

TSSRM Meeting

4/24/2009

-Intro: Melony Sikes 9:12 AM

Members received minutes previously; **Minutes were accepted-Bill Pinchak (1) and Jeff Goodwin (2). Motion carried unanimously.**

-Treasurer's Report: Robert Moen

No new information.

Income from Beaumont Mtg anticipated- expect about 150 people

Money from Nacogdoches Mtg not received yet

Tax form 990 is difficult to fill out-need the easy form for next year

Need to cut unnecessary expenses

Necessary expenses: sponsoring Albuquerque Mtg travel, endowment fund, website bill (until a suitable replacement surfaces).

Need silent auction receipt from Nacogdoches from Melony

Treasurer's Report accepted- Jerry Payne (1) and Don Cox (2)

-Newsletter: Jeff Goodwin

Rancher edition for next month: Bradley Ranch suggested getting an article submitted. Frank Price, Charlie Christianson, Albert Miller-All suggested getting articles submitted.

-Website: Jeff Goodwin, Natalie Wolff

Natalie discussed issues with being able to update the website; stepped down. Ann Tanaka charges \$40/hour for website work and does a very good job. Website updates are less stressful when depending on Ann. New website person will have to have training [Discussion]. Motion carried to continue with Ann for the society's website updates and maintenance- Bill Pinchack (1) and Don Cox (2)

Secretary will be responsible for sending any needed updates to Ann. Secretary job description will need to be looked at for additional website duties.

-Old Business

SRM archives: Discussion about electronic archives. Discussion on who could be responsible for keeping archives together; Harold Bryant, Dr. Fish (Lubbock), Dr. Sosebee? Discussed Southwest Collection in Lubbock.

-5 Minute Break-

9:57 AM: Committee Reports

-Activity/Education: Bill Pinchak

Large display discussion-Melony, retractable banner display (3 divided tube) about \$1000; Charles will look into a cheaper alternative

Small/current display working well, stewardship video, education materials; Bill is currently working solo and is doing well—cuts expenses on travel.

Events: Cattle Raisers Association, Wildlife Expo in October, Section Mtg, Native Plants Society in Wichita Falls (booth or small donation), Youth Range Workshop, Independent Cattle Raisers Association, Ranch Tour in Henrietta, Beaumont Awards Banquet, etc..

-Annual Mtg: Melony Sikes

2009 Beaumont: Schedule of Events. Reservations. Attendance. [Discussion]

2010 Odessa: Chairs, energy focus, economy focus-overall, carbon trading? Pecos tour-Algae on biofuels?

2011 San Angelo: begin framework

-Awards: Steve Nelle

Award Committee Report		Monday, April 13, 2009 3:47 PM	
From: "Marnie and Steve Nelle" nelleangelo@verizon.net			
To: tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com			
COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Awards	PERIOD COVERED:	Jan 1 – April 15, 2009
CHAIR:	Steve Nelle	CHAIR-ELECT:	
Summary of Work During Period:			
At least 5 solicitations for nominations for SRM Honor Awards have gone out to TSSRM members. As of April 13 I am aware of two nominations. One is for Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award; the other is for Outstanding Achievement. Deadline is April 30.			
Additional Remarks:			
Next item of business is to solicit nominations for Texas Section Awards. The deadline for these is later this summer.			

-College Activities: (Fred Reyna) – no report.

-Endowment: Terry Whigham (not present)

COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Endowment Fund	PERIOD COVERED:	12/16/2008-03/30/2009
CHAIR:	Terry Whigham	CHAIR-ELECT:	
Specific Action Recommendations for Board to Consider:			
The Endowment Fund Committee met to review the Committee Guidelines, Investment Policy for TSSRM, the financial statements for 2008, and the financial statements for January and February 2009.			
Upon review of the 2008 and 2009 financial statements, the Endowment Fund Committee noted the following:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the Bank Fee Headings the following example narrative occurred on each statement with varying dollar amounts and dates, "1/10/08 FINANCIAL MGMT SERVICES FEE COLLECTED BASED ON A MARKET VALUE OF \$171,161.45 (AMOUNT POSTED TO PRINCIPAL CASH)". The total portfolio market value for the Endowment Fund Committee for this month was \$46,092.36. Robert Moen dispelled our concern that the Endowment Fund was supporting the management fee cost of this fund and other funds such as the scholarship fund. Each management fee is prorated and posted to the appropriate fund. The Endowment Fund had \$487.91 posted with management fees for 2008, and has \$66.29 in management fees for 2009. It is the committees concern the Texas Section SRM is paying a management fee to Frost Bank for transactions which deal with mutual funds and bond funds which usually contain management fees within the funds. Many of these mutual fund groups such as PIMCO etc contain various funds within the group that range from very conservative bond funds to aggressive growth funds. Once in a group, assets can shift from one investment strategy to another with no management fees or commissions. If the management fee of \$487.01 for the endowment fund's \$46,092.36 is extrapolated to the total amount of Texas Section SRM's total portfolio of \$171,161.45, Texas Section SRM paid Frost Bank \$1,811.83 in 2008 in management fees. Asset Allocation for the Equity investments and Fixed income investments adhered strictly to the TSSRM Investment Policy for the Endowment Fund. Allocation primarily centered within the guideline ranges with some movement towards Fixed income investments towards the end of 2008. Money market funds exceeded the guideline of 10% for ten of the months reporting, but never exceeded 11.7% which is totally acceptable. Total transactions for the 2008 year numbered in 18 Sales and 18 Purchases of Equity and Bond Funds. These 			

