



Regular 1st quarter meeting was called to order at 8:37 am. **Present were:** Bill Pinchak – President, Ken Cearley – 2nd Vice President, Scott Petty – Director, Diaz Murray – Director, Linda Campbell – Director, Tony Dean – Director, Robert Moen – Treasurer, Natalie Wolff – Secretary. Also present were: Dandy Kothmann – Youth Activities Committee Chair, Bill Conner – Nominations & Elections Committee Chair. **ABSENT:** Matt Wagner – 1st Vice President.

Pinchak completed roll call, and a quorum was established. Pinchak welcomed everyone who was present as well as Campbell and Dean to the board; all introductions were made. **Pinchak directed focus on the section's goals: keeping land managers and professional members as integral parts of the section. Focusing on creating situations where professionals and land managers want to be a member and gain a wealth of knowledge. The board discussed supporting several agency attendees, workshops, recent technology, and youth membership.**

Pinchak reviewed the agenda and asked for any additions/corrections needed; none noted. The board approved the agenda with a motion by Cearley and a second by Murray. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MINUTES: Minutes were read by Pinchak as no copies were sent out. Pinchak may send Wolff the minutes to be filed correctly. **Motion by Cearley to accept minutes as read. Motion seconded by Dean. Motion carried unanimously.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's Report, plus additional attachments, provided and reviewed by Moen. Moen indicated the report provided is a cash accounting version of the accounts – as it is easier to follow, but it should be noted that we are actually on an accrual accounting system. Discussion held on information and items presented in attachments; i.e. annual meeting in Beaumont, apparel sales, contributions, etc. Moen also discussed the GOF; maintaining the operation on annual budget, history of the budget and assets. **A motion to keep \$500 in assets for emergency use and setting the rest of the assets in a CD for a longer period of time (1 year) to earn more interest was submitted by Cearley. The motion was seconded by Petty. There was discussion on the length of time to set the CD; it was determined not to leave in too long due to changes in interest rates. Motion carried unanimously.**

Current Balances as of (1/29/10):

TSSRM General Fund	\$24,690.18
<i>(Usable bank balance = \$10,110.68)</i>	
<i>(Internal allocation to GOF Investments = \$20,000.00)</i>	
<i>(Accumulated surplus [estimated] = \$8,970.62)</i>	
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$43,701.10
TSSRM MSF	\$67,508.12
TSSRM Bill Wyche MSF	\$53,070.06
TSSRM YACEF	\$15,101.00

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as submitted by Dean. Motion seconded by Cearley. Motion carried unanimously.

NEWSLETTER: No report. Pinchak reminded everyone of the article submission deadlines.

WEBSITE REPORT: Wolff reviewed the current status, as she and Goodwin will continue to be the website coordinators and relay any information needed to Ann Tanaka for website updates.



OLD BUSINESS:

- Endowment Fund: To be discussed under committee reports.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION: Report sent in by Matt Wagner. Requested budget of \$1600 has been approved for vendor fees to set up the display at various venues such as Texas Chapter Wildlife Society, Texas and Southwest Cattle Raisers, Texas Native Prairies Association, etc... There was discussion on entertaining the idea of landowner workshops on latest rangeland issues, especially on energy components (specifically for the annual meeting). It has been recommended by the board/committee that Matt look into creating a workshop that would address recent issues in rangeland for the annual meeting in Odessa. Campbell moved to have the workshop idea relayed to Matt, with a second from Cearley. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNUAL MEETING:

- 2009 AM (Beaumont): Moen reported an \$855 profit. Discussion arose due to the apparent "lack" of profit; major setbacks were cited.
- 2010 AM (Odessa): Pinchak reported he was working with the hotel and making finalizations with the area, agenda, and sponsors. An account has been set up locally for the meeting. An email will be sent to Ray Schimcek to confirm meeting dates and information.
- 2011 AM (San Angelo): No report.

AWARDS: No report.

COLLEGE ACTIVITIES: No report.

