



Regular 3rd quarter meeting was called to order at 9:07 am. **Present were:** Ken Cearley – President, Jeff **Goodwin** – 1st Vice President, Linda **Campbell** – Director, Tony **Dean**—Director, Alfonso **Ortega** – Director, Matt **Wagner** – Past President, Robert **Moen** – Treasurer, Natalie **Wolff** –Secretary. Also present was Dandy **Kothmann** to report on the Youth Activities Committee.

Cearley called the meeting to order; a quorum was established.

Agenda was reviewed and approved by **Dean** (1), **Wagner** (2) – all. New items were added under New Business; Alcohol Prices at TSSRM AM, TSSRM support Prescribed Burn Alliance, & Landowner Steward Luncheon.

MINUTES: Minutes were emailed out to the BOD on 7/11/2012. **Campbell** made a motion to accept the minutes as e-mailed out. **Goodwin** seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously**.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer’s Report, plus additional attachments, provided and reviewed by **Moen**.

Current Balances as of (7/01/2012):

TSSRM General Fund	\$25,086.78
<i>(Usable bank balance = \$22,187.27)</i>	
<i>(Internal allocation to GOF Investments = \$15,000.00)</i>	
<i>(Accumulated surplus [estimated] = \$1,399.51)</i>	

Current Balances as of (7/30/2012):

TSSRM MSF (IPI)	\$78,148.35
TSSRM Bill Wyche MSF (IPI)	\$64,391.79
TSSRM Endowment Fund (IPI)	\$59,364.25
TSSRM YACEF (IPI)	\$23,986.99

Motion was made to accept the Treasurer’s Report as submitted, by **Goodwin**. Motion seconded by **Wagner**. **Motion carried unanimously**.

-Cody **Scott** requested a checking account in Abilene for a brush symposium which will cover Chemical, Mechanical, Biological, Fire, Innovation (Big Country Expo Center-April 25, 2013); extra money from the symposium will be donated to TSSRM. Suggested to start an account to put all donations, registrations, revenues in the pot and any extra can be used for endowment funds, “seed money” for the next symposium, youth activities, etc. **Campbell** moved to authorize the opening of checking account, in Abilene, for donations, with proceeds going to TSSRM. **Ortega** seconded the motion. Discussion: Will we make money? Symposium has \$12,000 in committed funds, the expo center is donated, meal costs and small registration fee; the board can’t really see not making money on the deal. Wildlife and livestock oriented; holistic in each technique. **Motion carried unanimously**.

-**Moen** said fees from IRS from late filing (due to parent society issues) were waived. Per CPA “strong” suggestion (IRS), the handbook needs updating. New policy for the 990 form we use to file taxes; will provide backup for the section. Board Comments: seems to be for permanent board member statuses, some sections of the form may not be needed. Seems to be a little un-necessary? Some see it can help with the filing process. Second opinion needed? Board Suggestion: a friend of the board is a CPA and will look over the attachments to see if making these changes/additions to the handbook is necessary and on what degree. **Tabled until more info is received**.

-Question of where the paperwork for the 1023 (application for tax-free/non-profit status) is. **Moen** has the certification letter showing non-profit status but no original paperwork. **Calls to some past presidents and archivists, to find that information, will be made**.



NEWSLETTER: Grassroots info will stay in the newsletter; range flashes will continue to go out.

WEBSITE REPORT: Wolff reported online updates. BOD is still working on securing a Website Coordinator position who can update the section's online appeal while working with website updates and Ann T. Annual Meeting updates and info is requested so it can be available to people on the website; updates will be going up to Ann periodically.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Handbook-Interest Policy: discussed above, under Treasurer's Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION:

