



**Regular 4th quarter meeting** was called to order at 1:03 pm. **Present were:** Matt Wagner, President; Ken Cearley, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Jeff Goodwin, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; John Walker, incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Tony Dean, Director; Linda Campbell, Director; Kent Ferguson, Director; Diaz Murray, Director; Bill Fox, Director; Poncho Ortega, Director; Mandi Ligon, incoming Director; Bryan Hays, incoming Director; Bill Pinchak, Past-President; Tyson Hart, Newsletter; Jeremy Hasty, Social Media; Lee Knox, Archivist; Robert Moen, Treasurer; Natalie Wolff, Secretary. Also present were: Cody Scott, Annual Meeting Chair; Terry Whigham, Endowment Fund Chair; Jodie Stockett, Scholarship Chair; Jenny Pluhar, SRM Director; Dandy Kothmann, Youth Activities Chair; as well as Raymond Schimcek, Stephen Hartmann, Jeff White, Alyson McDonald and Charlie Hart.

Wagner called meeting to order and a quorum was established. Wagner welcomed everyone who was present.

Wagner reviewed the agenda; the board **unanimously** moved to approve the agenda with a first from Ferguson and a second from Fox.

**MINUTES:** Minutes were emailed to the Board on 8/18/2011 and 10/3/2011. The minutes were reviewed, as emailed, by Wolff. Motion by Dean to accept minutes as read. Motion seconded by Goodwin. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer's Report, plus additional attachments, provided and reviewed by Moen. Discussion held on information and items presented in attachments; i.e. financial statements, balance sheets, and investments. Moen reported the usable balances looked good, as well as the investment balances. The Odessa AM turned out to be a hit and it is expected San Angelo will do just as well.

**Current Balances as of (10/10/11):**

TSSRM General Fund	\$24,412.19
<i>(Usable bank balance =\$13,764.29)</i>	
<i>(Internal allocation to GOF Investments = \$15,000.00)</i>	
<i>(Accumulated surplus [estimated] =-\$2,027.01)</i>	
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$53,940.00
TSSRM MSF	\$69,335.00
TSSRM Bill Wyche MSF	\$60,048.00
TSSRM YACEF	\$23,481.98

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was submitted by Fox. Motion seconded by Ferguson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEWSLETTER:** Hart reported all is well. He requested pictures of award winners following the AM so he can promptly send out the Nov-Dec edition. He also requested information for future publications.

**WEBSITE REPORT:** Wolff reviewed the current status, as she will continue to be the website coordinator and relay information needed to Ann Tanaka for website updates until the board approves of someone else for the position. Wolff reported on site updates that had been posted and updates needing posting; award winner pics/bios, etc. She welcomes any website suggestions, comments, criticism and/or changes to make the site better. A suggestion of requesting the TSSRM Range Clubs for their website opinions was mentioned; she will follow up with the suggestion.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- TSSRM on Facebook- Hasty reported to the board, suggesting converting the AM Page to the TSSRM Page, in order to keep previous posts, friends, etc...on the site, rather than start new. The board liked the idea and Scott said he'd be happy to give Hasty the facebook info. Hasty will make the changes and have the site running soon.
- GLCI County Burn Ban Efforts- Goodwin briefed those present of the ongoing GLCI efforts to help county officials make an educated decision when determining when a burn ban should be in effect; he showed a video made to educate those decision makers (included county judges, ranchers, Texas Forest Service members, NRCS, etc). A copy will be sent to each county.



**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ACTIVITIES & EDUCATION:**

- **Cearley** reported the new TSSRM Display had been purchased and can be seen during the meeting. The pictures looked great and everyone seemed to express their liking for it. **Great job Forrest and Kason!**

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

- **Wagner** reported his excitement for the San Angelo meeting. Throughout the year, the board had expressed the importance of youth/young adult input and action within the section. The 2012 AM tried to incorporate more youth/young adult activities and suggestions for improvement/more involvement were asked for. **Scott** and **Corey Owens** chaired & co-chaired (respectively) the AM Committee and **Scott** passed out a financial report for the meeting. **Cearley & Goodwin** reported Fredericksburg (2012) and Fort Worth (2013), respectively, are coming along nicely. The SRM Annual Meeting in 2016 is still planned for Corpus Christi and we are waiting for additional guidance from national for the planning process.

