



**Your
Board
of
Directors**

Point Venture Townhouses, Inc.

November 2012

The President's Report

The message this month is short and sweet. Please vote. Whether it is local, state and or federal, you need to cast your ballot. On the local front, we have two townhouse owners running for the city council: Sonny Ables and Mike Maritz. As you know one vote can make the difference in winning or losing.

On another note, I am sure you see the lake level every day and wonder if it is ever going to be full again. Please read the following articles:

FOR FINAL DISTRIBUTION TO ALL HIGHLAND LAKES BUSINESSES, BOATERS, AND FRIENDS PLEASE. FORWARD AS NECESSARY.

Dear Friends and Colleagues of the Highland Lakes,

As you no doubt know, the LCRA will vote on November 14 about the release of first crop 2013 water to the rice farmers of 209,000 AF, effectively dropping Lake Travis 15-20', and Lake Buchanan 2-4'. This estimate does not include ANY municipal use. At the last Board Meeting, staff stated that they DID NOT recommend the reinstatement of the Emergency Order. Becky Motal has since said that they would revisit the issue on November 14, and stated that "trends were improving" although the LCRA Daily River Report seems to indicate to the contrary.

We are all aware that the Lakes are in serious condition RIGHT NOW. Many areas businesses have already failed and others are in jeopardy. We need a new EO now, with even more stringent criteria to give the Lakes some recovery time. We all know what happened this year, 2012, despite the interruption of most water for agriculture. Absent significant rainfall, the lakes will be in dire straits next year.

I and the Central Texas Water Coalition will be sending the attached letter to the Board of Directors of the LCRA, and GM Becky Motal. May we add your name to the list of signatures for the letter? Please RSVP to me as soon as possible.

Furthermore, my son and daughter in law, Steve and Jodi Allen, will be sending this letter to all our boat slip patrons at Lakeway and Riviera Marinas to ask our clients to add their signatures to the letter. Will you send your clients and friends the same

Charles Lantrip,
President

Pam Giese,
Vice President

Marji Breslow,
Secretary

Charles Baker,
Treasurer

Carl Carameros,
Director

Barry Pasarew,
Director

Eric Carlson,
Director

Clayton Cooke,
Director

C L Roy,
Director

email with the letter attached? Please take the “yeses” and email the list to me by close of business Friday if possible.

Lastly, we plan to run the attached letter (abbreviated) as a full page ad in the American Statesman no later than the weekend of November 10-11. We need to raise approximately \$25,000 to make the placement. Please ask everyone to communicate the amount they will pledge if they wish, and to go immediately to www.OurWater-OurFuture.com and donate using the CTWC PayPal online.

Please, ACT now. We are fighting for the survival of our Lakes, and the future of Central Texans.

Best wishes to all of you, my friends.

Janet Caylor

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Forwarded letter

WATER IS FOR DRINKING AND THRIVING, NOT FIGHTING

November 3, 2012

LCRA Board of Directors

Becky Motal, General Manager LCRA

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is with great concern and respect that we ask you to take immediate action to request and submit to TCEQ for approval, the renewal or re-authorization of an Emergency Drought Order so we do not further jeopardize the drinking water and livelihoods of Central Texas businesses, industries, residences, tourism, and local and state revenues on the Highland Lakes.

Why is this so important?

Facts:

- Lake Travis level is at 633 feet, 32 feet below average this time of year, Lake Buchanan is at 993 feet, or 18 below average.
- If the LCRA “diverts” 183,000 AF of water to the “interruptible” rice industry, which could result in the “release” of 209,000 AF, or 68 billion gallons, enough for upwards of 500,000 households for a year, Lake Travis could drop 16-20 more feet, and Lake Buchanan 2-4 more feet, effectively bankrupting many more area businesses and impacting municipalities.
- By LCRA estimates, if the 25% chance of a drought worse than the drought of record occurs, and 209,000 AF is released for the rice industry, the two lakes would

contain about 12 months of water supply for the 1.5 million people who rely on the lakes for water. Is this a prudent gamble?