- (Goodwin) went to TWA Meeting, it went well; booth looked great. Suggestion for next year: GLCI/TSSM partnership for booth space (booth at TWA is expensive). Also split at SWTCR Association Meeting, if allowed with GLCI and SWTCR.
Board Suggestion: need digital picture frame for booth spaces. Dean to find a large sized picture frame. Find a converter for electricity? Or pay for electricity at booths? Need a carry case to protect frame for as much as it will be moved. Board Suggestion: start dispersing bumper stickers. Moen to bring to Fredericksburg.
- Sponsorship form for Ranch Mgmt. Clinic in Jourdanton (\$100); will try to have booth there too.
- Found 10 boxes of Small Landowner publications; will disperse those.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Fredericksburg (2012)

BOD Mtg: 7-9am on Wednesday at Inn on Barrons Creek. Business Mtg: 5-6pm on Wednesday at Lady Bird Park Pavilion. Tentative schedules passed out. Discussion: Registration may be low with less USDA members at meeting due to no GTO options. Will need a National approach to top of chain of command to change. Jess Peterson (SRM) can go to Dave White (NRCS) for possible change. Section (Ken) to approach Sal at NRCS.
-Board Suggestion: Distribution of donated award money at AM: \$500 top team (Turner), \$300 top individual (Bamert), \$200 top individual for junior college (Bamert). All agreed.

Fort Worth (2013)

Agenda down for Thursday. No concrete theme (grazing mgmt.) or "catchy phrase" yet. Working on securing a full day workshop on Wednesday (free) for grazing; ranching for profit, school of range mgmt., etc. Thursday morning program: Dr. Teague. Then all landowners talk, followed by panel discussion, and followed by young professional presentations, with the awards banquet in the evening. Tour on Friday (Bear Creek Ranch in Parker County-Aledo).

2014 Annual Meeting

Getting closer; Alpine probable.

AWARDS:

New deadline needed? Committee has discussed updating/changing the wording of the achievement and young professional award.

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES:

Range relays at park before social.



ENDOWMENT: No report.

GRASS ROOTS AWARDS:

Action Requested:

Anyone who has a NRCS or Ag Extension agent they would like to consider for the Grassroots Award, please make a nomination and send it to Hampton. Requesting a reminder email is sent to the general membership and to keep the award nomination information in the next Grass Roots Newsletter for additional nominations.

Summary of Work:

Waiting on 2 nominations coming in for Ag Teachers. /s/Hampton Pratkanis
[Nominations still coming in.](#)

MEMBERSHIP:

Summary of Work:

Currently 329 active members as of 7/24/12

A reminder letter will be sent to expired TSSRM members before the annual meeting; drafted and sent to Allen Press for distribution. See attachment.

Remarks:

Please be patient with me; I'm still learning. Nick Dormer with Allen Press is a life saver. Thanks.
/s/ Matthew Coffman

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

Summary of Work:

Committee is soliciting members for Director and 2nd VP. We have good names in mind and will proceed. My timing in organizing the committee was late but we will complete our task. /s/Ricky Linex

ORM: No report.

PLANNING (2015 AM):

[College Station or San Marcos \(Convention Center off I-35\). Going to work with the cities to see what we can do.](#)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS:

Letter has been sent to organizations, no response yet. Procedure is in place if we have a need.

Board Suggestion: Be proactive in advocating for range mgmt.; use social media (facebook, blog).

-Add blog post to website? [Talk to Ann and see what it'll take to get that done.](#)

-Magazine add? Small, logos—throw us out to the open

-Bylaw change for electronic voting (Constitution Article V, Amendments, Art IV?) Confusing. [Need change.](#)

Campbell-Move to authorize Tony Dean to work with John Walker and Ricky Linex to come up with the correct wording in the bylaws which would give TSSRM authority to do business electronically (including voting). The information should be ready by the Fredericksburg Annual Meeting and ready to be voted on by those in attendance. **Wagner**- seconded the motion. Discussion: Will parent society be involved? Do they have written policy? Ask Jenny Pluhar. Ballots must go out soon!! **Motion passed unanimously.**

Request: if anyone knows of any legislation, let **Dean** know so we can stay on top of the issues.