did not include transactions of dividends, capital gains distributions, or money market fund. Three Buys and 3 Sales for 2009 have occurred.

The transactions were for the following volumes of shares occurred:

2008 SALES - 17.695, 14.498, 4.161, 3.94, 15.136, 42.284, 12.594, 0.385, 21.975, 37.338, 5.808, 90.251,
144.357, 38.362, 62.244, 27.937, 27.193 (17 Transactions)

2008 PURCHASES - 8.025, 63.55, 11.256, 64.206, 153.527, 578.485, 57.29, 25.414, 54.714, 52.05, 17.701,
9.726, 138.915, 220.298 (14 Transactions)

2009 SALES - 209.57, 25.486, 153.917 (3 Transactions)

2009 PURCHASES - 13.411, 22.252, 30.934, 66.248, 106.609 (5 Transactions)

Transactions for the past 14 months for each of the various funds consisted of sales only, buys only, sales and buys, buys and sales of 6 funds, and two funds which were bought and sold three months later twice during this period. It is the committee's concern that the accounts are showing unnecessary activity for such stable funds in order to justify the management fee. The Portfolio Asset Allocation does not indicate that the small transactions of share lots were needed to adjust the portfolio to remain within TSSRM's guidelines.

The Endowment Fund Committee requests that the Board of Directors for TSSRM consider the Committee's recommendation that the Endowment Fund be moved to a major Investment Brokerage Firm of their choosing such as Edward D. Jones so that financial management fees be reduced or eliminated. The portfolios can be transferred at no cost from Frost Bank to another firm. The only fees that will arise will be sales charges on the new Group funds plus ongoing management fees for individual funds. As investment strategies change through the years, these Group funds will have individual bond or mutual funds to accommodate changes in investment strategy and will allow movement with no additional sales charges.

Summary of Work During Period:

Dan Caudle reported that the Endowment Fund began the year on January 1, 2008 with a total portfolio balance of \$47,852.87 with no contributions or donations to the Endowment as of December 16, 2008. The portfolio balance as of November 30, 2008 was \$36,852.17. This represented a net loss of \$11,000.70 or 23% of the overall value of the Endowment Fund through that last reporting period. The bond funds suffered at that time a 6.1% loss from purchase price while the equity funds suffered a 32.2% loss from purchase price. During the month of December 2008 the total portfolio fell to \$36,743.72 representing a loss of \$108.45 of the overall value of the portfolio. The bond funds suffered an additional loss of 0.8% loss from purchase price while the equity funds also suffered an additional 0.8% loss.

The Endowment Fund began the year on January 1, 2009 with a total portfolio balance of \$36,743.72. There have been no contributions or donations to the Endowment as of December 16, 2008. The portfolio balance as of February 28, 2009 was \$34,197.37. This represents a net loss of \$2,546.35 or 6.9% of the overall value of the Endowment Fund portfolio for the first two months this year and includes a \$313.74 withdrawal paid to the Texas Section SRM. The bond funds sank to a level of 7.1% from purchase price while the equity funds sank to level of 40.6% loss from purchase price.

Discussion via Robert on options for getting things together for next meeting. Discussion was proposed to be tabled to discuss at next meeting during the Old Business Section-Scholarship/Youth; motion passed: Lee Knox (1) and Jeff Goodwin (2).

-Grass Roots: (George Clendenin) No report.

Need a full slate for a panel-want to give awards and have nominations for each category (NRCS, County Agent, etc.)

