



**Regular spring meeting** was called to order at 9:00 am. **Present were:** Jerry Payne –President, Melony Sikes – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Bill Pinchak –2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Donald Cox – Director, Lee Knox – Director, Phillip Wright – Director, Robert Lyons – Director, Jeff Goodwin – Director & Newsletter Editor, Scott Petty – Director, Paul Loeffler – Past President, Robert Moen – Treasurer, and Bruce Healy – Secretary. Also present was Charles Anderson – cook & TNLA, Allan McGinty – ORM Committee Chair & TNLA. [Quorum has been established.](#)

Agenda is approved as presented.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed via email on Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sikes emailed in a correction on the LRS Video. [Loeffler moved to approve minutes as corrected.](#) [Motion seconded by Wright.](#) [Motion carried unanimously.](#)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's Report and associated handouts reviewed by Moen. It should be noted that the Lubbock AM made a profit of around \$7100 (still finalizing a few items). Fund investments are down some from previous balances.

**Current Balances as of (03/31/08):**

TSSRM General Fund	\$ 35,643.73
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$ 45,813.06
TSSRM MSF	\$ 64,097.70
Bill Wyche MSF	\$ 45,813.06
TSSRM Youth Activities EF	\$ 15,001.00

[Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as submitted by Pinchak.](#) [Motion seconded by Goodwin.](#) [Motion carried unanimously.](#)

[Moen has communicated with Cindy Wyche Stroman concerning the Bill Wyche MSF and distribution of BWMSF scholarship funds to winner.](#) [Stroman is working on updating the BWMSF guidelines.](#)

[Moen also updated at the establishment of the AM account by Bob Knight at Citibank and Moen is suggesting that we use this account for all future years as the AM account due to the difficulty of setting up these accounts.](#) [Discussion held on the pros/cons of one universal AM account.](#) [Board suggests pursuing it on a trial basis.](#)

[Sikes arrived at 9:10 am.](#)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S/WEBSITE REPORT:**

- **Newsletter:** Did everyone get it? Goodwin is commended for his excellence in the production of the newsletter.
- **Website:** We have been having problems getting updates in a timely manner with the web host. Thus we have a few options: 1) continue our present course (not recommended); 2) host our website off of the SRM website – we could not keep [www.tssrm.org](http://www.tssrm.org) – it would be something like [www.texas.rangelands.org](http://www.texas.rangelands.org). 3) Totally redesigning the website and paying for the website; 4) keep our layout, but update it; 5) we have a young professional (**Natalie Wolf, NRCS @ Granbury**) interested in working with our website. Discussion held. [Pinchak makes a motion that the TS website contact be changed from Goodwin and Healy to Wolf and that we engage the Society in hosting our website and pay for any website design changes and updates.](#) [Second by Knox.](#) [Motion carried unanimously.](#) [Board recommends web name be \[texas.rangelands.org\]\(http://texas.rangelands.org\).](#)
  - Layout: I think we should update it and then send it to Ann Tanaka.
  - Discussion on website at current web host until the transfer. Goodwin will work with We Love Texas to complete all updates and then work with SRM to complete the transfer.



- One concern – our current web host allows us to have a list server to send out the newsletter. [Loeffler moves to give Goodwin the discretion on working with our current web host on the list serve and rerouting to the new website.](#) Second by [Knox](#). Discussion held. [Motion carried unanimously.](#)

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- **LRS VIDEO & MARKETING PLAN:** Sikes has work in progress for TS to no longer a money making video and have the contract updated. Sikes will now be able to work on the marketing plan with Cornerstone. Currently the marketing will focus on the Ag Teachers conference, The Wildlife Expo, and the TS Annual Meeting. Sikes moves to change contract to have it not be a TS fundraiser, only to recoup production costs. Second by [Wright](#). Motion carried unanimously. Sikes will send [Payne](#) adjusted contract for signature.
- **SRM Embroidery** –\$8 per item, each person to write check to the company. If you didn't bring your items with you, please send them to Sikes within the next 2 weeks. Mail out or internet ordering of items to be delivered at Nacogdoches.
- **SRM Window Decal** – [Payne](#) was pursuing getting a new decal for putting on the outside of the window. If anyone has any ideas on how to get one, let us know. [Pinchak suggested that we contact TSCRA to see what they do as they have the type we are interested in.](#)
- [Payne](#) would also like to see us **come up with magnetic nametags with TS logo and member name on it.** Sikes will look into it to send out to the membership at the same time.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION:** Sikes gave a written report. Has a goal to get the booth redesigned by the Extension Agents meeting in August. Dates for The Wildlife Expo will be October 4-5. [Payne](#) will receive booth registration packet. **ORM Tour** of the Hillingdon Ranch on Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup> near Comfort (9-3) – Kendall SWCD hoping for ~300 people and is coordinating this event and plans to have CEUs available.

#### ANNUAL MEETING:

- **2008 AM (Nacogdoches):** *Report provided.* [Payne](#) updated everyone. [Stellbauer](#) and [Pate](#) are visiting Nacogdoches today to go over details on site. Business meeting will be Wed eve before the mixer.
- Booth price will be \$250 for 2008. [Pinchak](#) would like a board policy for consistency from year to year on booths – base price that can be adjusted for inflation, etc. [Cox](#) commented that no one complained about the cost of the booth at Lubbock. [Pinchak moves that we use \\$275 for 2009 AM and forward, with option to adjust based upon square foot cost in future contracts.](#) Second by [Wright](#). Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously. Healy to update handbook accordingly.
- **2009 AM (Beaumont):** Sikes mailed entire handbook to both co-chairs to update them on what all our committees do. Working on meeting sideboards. BOD meeting will be Wed am. Fishing pm. Tour probably of a salt water marsh, but will leave up to co-chairs [Wes](#) and [Johanna](#).