TNLA (Texas Native Lands Alliance): No report.

PUBLICATION AWARDS: No report.

RESOLUTIONS:

No resolutions.

TWA Mtg: Position statement in newsletter. Partner with TWA and how they feel on the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Lock arms with conservation-oriented organizations on this statement; keeping privatization from encroaching.

SCHOLARSHIP: No report.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: No report.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Summary of Work:

The 58th Annual Youth Range Workshop was held on June 24-29 and was attended by 39 students. Also in June, Dr. Barron Rector and Hoyt Seidensticker coordinated the State 4-H Roundup Range Evaluation and Grass Identification contests, with awards sponsored by TSSRM Youth Activities. Committee members are now working through the selection process for next year's High School Youth Forum delegates.

Remarks:

The committee is also working hard at solicitation of sponsorships. We had a total of 32 sponsors for this year's Youth Range Workshop, and we are finalizing plans for an entertaining fundraiser at the annual meeting in Fredericksburg. Ask any Youth Activities Committee member how you can **THINK PINK 4 YOUTH!** /s/ Dandy Kothmann

YRW outstanding group and sponsors. Lots of good feedback on sponsor recognition.

New camp issue raised this year; talking to legal counsel and committee, and at parent level, to discuss changes.

Ken was at the State 4-H Roundup in June and at the State Plant ID Competition.

AM Fundraiser: Think Pink 4 Youth; 200 raffle tickets (\$20/piece). Must wear pink feather boa after purchase (pass it off if purchased); if don't want boa, send it to someone else. \$50 for 2 tickets and feather-free. Hunts donated. Other donations made. All Youth Committee Members will have the tickets, boas, and take money.



NEW BUSINESS:

- **Mentorship Program/Committee**

Wildlife Society has mentor project format. Mentor calls once a month. Draft guideline being worked on. Proposal: Create a mentorship committee or task force. Opportunity b/w now and AM to finalize guidelines and have chair/co-chair for AM. Budget will be needed for at least an annual outing b/w mentors and mentees. Have a form at end of banquet to get a people signed up at end of AM. Ken has assigned Goodwin as chair for right now. Campbell, Wolff and Wagner will assist. Goodwin will move forward with guidelines and chair/co-chair, ready for Fredericksburg. Networking Social in future.

- **TX GLCI Executive Committee Representation**

GLCI expanding EC membership. In process of putting together a technical advisory comm. Extend invitation to partners (TSSRM, TX Chapter, etc) interested in providing a landowner member for the EC, who would have a key role in decision making. **Dean** made a motion to nominate Diaz Murray to the GLCI Executive Committee; **Wagner** made the second. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Alcohol Prices at TSSRM AM**

Prices will try to be lowered for TSSRM events at Annual Meeting; the handbook prohibits free drinks at events. Participation at banquets seems to be lacking due to high prices for beverages.

- **TSSRM Support Prescribed Burn Alliance**

\$100/member; members need \$65,000 for annual premium for fire insurance. Section supportive of what alliance is trying to do but doesn't think TSSRM can support financially. Promotional material could be utilized. Proposal from GLCI to give the alliance a scholarship to go to meetings and help with registration fees to promote the alliance's mission.

- **Landowner Steward Luncheon**

Discussion: TSSRM to partner? Add on to the Landowner Steward Luncheon with Lone Star Land Steward? Work shop? Don't know what it'll be just yet. A luncheon before the Lone Star Steward Meeting? Pull public in during legislative session?

FUTURE MEETINGS: 4th Qtr: October 10, 2012—7-9 AM, Inn on Barrons Creek, Theatre Room

Business Mtg: October 10, 2012—5-6 PM, Lady Bird Johnson Park, Pioneer Pavilion

Motion to adjourn the meeting was announced by **Wagner** and seconded by **Dean**. **Motion passed unanimously.**
Meeting Adjourned at **12:34 pm**.

Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.

Natalie G Wolff, Secretary