubrey and south of FM 428. Seconded by Shirley Haisler. The votes were all yes. 0 no. Motion carried.

9. Discuss progress concerning activities and goals in Trust's Annual Work Program Guidelines.

The 2022 Work Program Guidelines were reviewed. No changes were needed and Mr. Muir signed them as is.

A. Landowner Workshop in Decatur on November 19, 2021.

Staff and Mr. Russell McNamer attended the workshop and presented information about conservation easements and the Trust. Other workshop topics included estate planning and agricultural lease information. There were approximately 30 landowners in attendance with a high interest in land stewardship activities. Good feedback about the program was received.

B. Website Update.

The Trust's new website has made great progress in development. The focus areas of the homepage are Educate, Protect, and Advocate. There are also buttons on the homepage to direct viewers to the pages on conservation easements, the Denton County Greenbelt Plan, the Grant Program, and upcoming events. Staff will receive final comments from the Trust Board and finalize development of the website.

C. Brochure Update.

The Trust's updated brochure with the new logo has been designed in-house by UTRWD staff. Comments and suggestions are welcome.

D. Agricultural Conservation Easement Program.

Staff continues to coordinate with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and submit materials to enroll as a third-party land trust in this program.

E. Watershed Partners Program.

Renewal notices will go out soon.

10. Review agenda items, activities and announcements for future Board meetings.

- Staff reports the City of Lewisville has planted vegetation for its Elm Fork Kayak Launch Revegetation Project, which was the first project to receive funding from the Grant Program. A press opportunity along with photos are being planned for that.

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

Tentative date set for April 28, 2022, in person.

12. Visitor Comments.

None.

13. Adjournment.

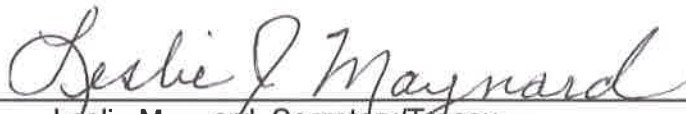
There being no further business, Thomas Muir motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:57 AM, Seconded by Leslie Maynard. The votes were all Yes. 0 no. Motion carried.

Recorded By: _____



Rae Langston, Assistant Secretary

Certified By: _____



Leslie Maynard, Secretary/Treasurer
Upper Trinity Conservation Trust