**AWARDS:** *Peacock provided report.* 5 SRM Honor Awards nominations are to be submitted. [Knox](#) had a question on submitting a TS Award nomination for a out of state member who is a TS member – nomination form indicates that recipient has to be a member of the section – balance left up to the discretion of the committee.



**COLLEGE ACTIVITIES:** REQUEST FROM STATE 4-H FOUNDATION TO WORK WITH COLLEGE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE DIRECTLY TO WORK ON OUR TSSRM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MARKETING PLAN AND POSSIBLY A SPECIFIC SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION.

**ENDOWMENT:** NO REPORT. NO ACTION.

**GRASS ROOTS (formerly County Level) AWARDS:** no report.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:** *Rector sent written report* - All committee members have been confirmed for the 2008 committee. Committee members are visiting and actively seeking potential candidates to be considered for the 2008 ballot. It is the current plan of the committee to use a mail out paper ballot for the 2008 election. Three TS members have already agreed to be considered by the committee as potential candidates for Director. The committee will actively be seeking and working on a recommendation of candidates for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Director to submit to the SRM parent society committee by late November of 2008 or earlier.

**PLANNING (2011 AM):** *Loeffler gave oral report.* He will put out a call to the membership through the newsletter and website. Need to consider sites within the core area – preferred.

McGinty arrived at 10:28 am.

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS:** no report.

**TNLA:** *McGinty/Anderson oral report.* There are 18 members so far. McGinty updated everyone on the history and process of TNLA and the need for the alliance. Set up to be low cost – only one steering committee meeting. Essentially set up a list serve of contacts. First meeting will be to educate the members on how to use the list serve to distribute information. TS involvement – we need to prime the pump and use it... This is the new vehicle to show the members how to use it for educational purposes, and then it will probably just become a vehicle for legislative action. TS could use TNLA to help market/sponsor the ORM Tour at Hillingdon Ranch. Pinchak suggested that we work on a statewide symposia on Prescribed Burning – fact/policy. *As 09 A&E chair, lets do it and have it in a major city.*

**ORM:** *McGinty oral report.* Good shape on ORM. Have TSCRA members in place for ORS award. TSCRA reps Merrill and McCann want us to continue recognizing at both meetings. History of the award reviewed and the partnership. McGinty will work on resolving the discussion needed with TSCRA. Payne will talk with the incoming TSCRA president and McGinty or Pinchak. Healy to update handbook to reflect that ORS winner has to be a member of TSCRA (TS membership optional). Discussed TS involvement.

**PUBLICATION AWARDS:** no report.

**RESOLUTIONS:** Hart notified there was no activity.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** Clayton report – requests BOD guidance regarding scholarship fundraiser process for Nacogdoches. Payne will call and visit with her.

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS:** no report.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES:** Scasta report – excellent. Seidensticker reported that, as of last week, we only have 6 applicants. We can accept up to 40. Please push it hard.



Healy noted that he received an excellent thank you from Will Cohen for sponsoring the Youth Range Workshop and selecting him for the High School Youth Forum – thanks for the education!

**MEMBERSHIP:** Reviewed correspondence with SRM Office regarding membership and expired members. Discussion held on situation. Board is frustrated with how the section membership roster update process is being handled. **Executive Committee – Payne, Sikes, Pinchak, Loeffler** - will send out a letter SRM Board (Rasmussen, Tanaka, Loeffler, cc to all SRM BOD). **Petty** suggested a reduced membership fee for actual ranchers who only then receive Rangelands. *SRM membership is for professional land stewards – we are not attorneys, CPAs, TSCRA, Farm Bureau, etc. – we will never resolve membership until we resolve the schizophrenia of what we want to be. We must be relevant for professional land stewards.* **Loeffler** also reviewed the 6 items on the AC Rangelands subcommittee. There may be some special electronic issues of Rangelands, in addition of the regular issues.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

**RANGELANDS survey:** **Loeffler** provided a copy of the Advisory Council report to the Board of Directors on Rangelands. Available for review are all the comments submitted on the Rangelands Survey from all sections – 31 pages. **Goodwin** asked the researchers how they feel about publishing in Rangelands. **Pinchak** - Rangelands needs to be technically relevant, but not necessarily quantitatively technical. It is recognized that Rangelands has an identity problem that needs to be resolved – but if they change it to too technical, then we won't get a rancher member.

**SRM:** Reminder of the request for proposals for the Center for Professional Education and Development. Call for symposia and abstracts for 2009 AM in Albuquerque.

**Request for sponsorship for Victoria MIG workshop (Reinke):** Board feels we need to support it – normally comes out of Activities and Education Budget. **Pinchak** moves to sponsor in the amount of \$250. **Second by Sikes.** Discussion held. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Request for having announcement fliers on the South Texas Natives Restoration Manual distributed to the membership (Maywald):** Information to be distributed through the newsletter.

**Informational Flier sample (Healy):** **Pinchak** suggests we engage College Activities and Young Professionals to become involved with development of sample fliers.

**Next Meeting:** Mason Mtn WMA, July 25, 2008, at 9am.

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:10 pm. Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.**

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Bruce S. Healy, Secretary