

Texas Section Society for Range Management
Annual Business Meeting
Wichita Falls TX
October 16, 2003

Meeting called to order at 4:12 pm by President Jennifer Pluhar. *67 People were present.*

2003 Annual Meeting report given by Brad Teplicek and Jerry Payne.

As of Thursday morning:

- 292 members registered
- 222 present at lunch
- 254 registered for banquet
- 22 Past Presidents in attendance.
- 95 people attended Technical Tour.
- 50 day registrations for Thursday
- 15 day registrations on Wednesday (Tour Day).

Thank you to all the committee members for all their hard work.

Get people involved – use new members as committee members when hosting an annual meeting.

Thank you to all annual meeting sponsors.

A special thank you to President Jennifer Pluhar.

Youth Activities Committee report was given by Hoyt Seidensticker, chair.

Robin Morris presented her High School Youth Forum speech.

President Pluhar thanked the Board of Directors and Officers for all their work in the past year.

Minutes of the October 2002 Business Meeting in Abilene was presented to the membership. *Motion by John Walker, second by Bill Pinchak, to approve the minutes as presented.* Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report was given by Harold Bryant.

- As of 12/31/2002, we have \$165,850 in net assets (all funds).
 - \$45,800 in the TSSRM Memorial Scholarship Fund
 - \$33,000 in the TSSRM Endowment Fund
 - The Auction raised \$3,625.
 - \$42,500 in the Bill Wyche Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Two wonderful meetings
 - Margaret Bowman donation, and Interest from Endowment, helped fund new outreach efforts
- The Financial Audit was completed by the Audit Committee and submitted to the Board of Directors for approval.

Motion by Paul Loeffler, second by John Hunter, to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

SRM Office report by Leonard Jolley. Leonard is 18 months into the 3 year assignment at the SRM Office.

- There are new products out of the SRM Office. A new Careers Brochure has been sent to all accredited schools.
- New *Biodiversity of Rangeland Resources* fact sheet is out. It is the first of four to be produced.
- He has heard good compliments on the SRM Office from all sections. People are happy with the service from the SRM Office.
- Currently there are 3700 members. The SRM Office sends membership reports to section membership chairs. This includes a list of recently expired members.
- The SRM website is up and we hope we have success with it.
 - Please verify your email address on file with the SRM Office is correct. The SRM Office is now sending out the Member Resource News and Range Flash to all members via email.
- Several SRM members represented the Society at the International Grassland Conference in South Africa over the summer.
- Certified Professionals in Rangeland Management: Currently there are 599 certified in the US. 102 of these are in Texas. Classes offering CPRM CEU's are posted on the SRM website – if submitted for prior approval.
 - Melissa Teague passed her exam.
 - American Forage and Grasslands Council has been contacted to set up a partnership in the CPRM program.
- Technical Service Providers – It has been difficult to sign up in the past, but the process has been improved. Hopefully it will get better and there is a TSP Help Desk in Ft Collins (CO) to help out with problems. For further information, see the website.
- The SRM display is in the hotel lobby. Lots of information is available at the booth, so stop by for a visit.

SRM 2005 Annual Meeting report by Dan Caudle. Dan and George Peacock are the general co-chairs. Seven major committees, with several subcommittees, have begun working hard since 2000. The attendance goal is 2005 people. Saturday and Sunday will feature **pre-conference workshops** targeted to local Dallas/Fort Worth residents, small acreage landowners, and area ranchers. This is a non-traditional SRM audience, so these workshops will feature non-traditional topics. The **Grand Opening Extravaganza** on Sunday night will feature Michael Martin Murphey.

The Membership Committee reported on the Texas Section membership. Currently, we have 506 members – up 49 from last year.

The Planning Committee (Bob Whitson, chair) reported that 6 west Texas cities were invited to this meeting to give presentations on hosting the 2006 TSSRM Annual Meeting. Three cities – Midland, Odessa, and Del Rio – accepted the invitation and are at this meeting. The planning

committee will be working with these cities before making a recommendation to the TSSRM Board for approval at their next meeting.

Nominations and Elections Committee reported that Charles Anderson is the new 2nd Vice President, while Bill Pinchak and Hoyt Seidensticker are the new Directors. It was indicated that Bruce Healy will serve as the new secretary.

Scholarship Committee (Paul Loeffler) reported

- \$500.00 to MS Fund
- 4/30/2003 TNR to MSF +8.44%.

We are seeing a small number of applicants for the TSSRM Memorial Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee and Board agreed to work with the State 4-H Foundation to award the scholarship with their application process. Discussion has been initiated with the State FFA Foundation to pursue similar avenues.

The Legacy of Rangeland Stewardship Video (Melony Sikes reporting) was funded by the Margaret Bowman grant, interest from the Endowment Fund, and _____ (GLCI?) Grants. Video was taken at 9 Texas Ranches to get information on rangeland stewardship to High School Students (target audience for the video). The order form for the video will be posted on the TSSRM website. Cornerstone Enterprises needs all TSSRM members to help in marketing the video. The video will be for available to order at \$99.00 in many educational magazines. *Bob Whitson thanked Melony for the wonderful job in taking on this project.*

The President's Report as given by Jennifer Pluhar. She emphasized that outreach was increased by having the TSSRM booth at more events.

Motion to adjourn by Bill Pinchak. Second by John Hunter. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Hoyt Seidensticker, Secretary