- The rice industry pays on average \$6.50 per “acre foot” of water, Citizens of Austin pay \$151. Where is the incentive for rice industry participants to conserve water?
- In 2011, the four Rice industry Districts poured four to six feet of water on land that one rice industry leader recently described on national television as a “barren wasteland”.
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service recently released a study “Status and Trends of Irrigated Agriculture in Texas” indicating that Texas agricultural irrigation averages less than 18 inches per acre annually (a figure that includes the rice farmers 48-60 inches), and central pivot sprinklers are used on 80% of Texas irrigated acres. Dr. Dana Porter said “...there are opportunities for continued improvements in water use efficiency....through use of drought – tolerant crop varieties.....
- Lake Buchanan has never re-filled since May 2008. The Highland Lakes region suffered greatly in 2009, 2011, 2012, and continues to do so. Hundreds of jobs have been lost, hundreds of millions in revenue and property values have been lost, and many service, hospitality, marina, and restaurant businesses are bankrupt, and will not reopen. “Alternating” between the lakes and the rice industry, as suggested by one senior LCRA staffer is flawed reasoning and a miscarriage of responsibility.
- The idea that reservoir drinking water should be “alternated” between the rice industry and Central Texas residents and businesses is also counter to the 1989 Adjudication Order concerning the LCRA: “The supply of stored water pursuant to non-firm, interruptible commitments should be interrupted or curtailed to the extent necessary to allow the LCRA to satisfy all existing and projected demands for stored water pursuant to all firm uninterruptible commitments.”
- The rice industry has received tens of millions in government subsidies over the last decade. The LCRA has paid the shortfall in “water delivery costs” to the rice industry from their “Public Service Fund”. During the drought years of 2011-12, the rice industry used 2 ½ times the amount of water used by all municipalities, who effectively funded the LCRA’s monetary shortfall.
- The demographics of Central Texas have changed radically since the construction of Mansfield and Buchanan Dams. The rice growing counties population was 100,000 people then; and 98,000 people now. The five county MSA for Central Texas had approximately 150,000 people then, 1.5 million now and growing.
- Central Texans know that the Highland Lakes are reservoirs, and subject to fluctuation. No one is requesting “constant level lakes” despite LCRA’s recent statements to the contrary. Furthermore, the Lakes’ water levels are not “staying steady” or trending upward. Utilizing prudent management to protect the health and safety of humans and their livelihoods through operating ranges on the Highland Lakes would provide sustainability through the 21st Century and beyond.
- The Emergency Measure now in effect has fallen short of protecting the waters of the Highland Lakes, as evidenced by the sustained low lake levels. More needs to be done in the future to protect the health and safety of the growing population of Central Texas. Despite the stoppage of water for most agricultural downstream users in 2012, the Highland Lakes are at critically low levels due to the release of

what might have been record levels of water to the rice industry in 2011, despite the worst drought in recorded history. An Emergency Measure for 2013 should include much higher triggers that will allow recovery in the Highland Lakes.

The list of facts goes on.

We would like to inform the Board of Directors of our call to action for all Central Texans:

- Come to the November 14th meeting of the LCRA and speak out for a new and more protective Emergency Measure.
- Write your Legislators demanding the funding of new water resources for Texas, to include long overdue desalinization projects, aquifer storage and recovery, as well as downstream reservoirs and maximum use of existing potential water retainers.
- Demand a restructuring of water pricing for water from the Colorado River Basin. Other river authorities enforce a more balanced approach between firm and interruptible customers. Write the LCRA Board of Directors.
- Conserve! Xeriscape your property. Install low flow shower heads and toilets. Collect rainwater. Get educated about conservation.
- Hold everyone accountable.

We trust that you, the Board and Staff of the LCRA, will choose to make the prudent decisions to protect the water supply and economic engine for Central Texas. Please move immediately to request an Emergency Order to be effective for all of 2013.

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**Board of Director's
Meeting
January 19, 2013
9:00 AM
Venture Room**

Townhouse Architectural Control Committee
Barry S. Pasarew, Chairperson

The Committee's authority originated from the Point Venture Reservations, Restrictions and Covenants. A resolution passed by the Association Board on January 16, 2010 more specifically defined the authority and scope of the Committee. A copy of the resolution can be found on the Association's web site.

Any changes contemplated to the exterior of a townhouse must be requested in advance and in writing. Additional approvals by the Village of Point Venture and the Point Venture ACC will also be required.

The current Committee is composed of three Board members and two members at large. Board members are Barry Pasarew, Carl Carameros and Pam Giese. Members at large are Sonny Ables and Craig Clark.

Owners continue to improve their townhouses by changing exterior paint colors, replacing siding, and more. It is estimated that 130 out of 191 or 68% of the owners have improved the exteriors of their townhouses.

The committee is currently developing written standards to serve as a baseline for approval of owner requests. The standards, once approved by the Committee, are presented to the Board for final approval. Variances to the standards will be considered. The standards will soon be available to owners, designers and contractors on the Association's web site.

OFFICE REMINDERS

WINTERIZING TIME AGAIN

Townhouse maintenance will winterize your townhouse **upon request only.** This service is free which includes water & water heater turned off/all faucets inside and outside opened to drain/ heat system off unless you request a set temperature.

Please let the office know if you desire this service.

TREE TRIMMING: No cutting or trimming of trees in the common areas is allowed without prior permission from Townhouses, Inc. Cutting of Oak trees may carry a fine of \$2,500 per tree.

ALLTOWNHOUSE RULES CAN BE REVIEWED AT: www.pointventuretownhouses.org