



Regular fall meeting was called to order at 9:04 am. **Present were:** Paul Loeffler – President, Jerry Payne – 1st Vice President, Melony Sikes – 2nd Vice President, Donald Cox – Director, Lee Knox – Director, Cody Scott – Director, Phillip Wright – Director, Tim Reinke – Director, Charles Anderson – Past President, Robert Moen – Treasurer, Jeff Goodwin – Newsletter Editor, Stan Reinke – Outstanding Rangeland Management Committee Chair, Ron Sosebee – 2007 Annual Meeting Co-Chair, Jennifer Pluhar– 2007 Annual Meeting Co-Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, Youth Activities Committee Chair Elect, Bill Pinchak – I&E Committee Chair, and Bruce Healy – Secretary. **Absent were:** Robert Lyons – Director. [Quorum has been established.](#)

Sikes is on her way – should be here shortly. Lyons is home with his wife who is undergoing chemotherapy. Knox and his wife adopted a new baby girl.

Secretary's Minutes: [Wright moved to approve minutes as submitted. Second by T Reinke. Motion carried unanimously.](#)

Treasurer's Report: HANDOUT.

General Operating Fund	\$23,483.79
TS Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$66,934.54
Wyche Family Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$56,518.58
TS Endowment Fund	\$48,136.58
TS Youth Activities Endowment Fund	\$10,001.00

Also provided copy of the 2006 Financial Audit Report from the audit committee and the Texas Sales and Use Tax Permit, and the filing with the Texas Secretary of State non profit corporation report.

[Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as submitted by Scott. Second by Payne. Motion carried unanimously.](#) Thank you to Robert for all his work as Treasurer – Bill Connor and Hampton Pratkanis conducted a complete financial audit of TSSRM accounts and commended Moen for his work.

[Pinchak arrived at 9:20 am.](#)

Creation of 2008 TSSRM Annual Meeting account. [Motion by Payne to authorize the 2008 annual meeting committee to establish a bank account at a convenient bank of their choice. Second by Scott. Motion carried unanimously.](#) Documents signed by President, 1st VP, Secretary and Treasurer to create the account and provided to Payne for his committee's use.

Newsletter (HANDOUT): Continuing to get positive feedback on the current direction of the newsletter. It takes effort to continue producing a quality product and member articles are needed immediately.

[Goodwin is commended by the board for his outstanding efforts.](#) As we have the newsletter electronic please put together a list of VIPs who should receive our newsletter electronically.

WEBSITE: Only have four photos to help with the website update. [Can we create a photo contest committee and allow submissions yearlong?](#) Photos can be used for contest, website, and/or newsletter.



OLD BUSINESS:

2007 GOALS: YPC is up and running. Revise and republish the small acreage brochure – now found a supply of them. Tour of ORM ranch winner – accomplished Sept 20th with 27 people in attendance, extremely informative. Mr. Holt was very pleased we came to the ranch. ORM committee recommended to continue this activity, but try not to get too close to the annual meeting. Field Day sponsorship and CEU credits – we did better but we can do more (challenging). Pretty good year overall.

Other:

- **Sponsors posting/advertising on website:** 2007 AM Planning Committee sponsorship, etc. logo on the website for the coming year. Cox updated us on the AMC process and the challenges they faced. *We need to develop a policy for the future.* Pinchak recommended using similar to SRM's (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze). Type size and logo size shrink with each level. Also a need to find a place to post them on the website. This year's level breaks are: Trail Boss, etc. We don't need to put their links on the sponsors page – links go on the "links" page. *Cox indicated that we probably got more sponsors/advertisers this year by offering to put their logo on the website. Pinchak recommended that the BOD establishes an exhibitor booth fee level to have consistency for each year.* Their logo on the website should be the same size as sponsors giving the same amount of cash. *The AM committee and/or Planning Committee should work on this and bring forth a recommendation to the Board in January. Payne, Loeffler, Cox, Pinchak, Healy and Goodwin plus any other past meeting folks to be invited who can provide input.* CONSULTANT LINKS could also be a good thing. Recommend that the consultants listed should be certified in some field (wildlife biologist, CPRM, CRMC, etc.). *For this year, we will put the logos on the annual meeting page.*
- **Committee structure (I&E and Activities):** *Input requested from Payne and Pinchak, who ran the committees together this year, on future structure of these two committees.* The two committees are so closely aligned, that it is difficult to separate duties of each. Proposal is to combine the two committees. Payne recommends that we combine the committees and he would like 3 or 4 smaller table top displays strategically placed throughout the state for easier usage by the membership. Pinchak also feels this is a step in the right direction (to combine the two committees). We need a calendar of venues/expectations the committee should be at. *PINCHAK, PAYNE, et al, will work on the updated committee guidelines for combining these committees. LOEFFLER AND HEALY will work on updates to officer, director duties, etc.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES: TSSRM was represented at TSCRA annual meeting; GLCI tour near Victoria, TPWD Wildlife Expo (26,000 people attended on Saturday); Junction, Fredericksburg, and some other field days. I&E will also be sending out news releases on award winners, etc. – local to regional as applicable. (SEE ALSO NEW BUSINESS)