ENDOWMENT: See attached Endowment Fund Report and Frost Bank TSSRM Endowment Fund Performance Report. Discussions concerning fee increases at Frost Bank, time frame at Frost, loss in investments, among other issues were brought forth. Conners discussed his position at Frost and reduction of fees could be possible; he will look in to the matter and see if other rates are comparable. The Endowment Fund Report recommended an Investment Committee be formed; discussion on that recommendation was not agreeable. The board decided they would like to take a look at the report a little closer and have time to get thoughts together; read all recommendations, figure out which would be best for the board. The fund report is attached and the Frost Performance report is also. The discussion was tabled and everyone was asked to review and be prepared to resolve at the next meeting.

GRASS ROOTS AWARDS: No report.

MEMBERSHIP: McClintock reported current membership at 474 active members as of 12/28/2009. The current list had 4 expired members that McClintock will be contacting for renewal questioning. There were 11 new members from 11/25/09 to 12/15/09. The committee is still trying to recruit new members, which a few contacts are currently working on membership applications.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS: No report.

ORM: No report.

PLANNING (2012 AM): Discussed in New Business



PUBLIC AFFAIRS: No report.

- **TNLA:** It was discussed that TSSRM was the catalyst of TNLA, which is an umbrella coalition of organizations.

PUBLICATION AWARDS: No report. Budget request for historical amount plus 10%.

RESOLUTIONS: No report.

SCHOLARSHIP: No report.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: Keyser reported the committee is working on developing new informational handouts. The budget request was approved at \$500 for printing the handouts. Discussion was held on Pinchak's focus earlier in the meeting. [A task force has been suggested by Pinchak, to increase the relevance for young professionals within the society; aiding in information/outreach/workshops/today's issues, etc...](#) [An email will go out to Keyser, forwarding the task force request.](#)

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: Kothmann reported the following individuals have graciously agreed to serve as members of the Youth Activities Committee in 2010: Dr. Barron Rector, Hoyt Seidensticker, Dr. Bob Knight, Jenny Pluhar, Paul Loeffler, Derek Scasta, Steve Nelle ([Director of Youth Range Workshop and will work with Range Health Assessment during the workshop](#)), and Lee Knox. Others have been asked to join us, and we anxiously await their responses.

A summary of accomplishments over the past few months and plans for the spring and summer were as follows:

- 1) The 2009 Youth Activities Committee, under the leadership of Chairman Derek Scasta, hosted a wildly successful and highly entertaining reverse raffle fundraiser at the TSSRM Annual Meeting in Beaumont on October 9. Net profit from the reverse raffle was \$4,312.00. Also, Derek solicited the donation of an original western oil painting by artist Tanner Wells, which sold through silent auction for \$700.00. An additional \$170.00 in donations was received, which brought the total for the 2009 YAC fundraiser to \$5,182.00.
- 2) The 2009 Youth Range Workshop participants selected to represent the Texas Section SRM at the 2010 High School Youth Forum and SRM Annual Meeting in Denver include a) Erin Reid, Young County; b) Ely Long, Taylor County and c) Gabe Jennings, Mason County. Each delegate is preparing a range related power point talk for the Forum Presentation Competition. Texas Section members attending the SRM Annual Meeting at Denver are invited to come hear our delegates give their presentations on Tuesday, February 9th. A schedule of presentations will be released on Sunday or Monday in the Daily SRM Trail Boss at the meeting.
- 3) [The 56th Youth Range Workshop will be held at the TTU Center in Junction on June 20-25, 2010.](#) Information and solicitation of 4-H and FFA youth participants began in September with fliers being handed out at the Amarillo Tri-Sate Fair and the Dallas State Fair of Texas and provided by email or mail upon request. The general email announcement to County Extension Agents and Ag Science Teachers will go out in January and a physical mailing of information will go out in late February.
- 4) New and exciting things are on the horizon for this year's YRW. [Ground has been broken at the TTU Center for a native plant garden, complete with a new rainwater catchment system. The garden will surround the field station laboratory, and include a tallgrass prairie, shortgrass prairie, brush/forb border, annual wildflower plot, succulent/cacti garden, and fences for vines. YRW participants will have the opportunity to collect and transplant specimens to the garden, while learning about plant identification, species composition, and rangeland reclamation and restoration techniques. This will serve as a learning and activity area for YRW participants and area 4-H and FFA youth for years to come.](#)
- 5) Journalist Robert Fears has agreed to attend a portion of the YRW and write a feature article on his experience and the value of SRM and YRW. He has written articles for outdoor and trade publications, and feels that this story may even be published by Texas Monthly and other popular magazines.