**AWARDS:**

*No Discussion or Action Required:*

The 2011 Awards Committee received voted on Nominations for awards to be presented at the 2011 TSSRM Meeting in San Angelo. Three awards will be given and include: OCRM, Outstanding Young Rangeland Professional and Fellow Awards. Plaques have been ordered and the total cost of awards to be presented was \$282.80. Payment was made by me on personal credit card and receipt was given to Robert Moen for reimbursement. Check has been sent. /s/ Tim Reinke 9/29/11

**COLLEGE ACTIVITIES:**

- No report.

**ENDOWMENT:**

*Action Requested*

The following recommendations are submitted by the Endowment Fund Committee and Steve Hartmann to the TSSRM BOD for consideration and adoption:

- The 2011 Endowment Fund Committee Proposal which revises the Endowment Fund Committee's duties and establishes Endowment Fund Guidelines for fund management,
- The latest revision of the 2011 TSSRM Investment Committee Proposal which creates an Investment Committee that will oversee and manage the TSSRM Investments of the Endowment Committee, the Memorial Scholarship Fund, the Billy Wyche Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund, and the Youth Activities Endowment Fund (EF, MSF, BWMSF, and YACEF). This proposal outlines the proposed committee's structure and duties.
- The 2011 TSSRM revision of Appendix E which is updated to reflect investment strategies for current market climates.

**These recommendations and their latest revisions have been previously forwarded to Matt Wagner for distribution to the TSSRM board.**

Robert Moen is in the process of setting up passwords and logins with Professionals Inc. (IPI) - Private Asset Management for the investment committee members so that the TSSRM portfolios can be monitored.

/s/ Terry Whigham 10/6/2011

**Whigham & Hartmann** reported the above and clarified the committee is looking for a consistent dividend; a place where monies can moderately grow with a small chance of decrease. A proposal for an Investment Committee was made, in which that committee would reflect a conservative with moderate risk approach for investments. The committee will have 3 members (2 to make a quorum), with staggered position exists. The Investment Committee must be available/ "on call" to make investment decisions via IPI and will adhere to the 2011 Investment Committee Proposal & Proposed Revision of Appendix E, which states purposes, duties, proposed policy and performance evaluation and monitoring information.

**Pinchak** made a motion to accept the above proposal with Terry Whigham, Ray Schimcek and Steve Hartmann as the initial committee members; with Treasurer, **Robert Moen**, authorized to contact and work with IPI. Discussion: board authorizes dispersals and distributions. **Goodwin** seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**GRASS ROOTS AWARDS:**

- No report; awards to be presented.



## MEMBERSHIP:

### *Discussion only:*

Current Active membership as of 9/1/2011- 365 members, 7/6/2011- 354 members, 6/1/2011- 332 members. It seems that the recent membership renewal outreach methods may be working as the numbers are on the rise again!! Hopefully the numbers are even up as of today because I know I was on the expired member list, I received a couple of messages about my expiration and have since renewed. So hopefully numbers are still on the rise. The online renewal process was pretty easy, which is a good thing!

### *Summary:*

Still trying to recruit new members, and contact expired ones to renew memberships. I always have an updated membership report on hand, so if any directors or anyone else needs to contact someone or check out the active/expired member list's to get in touch with friends or contacts about their memberships, feel free to let me know and I will get those lists to them.

### *Additional Remarks:*

Here is a summary of renewal notices going out this month from the SRM Business Office, to contact expired members:

- Members expiring in November 2011 & December 2011: first renewal notice (electronic)
- September 2011 and October 2011: second renewal notice (paper)
- July 2011 & August 2011: third renewal notice (electronic)
- May 2011 & June 2011: fourth renewal notice (paper)
- March 2011 & April 2011: fifth renewal notice (electronic)
- SPECIALITY OUTREACH

/s/ Ryan McClintock 9/29/2011

[Discussion.](#)

## NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:

### *No Discussion or Action Required:*

Ballots for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Director were due September 1. We received 164 ballots from the membership. John Walker was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. Bryan Hays and Mandi Ligon were elected as directors.

### *Additional Remarks:*

The current approach of mailing out ballots is archaic and expensive. Many professional societies do some form of on-line voting and the Texas Section should consider using email or website based voting. The Section may want to consult with the Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society or other organizations who currently use on line voting.