Sikes arrived at 10:35 am.

ANNUAL MEETING:

- 2007 AM (Lubbock): *Pluhar & Sosebee will report after lunch, which they are bringing.*
- 2008 AM (Nacogdoches): Payne has most committees appointed. Will have a meeting Friday. Nacogdoches folks should be here for this meeting. Will start working on it in earnest.
 - *TSSRM selected Nacogdoches at the 2008 Annual Meeting host city on February 4th, 2006. The Board of Directors hereby authorizes the 2008 Annual Meeting Planning Committee to open a Checking Account at the local financial institution of their choice. Healy prepared 3 packets –*



Cover Letter, Corporate Authorization Resolution, State of Texas Franchise Tax Certification Status, Organization or Club Resolution, signed Articles of Incorporation, – one for the AM Committee, one for the Treasurer, and one for the Secretary to maintain file copies.

- 2009 AM (Beaumont): SIKES HANDOUT. Holiday Inn Beaumont Plaza will be host hotel. October 7-9 are the dates. Johanna Pate and Wes Newman are the confirmed co-chairs. Meeting theme will have something to do with the impact range management has on marshes and estuaries.

LRS VIDEO & MARKETING PLAN: *SIKES reported for Monica Hightower.* Monica requests to redo some aspects of it for targeting teaching – break up into clearer segments. Ideas on marketing? Send to Melony and she will forward to the TS member working with Monica on the marketing plan.

AWARDS: FIVE AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED. *No Outstanding Achievement Award this year.* Barron Rector will be presenting the awards at the banquet. SRM Honor awards were submitted last April – all but one were approved.

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES: HANDOUT FROM DANDY KOTHMAN. 9 Outstanding Student Awards. List of those competing in the Student Plant ID contest. (Knox noted that several of the outstanding students are past YRW attendees.)

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.

COUNTY LEVEL AWARDS: ONE AWARD TO BE PRESENTED (FRIEND). Do we need to update the awards process, name and criteria? Knox suggests that if no nominations come in – they need to contact the extension specialist and/or zone range specialist and/or board members to get a nominee. [Motion by T Reinke to change the award name to Grass Roots Award, and update the submission process for nominees to be considered from 4 counties or less.](#) [Second by Wright.](#) Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

ENDOWMENT: NO REPORT. NO ACTION.

I&E: (SEE ALSO NEW BUSINESS AND ACTIVITIES)

MEMBERSHIP: *DUNSON report.* TS currently has 464 MEMBERS. SRM Membership challenge will be happening again this year – information not sent out yet by SRM Office.

ORM/ORS: *S Reinke handout.* There were 5 nominations for ORM, 3 for ORS. ORM award winner is the Hillingdon Ranch (Robin Giles). ORS Award winner is the Bradley 3 Ranch (Minnie Lou Bradley). What do we want to give the ORS Award winner? I gave her a gate sign. BOD needs to decide what to give the ORS recipient? ANDERSON gave a history of the ORS award. ORS winner submitted by TSCRA to NCBA Stewardship Award (E Brinsedine). Status of joint award continuance discussed with TSCRA – E Brinsedine and current TSCRA president do want to continue the joint award. Discussion held again on the ORS winner what to give – S REINKE suggests awarding both the ORM and ORS awards at our meeting means we are presenting two range stewardship awards, thus watering down our ORM award winner, we should consider only awarding one. ANDERSON suggests having TSSRM present the



award jointly at the TSCRA annual meeting. PINCHAK suggests that award application be updated to only have the award presented at the TSCRA meeting by the TSSRM President. We need to clarify ORS award presentation annually – regardless of whether or not it is forwarded on to the NCBA Stewardship Award. PINCHAK suggests that TSSRM sit down with TSCRA and decide what is the appropriate recognition. Suggest a revised gate sign and a plaque.