-Membership: Ryan McClintock (not present)

Re: 2nd Call for Committee Reports for 2nd Qtr BOD meeting

Friday, April 10, 2009 7:57 AM

From: "Ryan McClintock" ryan.mcclintocksrms@yahoo.com

To: tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com, melonytssrm@zipnet.us

Message contains attachments CommitteeReportForm.doc (185KB)

I have attached the membership committee report for the 2nd quarter BOD meeting. If there is anything else that you may need please let me know.

Ryan McClintock, Membership Committee Chair

(325)245-8708

COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Membership	PERIOD COVERED:	2009 2nd quarter
CHAIR:	Ryan McClintock	CHAIR-ELECT:	
Discussion Items for the Board:			
Current Membership Numbers are as follows- 415 active members as of the end of February. I receive all of the reports now from CO. as the website membership list is no good. The latest new member report from Nov 1, 2008 to March 1, 2008 is 33 new members to the society.			
Summary of Work During Period:			
Still trying to recruit new members and contact old members whose membership has expired to see what we need to do, or why they haven't decided to renew their memberships.			
Additional Remarks:			
I still have a 2008 expired member's list that I'm trying to contact, if anybody needs it to take a look at and contact any friends that may be on it let me know. (If we could just get everyone on that list to come back we would be above 500 as a Section). Some of the people just haven't gotten around to renewing yet, but have assured me that they will. If anyone needs any additional information or there is anything that I can do please let me know.			

Look at delinquent membership list; remind people to renew: 500 member goal

-Nominations and Elections: Joe Franklin (not present)

Considerations for directors

Re: 2nd Call for Committee Reports for 2nd Qtr BOD meeting Sunday, April 12, 2009 4:33 PM
 From: "Joe or Paige Franklin" jpfrankn@gvvc.com
 To: tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com

COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Nominations and Elections	PERIOD COVERED:	1-1-09 to 4-12-09
CHAIR:	Joe Franklin	CHAIR-ELECT:	
Action Requested			
Discussion Items for the Board:			
If the board knows of anyone interested in running for office, please give me a call. Also, I need to know who is my Chair-Elect.			
Summary of Work During Period:			
Emails have been sent to committee members to begin search for candidates.			

-ORM: Tom Payton (not present)

See Report

ORM/ORS Monday, April 13, 2009 1:05 PM
 From: "tom payton" <tompayton73@yahoo.com>
 To: "Bruce Healy" tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com

Just a quick note to remind everyone of the **June 1 deadline** for award nominations.
 My computer is on the fritz again and will be out of commission for a week or so as it visits the doctor to remove its virus or bug or whatever it has wrong with it.
 Any nominations you receive or you put together personally, you can send to me either by mail or email. I will then consolidate and send out for review by members.
 Regards,
 Tom Payton P.O. Box 664 Sonora, Texas 76950.

-Planning: Jerry Payne

2012 Annual Meeting Selection-look to newsletter for nominations.

Bill Pinchak-Annual Meeting Proposal: Plains Nutrition Council meets in San Antonio every year; should SRM model their meeting after PNC? Core area for TSSRM being Temple, Waco, Killeen, Abilene. **Discussion resulting in decision to remain choosing different areas for themes.**

-Public Affairs

Melony brought up proclamation from Gov Rick Perry on Range Mgmt Month (October). Decision to discuss with Texas Native Land Alliance (TNLA) in promoting Range Mgmt Month together.

-Publication Awards: Jim Ansley - No report. Need broad set of nominations—Some available

-Resolutions: Dan Caudle

TSSRM Resolutions Committee Report

Thursday, April 9, 2009 9:08 AM

From: "Dan Caudle" <lonestar5@charter.net>
 To: melonytssrm@zipnet.us, tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com

COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Resolutions	PERIOD COVERED:	01/01/2009-04/09/2009
CHAIR:	Dan Caudle	CHAIR-ELECT:	

Specific Action Recommendations for Board to Consider:

I recommend that the TSSRM Board of Directors review the committee guidelines for the Resolutions Committee to consider the required membership of the committee. Currently the TSSRM Administrative Handbook states that all Past Presidents who are current members of TSSRM are members of the Resolutions Committee. Using those guidelines, there are currently 32 Past Presidents who are still members of TSSRM. That is entirely too many people to be on a committee. It is an impractical and unmanageable number. The current list of Past presidents who are members of TSSRM:

- *Jerry Payne, Paul Loeffler, Charles Anderson, Bob Knight, Charlie Hart, Jenny Pluhar, Bob Whitson, Larry White, Wayne Hanselka, Tim Fulbright, Lynn Drawe, Barron Rector, Dan Caudle, Allan McGinty, Butch Taylor, Darrell Ueckert, Fred Bryant, Steve Hartmann, Harold Schmidt, Ron Sosebee, Mark Moseley, Pat Reardon, Russ Pettit, Rhett Johnson, Wayne Hamilton, Chip Merrill, Bruce Foster, Joe Norris, Bob Ragsdale, Joe Schuster, Ben Sims, and Rudy Pederson.*

Many of the past presidents who are no longer active in TSSRM even though they are still members. I recommend that the committee membership guidelines for the Resolutions Committee be revised to state that the committee will consist of no more than 12 members. The membership should be made up of a Chair and Chair-Elect, and the 10 additional most recent Past Presidents who are current members of TSSRM. The Chair and Chair-Elect could be selected from among the entire group of Past Presidents and would not be limited to being among the most recent 10 to 12.