- 6) Texas AgriLife Extension Service Range Program will be soliciting the TSSRM Youth Activities Committee to once again sponsor plaques for first through 5th place winning teams in both the State 4-H Range and Pasture Grass Identification Contest and the 4-H Range Evaluation Contest in June, 2010. This is a total of 10 plaques.
- 7) We will be asking our President or his representative to be present for the State 4-H Roundup Range Contest Awards ceremony in College Station on June 9th to a) introduce the Society for Range Management to the youth and audience and b) present the top team awards at this honorable occasion.

We will also be inviting the TSSRM President or his representative to be present for the Youth Range Workshop Awards ceremony on June 25th at 1:15 pm in Junction to recognize youth participants at the workshop and bring greetings from the Texas Section SRM Board and Officers.

The Youth Activities Committee submitted a budget request of \$1,075.00; which will be used to purchase airline tickets for the three youth delegates and two sponsors (Dr. Barron Rector and Hoyt Seidensticker) to Denver, CO for the 2010 Society for Range Management Annual Meeting. The cost per roundtrip airline ticket is \$215.00. (\$215 x 5 = \$1,075.00). We ask for your continued support of these outstanding young people, who have been chosen to represent you at the 2010 High School Youth Forum. All other fees, including meeting registration, lodging, meals, and insurance will be covered by sponsorships received by the Youth Activities Committee.

A recommendation from the board was briefly discussed; YAC should use a separate account from the Endowment Fund for audit purposes. There was a motion from Murray and a second from Petty for this recommendation to go forward. **Motion was passed unanimously.**

Bill was requested to attend the awards ceremony as intended below # 7 of the report. He will schedule the event.

Kothmann was also to email Melony to follow-up on donations and the Boys Ranch involvement with the workshop. There was discussion previously about the Boys Ranch approaching TSSRM about participating.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Appointments:** Wolff for Secretary, Moen for Treasurer, Goodwin for Newsletter Editor, Wolff for Website, and Lee Knox for archivist. Pinchak commended everyone for their work. Motion by Dean, second by Cearley to approve appointments as submitted. **Motion approved unanimously.**
- **Budget:** The budget for 2010 was approved; motion by Campbell, second by Petty. **Motion approved unanimously.**
- **Photo Contest:** Terri Walker has requested to take over the contest. Information concerning the contest, updating the website, time and space at the annual meeting, etc...will be relayed to Terri. If accepting, she can have the job.
- **AM 2010 (Fredericksburg):** Discussion on meeting packet. Dates set for October 10-12, 2012. Considering the large attendance anticipated, a wildlife "flare" has been discussed to welcome everyone, including possible new members. A motion to accept Fredericksburg as the 2012 AM location was offered by Murray and a second by Petty. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Administrative Handbook:** Updated by Healy in November 2009. Email will be sent to Healy to confirm no additions, changes, or corrections were brought to his attention. The board would like to accept the revision.

Future Meetings: 2nd Qtr **Friday April 23 @ 9am @ Mason Mountain WMA, Mason TX**
 3rd Qtr **Friday July 23 @ 9am @ Mason Mountain WMA, Mason TX**
 4th Qtr to be set at next meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was announced by Campbell and seconded by Petty. **Motion passed unanimously.**
 Meeting Adjourned at 11:48 am.

Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.

Natalie G Wolff, Secretary