S REINKE recognizes that the ORM committee chair, TSSRM President, E Brinsedine, and TSCRA President to determine the appropriate recognition (possibly involve some past ORM chairs) ASAP to have everything set up for next year.

- 1) Does TSSRM want to continue to participate with TSCRA on the joint award? YES
- 2) What does TSSRM want to provide the winner (plaque, gate sign, etc.)? Nothing from us, but work with TSCRA for appropriate joint recognition at the TSCRA meeting – appropriate jointly designed award. (No future recognition at the TSSRM meeting).
- 3) Could you also change the due date for the ORS award? Not a specific problem for the ORM committee, so no

Motion by **PAYNE** to continue working with TSCRA on the joint award to be presented at their annual meeting. Second by **WRIGHT**. Discussion held. Motion carried unanimously.

S REINKE reviewed ORM award presentation – it needs to be presented at the evening banquet. AM committee needs to determine by June 1st whether or not slides will be presented at the banquet.

LOEFFLER COMMENDS **S REINKE** FOR HIS COMMITTEE'S EFFORTS.

PLANNING (2010 AM): ANDERSON *handout*. Provided updated Planning committee guidelines and information on the procedural selection process for the 2010 host city. Has 9 members involved this year. So far, they have 3 proposals. Bryan/College Station, Fredericksburg, and Odessa. Charles will update Item 3 of Procedure to include "consecutive annual meetings need to be separated by at least 100 miles."

Motion by **Scott**, second by **Knox** to accept these new committee guidelines. Discussion held. While it is hoped that the TS member submitting the nomination would be involved in the annual meeting planning committee to host the meeting, however it is recognized that folks move to new jobs, etc. and they may not be available to continue working with that annual meeting. Should the 2nd VP make the selection of the venue? Call for the question. Motion carried unanimously.

Recessed for lunch at 11:57 am.

Meeting reconvened at 12:50 pm. Thank you to Ron & Jenny for a great venue and a great lunch.

2007 Annual Meeting (Lubbock): Pluhar and Sosebee provided report after lunch. It has started out fantastically. The AM committee has functioned very well. We have had a tremendous response – 36 SWCDs, 13 Wrangler sponsors, etc. We will have taken in ~\$40,000. All big-ticket items have been sponsored (buses for tour, shuttle buses, canopies, tables, chairs, Wind Power Center, Band and facility for banquet). 270 registered for the meeting. Venues are outstanding, and an excellent program is planned. Spouse brunch is planned for Friday morning. All kinds of signs are up on how to get to everything. Anticipating an excellent meeting overall. Hotel has a complimentary coffee bar in the mornings. Encourage folks to get there early for breakfast – buses will be leaving promptly. Tomorrow at lunch, and at the banquet – as we don't have the ability to show slides, so the AM crew will get a program with the citations for all award winners. THE AM COMMITTEE ALL HAVE DONE AN OUTSTANDING JOB – EVERYONE HAS PITCHED IN AND WORKED ON EVERYTHING. THANK YOU ALL. Lubbock CVB has been excellent to work with.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: *Pluhar* provided report after lunch. Committee had 12 director candidates, and 2 2nd VP 470 ballots sent out – 256 returned (55%). Bill Pinchak was elected 2nd VP.



Jeff Goodwin and Scott Petty were elected directors. Extremely tight voting all around. Most potential candidates want to remain in consideration for next year.

TNLA: *ANDERSON* (needs to go to another location to proctor the CPRM exam) – I want to thank PAYNE & LOEFFLER for coming to the TNLA charter member meeting last week. We had 26 different groups (45-50 people) represented. Informational presentation given. Straw poll taken at the end of the meeting, and feel pretty confident that 20-25 different organizations will be charter members.

Charter members must submit \$150 to TSSRM by Jan. 15th. There will be a spring organizational meeting.

- TSSRM needs to determine how we can support TNLA (not necessarily run it). How long TSSRM appointments will run – continuity vs. burnout.
- Do we want to be a member of TNLA? **YES!**
- How to incorporate the TNLA liaison into the TSSRM structure? Who is going to be responsible? *Serve as treasurer until group gets more off the ground. Support liaisons to attend the meetings.*
- What process do we want to utilize to elevate to TNLA?
- TNLA is a communication network, not an organization. Thus, the individual members, not specifically TNLA, will support issues. Intent of TNLA is to influence stewardship of the resource, not influence legislation.