/s/ Timothy E. Fulbright 10/3/2011

## ORM:

- [The TSSRM ORM and ORS awards will be presented at the AM. Send in Nominations!](#)

## PLANNING:

- [Pinchak reported he is in talks with Waco, College Station and Wichita Falls for the 2014 AM. He will report his findings.](#)

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS:

- No report.

## PUBLICATION AWARDS:

### *No Discussion or Action Required:*

The TSSRM Publication Awards Committee has solicited, nominated, and voted on three publications that will be recognized at the 2011 TSSRM Annual Meeting including the Technical Writing category, the Popular category, and the Special category. Up to 5 nominations were received in each category for the committee to consider. I would like to thank the 2011 committee which consisted of Chair, Barron Rector; Chair-Elect Alyson McDonald; Dr. Ernest Fish; Dr. Tim Fulbright; Lee Knox; Dr. Meagan Dominguez; Dr. Cody Scott; and Dr. Brad Wilcox. **A total of 11 publication authors will be recognized. The Chair will work with the Grass Roots Newsletter Editor to ensure that all recipients are recognized in future issues.** /s/ Barron S. Rector, Chairman 10/10/2011

[It was reported that TNLA will have a meeting soon.](#)

## RESOLUTIONS:

- No report.



**SCHOLARSHIP:**

*No Discussion or Action Required:*

The 2011 TSSRM Scholarship was awarded to Ryan McCarty during the 4H roundup in College Station, TX. Dr. Barron Rector presented the award to Ryan on behalf of the TSSRM. Ryan is a sophomore at Texas A&M University in Kingsville, TX majoring in Range and Wildlife management. He is an outdoorsman that enjoys fishing in the bays and duck hunting. As a side note, his mother is employed by the NRCS in Normangee, TX.

The Bill Wyche Jr. Memorial Scholarship recipient is Dillon O'Dell, a student at Tarleton State University. Dillon's hometown is Woodson, TX. I am awaiting his biography from the Bill Wyche Jr. Scholarship selection committee.

The scholarship winners will be recognized at the annual meeting. However, neither one will be able to attend.

The main focus for the upcoming TSSRM annual meeting for the scholarship committee is the fundraiser which will be held on Wednesday, October 12th which will benefit the scholarship fund. The fundraiser for this year will be a reverse raffle. The goal is to sell 200 tickets at \$20 which I estimate will raise \$2500 to \$3000 for the scholarship fund. The tickets will be drawn out of the hopper one at a time. Every tenth ticket will be awarded a prize and the last three tickets will win the larger prizes which include a customized Yeti cooler, an antelope hunt in the Texas Panhandle and a \$1000 Visa gift card. The tickets were distributed to the directors, officers and select members to sell.

**If you have been asked to sell tickets for the Scholarship fundraiser, please give all of the ticket stubs, any unsold tickets and the money for the sold tickets to Jodie Stockett or Jenny Pluhar as soon as possible.**

/s/ Jodie Stockett 10/3/2011

**YOUNG PROFESSIONALS:**

- No report.

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES:**

*No Discussion or Action Required:*

Committee members have selected delegates to the 2012 High School Youth Forum. Aaron Weishuhn, Charli Swenford, and Erin O'Brien have been invited to represent TSSRM. Joining them will be Bracken Marburger, who attended the 2011 HSYF and was elected president for 2012.

Dr. Jake Landers and Lee Knox are leading our effort to revise and update the YRW participant notebook, and exercises on rangeland forage inventory. Committee members are seeking sponsorships for next year's workshop, with Jenny Pluhar already securing a \$1,000 commitment from Dow Chemical.

/s/ Dandy Kothmann 10/12/11

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Proposal to start developing articles targeting land managers, ranchers, and those who work the land, via known publications (Rangelands, TSCRA, etc). These articles would be professionally written and would cost the section about \$600 an article. At this time, the board needs more information before discussion or action is taken.**

<b>Future Meetings:</b>	<b>1st Qtr</b>	<b>January 6, 2012</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>9am, Mason Mtn WMA</b>
	<b>2nd Qtr</b>	<b>April 27, 2012</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>9am, Mason Mtn WMA</b>
	<b>3rd Qtr</b>	<b>July 27, 2012</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>9am, Mason Mtn WMA</b>
	<b>4th Qtr</b>	<b>October 10-12</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>? Fredericksburg, TX</b>

Motion to adjourn the meeting was announced by Pinchak and seconded by Campbell. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:03 pm.

Thank you for attending and participating in the meeting.

Natalie G Wolff, Secretary