

Irrigator Advisory Council (IAC) Approved Minutes

Note: These draft meeting minutes are posted for review and comment by meeting attendees. They will be available for comment at the next meeting of the Irrigator Advisory Council at which time they will be voted on for adoption.

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2020

Time: 9:00am

Location: Due to COVID-19, this meeting was held remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Call to Order

Micah Reed

Mr. Micah Reed, IAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Chelsea Atkinson introduced herself and provided discussion guidelines to help minimize communication issues during the meeting.

The present members of the council introduced themselves: Mr. Micah Reed, Mr. Mark Warden, Ms. Valerie Miller, Mr. Robert Evans, Mr. Brooke Furrh, Mr. Charles Swanson, Ms. Donna Starling, Mr. Phillip Hathaway, and Mr. David Moulton.

TCEQ staff also introduced themselves: Ms. Chelsea Atkinson, Mr. Shannon Frazier, Ms. Marilyn Gates, Ms. Katherine McGlaughlin, Ms. Tamara Calhoun, Ms. Jaya Zyman, Ms. Shannon Watson. Also, in attendance was: Charles Middleton, Rebecca Moore, and Pamela Ezeani.

The members of the public were asked to introduce themselves and state their professional affiliation before speaking.

Approval of the Minutes from Previous Meeting

No comments were received from the previous meeting held on August 6, 2020, and Mr. Mark Warden made a motion to approve the minutes. A second to the motion was made by Brooke Furrh and the vote to adopt the minutes was unanimous.

Nomination of New IAC Chair and Term Expiration

Micah Reed

Mr. Micah Reed stated that his council term, as well as the terms of 2 other council members, will be expiring in February. Mr. Reed added that there will need to be a vote for the new IAC Chair. The Chair of the council will be nominated ~~will be nonmined~~ in February 2021 and must have been on the council for a minimum of 2 years.

Nomination Postings and Process

Micah Reed and Shannon Frazier

Mr. Micah Reed and Mr. Shannon Frazier spoke regarding the rotation of members. Mr. Frazier suggested that Mr. Reed should discuss with the council to determine what projects the council would like to take. Mr. Frazier stated that 3 new members will need to take the place of the outgoing council members: there are 2 irrigator openings and 1 non-irrigator opening for council seats. Mr. Frazier added that information about the council openings was sent via the Listserv, and urged interested individuals to contact [Shannon Frazier](#) and [Chelsea Atkinson](#). The openings were posted on the Texas Register on October 30, 2020 and will remain open until December 4, 2020. The Landscape Irrigation Program hopes to have the nominees selected by the February 2021 council meeting.

Mr. Brooke Furrh inquired whether the two irrigator positions should be filled by individuals who are geographically spread out. Ms. Atkinson responded that candidates would be considered based on a geographical spread and experience, among other qualities. Mr. Furrh stressed that experience was important for council positions, and Mr. Frazier agreed.

Discussion and Selection of 2021 Meeting Dates

Micah Reed

Mr. Reed informed the council that meeting dates are typically held on the first Thursday of each quarter. Mr. Frazier requested adjusting the February meeting date to after February 10, 2020. The council agreed to move the February IAC meeting to February 18, 2020. Mr. Charles Swanson requested that the council set the May 2020 meeting date. Mr. Frazier added that the May meeting date can be moved back to the first Thursday per the typical schedule.

The tentative meeting dates for the Irrigator Advisory Council meetings will be:

- February 18, 2021
- May 06, 2021
- August 05, 2021
- November 04, 2021

Individuals Wishing to Address the Council

One person addressed the council to express frustration that the TCEQ rules did not label all irrigation systems as health hazards. A discussion was then held over the classification of all landscape irrigation systems as health hazards. Mr. Phillip Hathaway made a motion for the council to go on record as classifying all irrigation systems as a health hazard. Mr. Doug Moulton seconded the motion. Mr. Charles Swanson and Ms. Donna Starling request for the vote to be held during the February Council meeting. Mr. Frazier commented that this was already recorded by public response to the rules and decided upon by the TCEQ commissioners. Mr. Micah Reed recommended the Council postpone the motion until the next Council meeting to review the work that has been done on this topic in the past. Mark Warden expressed the importance of having new members have time to research issue. Mr. David Moulton made a motion to table the vote on classifying all irrigation systems as health hazards until the February Irrigator Advisory Council meeting. Mark Warden seconded the motion.

Mr. Jerry Lewis expressed concerns about the council's ability to perform this act, citing the term expiration rule in 30 TAC Chapter 344. Mr. Shannon Frazier explained the caveat for regularly scheduled meetings and stated that it could be extended by moving the meeting to February.

Adjournment

Mr. Charles Swanson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Phillip Hathaway seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.