Motion by *Wright* for TSSRM to become a charter member of TNLA and pay our \$150 membership fee. **Second by Sikes.** Discussion held – we've heard the positives, what is the downside? TNLA is not used publicly, other than the website, but if TSSRM does not support a particular issue, then we won't be a named identification on that issue. Probably find those issues we can work on in total agreement, not address divisive issues head on. Call for the question. Motion carried unanimously.

- TSSRM needs to select 2 liaisons to TNLA. LOEFFLER recommends Anderson and McGinty be the TSSRM liaisons. One for 1 year, one for 2 years. Setup – have TNLA liaison(s) also be members of Public Affairs Committee and report to the board through this committee, rather than setting up an additional committee. PINCHAK recommends we not put a specific restraint on the years of tenure for liaison appointments, and the board appoint folks as a liaison as vacancies occur. PAYNE also recommends that 2nd VP attend the meetings – as a TSSRM Board representative (ex-officio) to have board input.
- Potential issues elevated by another TNLA member – electronically poll the past presidents, as a group with the most section continuity, on how to respond – we must establish the process to respond everything every time. REINKE suggests that we revisit the Resolutions, Public Affairs, and/or Response to Public Issues guidelines. KNOX recommends that TNLA liaisons come from the Past Presidents, who are already members of the Resolutions Committee, then have them bring the issues to the Board as needed. LOEFFLER – compromise, our two TNLA liaisons have to be a Past-President. Change committee board coverage assignments from President to 2nd VP.
- TNLA liaisons should be appointed annually, along with other appointments completed at the first meeting.
- RESPONSE TO PUBLIC ISSUES – need to revisit the informational guidance document.
- Motion by Payne to approve the 3 items (membership, support, issues). **Second by Knox.** Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: *Moseley* – Public Affairs involved with TNLA. No other activities.

PUBLICATION AWARDS: Fox – three awards will be presented this year (6 individuals). Charlie Hart will be presenting.

RESOLUTIONS: HANDOUT No activity.



SCHOLARSHIP: **KNEUPER handout.** TS will be donating \$1 of every registration. The Holiday Inn will donate \$1 of every room night. The Spouses Breakfast will be also donating some funds. Josh Pearson (LaVernia) was this year's TSSRM Memorial Scholarship winner – who will be attending TAMU-Kingsville. Cynthia Wyche Stroman reported on the recipient of the 2007 Bill Wyche Memorial Scholarship – Kortney L Kupatt (Sagerton).

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: **COOK handout.** 5 Young Professional Papers will be presented.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: **KNOX handout.** Several positive responses from youth and parents on the YRW. District 10 4-H will support the range quiz bowl as a pilot. 14 original extension publications will be used, others may be considered based upon availability. Three HSYF delegates have been selected. YRW had a real diverse group of attendees – very rural to very urban. YRW evaluations are included for your information. PINCHAK suggests a name other than “range” be considered for better packaging - Land Stewardship, etc.

LOEFFLER wants to thank all officers and directors for serving as a board liaison to the committees and would encourage future officers on continuity and value to the committees and the board. The fact of having the board making a phone call to the committees is pretty valuable. Congratulate ANDERSON for coming up with the concept.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **ELECTRONIC BALLOTING (BOD & MEMBERSHIP):** LOEFFLER asked **UECKERT** to review our current guidelines and provide suggestions for timely issues response, etc. Some revision may be needed, but there are some concerns/caution regarding Roberts Rules of Order.
 - General membership voting must be by mail as ballots to allow ballot recounting on important issues, as exhibited by this year's election. The President will need to decide things regarding electronic voting – could send out the information and ask if there is a way this can be voted upon without going to a regular or special meeting.
 - We think that formal bylaw change to allow electronic voting should be accomplished. It bears additional thought and discussion and we will consider it in January.
- **TSCRA LIAISON:** First reason for a liaison is our relationship regarding the joint ORS award. Several past presidents have suggested we have a specific liaison appointed to work directly on TSCRA, who is a member of both, someone with contacts within both organizations. Two members come to mind, Jenny Pluhar and Scott James Petty. Appointment does not have to be accomplished today. Think about it.
 - **Motion by Pinchak to approve a liaison position with TSCRA. Second by Sikes. Discussion held – What are the minuses? What are the pluses? Having someone within TSCRA may be beneficial, but is there a specific need for this? Call for the question. Vote 3 yes, 3 no, 1 abstain – President votes no. Motion fails.**
- NO OTHER BUSINESS PRESENTED.



Next Meeting Date –

SRM National meeting Jan 26-29. Friday Jan 18th at Mason Mtn WMA if available. Start at 9 am.

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm.

Bruce S. Healy

Bruce S. Healy, Secretary