Summary of Work During Period:

The Resolutions Committee received one informal recommendation that TSSRM consider electronic voting for issues that require voting by the general membership. The recommendation was similar to recommendations that have been made in the past. Darrell Ueckert conducted a thorough review of the pros and cons of electronic voting in 2007 at the request of President Paul Loeffler. His conclusion was that he did not recommend electronic voting at the section level for a variety of reasons.

The proposal was sent electronically to the members of the Resolutions Committee for their consideration and input. I received responses from 10 members of the Resolutions Committee. The result was 9 opposed to electronic voting and 1 in favor. I shared these comments with the person who submitted the recommendation, and he withdrew his proposal.

No other proposals or resolutions have been received by the Resolutions Committee as of this date.

Discussion: Committee Guidelines modified. **Past Presidents-only 10-12 invited [Discussion] Motion Bill Pinchack (1) and Scott Petty (2) to approve proposed change to committee guidelines; Motion carried by majority vote (7 yes, 1 opposed).**

-Scholarship: Levi Tibbs – no report.
 Melony will award 4-H Scholarship.

-Young Professionals: Corey Owens report.

Young Professionals Committee Report

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 10:58 AM

From: "Corey Owens" <corey.owens@angelo.edu>
 To: "Bruce S Healy" <tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com>

COMMITTEE/TASK GROUP:	Young Professionals	PERIOD COVERED:	Jan. 2009 – April 2009
CHAIR:	Corey Owens	CHAIR-ELECT:	Haden Kiser

Summary of Work During Period:

Finalized and printed three one-page flyers for distribution. Flyers mailed to Bill Pinchak to be placed on display at Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Convention.

-Youth Activities: Derrick Scasta**Youth Activities Committee Report**

Friday, April 17, 2009 9:01 AM

From: "Derek Scasta" <jdscasta@ag.tamu.edu>

To: tssrm_secretary@yahoo.com, melonytssrm@zipnet.us

High School Youth Forum: Barron Rector and Hoyt Seidensticker, Youth Range Workshop (YRW) Co-Coordinator, accompanied 3 youth to the 2009 Society for Range Management Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico in February to participate in the High School Youth Forum program. Barron Rector serves as the Co-Coordinator for the SRM High School Youth Forum and Hoyt Seidensticker is a member of the High School Youth Forum Sub-Committee. Robert Buchholz (Eldorado, TX) placed 5th, Laura Stapper (Ozona, TX) placed 6th, and Daniel Haverlah (Ingram, TX) placed 12th. Daniel was asked to speak first during presentations which is an honorable position. Texas delegates also participated in educational workshops during the program. These three delegates will all be invited to give their talks at the opening ceremonies of the 2009 Youth Range Workshop.

Financial Management: The Youth Activities Committee would like to thank the TSSRM Board of Directors for honoring the request at the last board meeting for funding to assist in covering the travel expenses of our 2009 HSYF delegates and sponsor. Your continued support of these outstanding youth is an investment in our future. Thanks so much!

Efforts to continue the solicitation of sponsorship funds are underway by several members of the committee. To date, many previous sponsors are coming through for the 2009 YRW.

Media and Advertising: In February all County Extension Offices received a mailout with YRW information and all County Agents (Ag and Natural Resources and 4H) received an email with similar contents. Approximately 300 Ag Science Teachers have also received information regarding YRW and Hoyt Seidensticker submitted an article that ran in the web-based Ag Teacher newsletter distributed from Austin.

New Youth Activities Committee Chair-Elect: After much discussion and consideration, **Dandy Kothmann** (USDA-NRCS, San Angelo) has been selected to serve as the Chair-Elect for our committee in 2009 and thus the Chairman for 2010 and 2011.

Dandy has served as a director and presenter at Youth Range Workshop in the past and has given needed leadership for our Student Activities efforts. Please welcome her and support her as we move forward.

Directors for the 2009, 55th Annual Youth Range Workshop:*Barron Rector, Co-Coordinator, College Station, TX**Hoyt Seidensticker, Co-Coordinator, Comfort, TX**Jenny Pluhar, Consultant, Canyon, TX**Paul Loeffler, General Land Office, Alpine, TX**Derek Scasta, Navarro County Extension Agent, Corsicana, TX**Kelly Jones, Bastrop County Extension Agent, Bastrop, TX**Bob Knight, Professor – Texas A&M University, College Station, TX**Lee Knox, USDA-NRCS, Abilene, TX**Keith Blair, Consultant, Bandera, TX**Hugh Magers, Retired Pastor, College Station, TX**Marybeth Bauer, Ingram High School Science Teacher, Ingram, TX**Dandy Kothmann, USDA-NRCS, San Angelo, TX**Russell Kott, Kimble County Extension Agent, Junction, TX**Billy Kniffen, Texas AgriLife Extension Service – Rainwater Harvesting Specialist, Menard, TX**Dr. Roger Q. Landers, Jr., Retired Extension Range Specialist, San Angelo, TX**Dr. Jason Johnson, Extension Agricultural Economist, Stephenville, TX***-New Business:**

- **Dan Caudle submission of Texas Forest Service Article**

An article from www.star-telegram.com

Thursday, March 26, 2009 10:19 AM

From: "Dan Caudle" <lonestar5@charter.net>

Since when did mesquite and juniper infested rangeland become forestland?**Dan**

Posted on Wed, Mar. 25, 2009 (Fort Worth Star-Telegram)

Tree count places Texas No. 2 in forestlandBy JACKIE STONE
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — The first detailed statewide tree count in Texas history is headed toward this conclusion: Texas is No. 2.

The Texas Forest Service said Wednesday that initial results of the first inventory outside East Texas indicate that the state has 60 million acres of forestland. That ranks second to Alaska and represents about 23 percent of the forestation in the southern United States.

State foresters have counted trees in the Piney Woods since the 1930s. But this was the first scientific statewide tally.

"Last one we had was some dude on a horse in, like, 1904 rode through there and made notes," said Burl Carraway of the Texas Forest Service.

The 10-year study is at the halfway point. But Tom Boggus, the state forester and interim director of the forest service, said he doesn't expect the number to change. The projection was made from 10,000 plots of land scattered from the heavily wooded areas of East Texas to the plains of West Texas.

The forest service called the report a base line for all change — like the U.S. census, but for trees.

"Before, we didn't know. We would just do a track at a time and hope we're effective," Boggus said.

"But now, we can go back and say, 'Yeah, we have made a real impact on the " mesquite control, or juniper control, or water quality.'

The report says 35 percent of Texas forests are mesquite woodlands, 25 percent are hardwood and 18 percent are juniper, also known as cedar.

Boggus said the ongoing inventory helped the forest service measure damage from the hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast in recent years.

The forest census could also help state and private landowners evaluate the potential for biomass and alternative energy use, wildfire risk and wildlife, Boggus said.

Another 10-year survey will begin after the current one ends in 2014.

Last one [forest tally] we had was some dude on a horse in, like, 1904 rode through there and made notes." Burl Carraway

Texas Forest Service

Mesquite tree count puts Texas at #2 for forestland. Discussion on mesquite and cedar as woodlands/forestlands!? Report is based off the Forest Service report. Discussion tabled until after lunch.

- **Merchandise items:** Melony—responsible, look at catalogue items
- **Board Members-** Liaison to committee chairs

-Lunch break-

-Resume: 12:45 PM

- **Resumed discussion regarding Texas Forest Service article (Caudle submission):** No action now, resolution later if needed. Discussion: Send inquiry to Texas Forest Service—what is definition of “forest”. Requesting definition of forestland with respect to mesquite in article in Fort Worth Star.
- Send in TSSRM director contact info to stay current?
- Committee chair elect appointments- Bill Pinchack
- Prescribed Burn Workshop Symposium—Move in direction of fire awareness/wildfire prevention? Discussion to have as topic, but not entire direction. Contact county judges/officials organizations to work with their schedule.
- Range Flash letter- Range Educational Program, \$\$
- Advisory Council- Annual Mtg for SRM to be held in Texas in future (2013?) Small discussion as to locations; no determinations.

Next TSSRM Board Mtg: Friday July 17th, 9AM (corrected in agenda from the 28th)

Fall TSSRM Board Mtg: October 6th, Tuesday evening at 5PM in Beaumont

Motion to Adjourn Mtg 1:08PM: Jeff Goodwin (1) and Jerry Payne (2)
Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Wolff, Acting Secretary