

Regular winter meeting was called to order at 8:09 am. Present were: Charles **Anderson** – President, Paul **Loeffler** – 1st Vice President, Jerry **Payne** – 2nd Vice President, Bill **Pinchak** – Director, Cody **Scott** – Director, Robert **Lyons** – Director, **Tim Reinke**– Director, and Bob **Knight** – Past President, Robert **Moen** – Treasurer, Bruce **Healy** – Secretary, Don **Cox** – incoming Director, Lee **Knox** – incoming Director, Jeff **Goodwin** – Newsletter Editor, Mike **Stellbauer** – Membership Committee, Jason **Campbell** – SRM EVP. *Absent were:* Hoyt **Seidensticker** – Director, Phillip **Wright** – Director.

MEETING MINUTES: Minutes of the regular summer meeting were distributed to the board. Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by **Pinchak**. Second by **Scott**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

TREASURER’S REPORT: (*Moen*) report attached

Balances listed below *as of September 30, 2006:*

GOF Checking	\$24216.26
TSSRM Endowment Fund	\$42269.20*
TSSRM Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$58792.47*
Bill Wyche Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$50894.15*
TSSRM Youth Endowment Fund	\$10001.00*

*Estimated as of 8/31/06.

Additional information from the Treasurer:

- The key item for section fundraising is annual meeting attendance – need 120+ regular members attending.
- Investment Criteria for the Endowment, TSSRM Memorial Scholarship, and Wyche Memorial Scholarship funds presented for review. Updated Scholarship Committee guidelines also presented for review in the treasurer’s packet.
- Discussion on investing the set aside funds for the publication printing, etc. for a short term.

Motion by **Knight** to accept the treasurer’s report as presented. Second by **Payne**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Phillip Wright joined the meeting at 8:20 am.

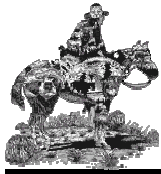
OLD BUSINESS:

Stewardship Video:

There were orders for 2 videos to NASCO to be paid for in the fourth quarter. No other sales were recorded for the summer months.

I still have not received any of the copies back from John Walker. There were 10 copies sent to him for an international conference. I do not have an update from John on any sales from the conference-although he may have reported to you directly. I do not have any contact information for John.

The CAST Convention is coming up November 9-11th at the MPEC Center in Wichita Falls. I have reserved and paid for a booth at this convention. If SRM would like to participate, please let me



know as soon as you can. We are willing to share the costs of the booth if SRM would like to promote the Youth Range Workshop, and of course the Legacy program will be marketed as well.

The link to the CAST web site is <http://www.statweb.org/exhibits/>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the office.

Sincerely,
Monica Hightower

President directed TSSRM pay Cornerstone Video for the 10 copies – no motion required.

TSSRM will attend the CAST convention and split the booth cost with Cornerstone. Loeffler will coordinate delivery of the booth and staffing.

Discussion on the Video: (Loeffler) Video sales are virtually non-existent. Two problems identified: 1) VHS format; 2) good video but no supporting materials to go with it (lesson plans, etc.). Activities and Youth Activities Committee have started working on development of lesson plans, etc. to increase its desirability prior to its loss of “currentness.” (Pinchak) I don’t think this video is “teachable” material for students, but it is a good video – it is not designed for a classroom experience. (Scott, Pinchak) This video is too long for classroom teaching. (Campbell) If it is paid for, come up with a new marketing plan to give it away. (Anderson) We need to come up with handout materials (CD, etc.) to hand out at CAST and VATA.

Budget: No further discussion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

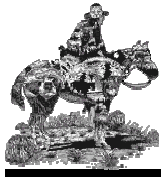
Activities (Loeffler): CAST conference upcoming – jointly with Cornerstone. Booth was also just at The Wildlife Expo in Austin last weekend. Plant ID contest sponsor @ Wildlife meeting. TSCRA was biggest event. We have spent considerable effort to set up a tour with TSCRA of the joint ORSM Award winner – TSCRA seemed to drop the ball on wanting to do a joint tour. There have been some changes at TSCRA with our contacts, so we will need to continue to work on the ORSM Award and develop it into a tour.

Handout – proposal to consider combining Activities and Information & Education Committees into a joint Activities & Education Committee. Send all comments for a final decision on combination of the two committees prior to the Winter Board Meeting. TSSRM needs to be active in the public forum/meetings to keep our presence known and out there.

Annual Meeting:

2006 TSSRM Annual Meeting – Del Rio (Moen): 166 preregistered.

Pinchak question to **Campbell** on SRM Committee Structure – *Tenure on committees: How is it working at SRM? SRM is struggling with it from two angles: anything*



assigned to everyone doesn't get done/engaged in the committee activity. Functional committees need to have a mandate to get things done (planning, outreach, integration) annually. *Some are vital & functioning and others are languishing.* Campbell wants to capitalize on the Young Professionals Conclave and get them involved. *We need passion with structure to avoid a shotgun approach.* **Pinchak** – we need an institutional memory to keep from recreating the wheel.

2007 TSSRM Annual Meeting - Lubbock (Sosebee): @ Holiday Inn South Park Hotel.

Several handouts (proposed agenda and budget). Wed will Board Meetings. Thursday will be a Field Tour/Meeting – everything in the field all day. Banquet will be Thursday evening at Ranching Heritage Center. Friday will be meetings at the hotel. Holiday Inn hotel will be onsite here in Del Rio take hotel reservations for next year. \$100 registration fee (tentative). It is recommended that the budget be developed around 175-200 people.

Anderson – I have a concern on doing everything by bus tour for the annual meeting after the past experience in earlier meetings.

Loeffler – Depending upon the decisions of the TTU & TAMU athletic departments (regarding hosting the game @ The Cotton Bowl), the weekend after our meeting the game will be there in Lubbock. If anyone is interested in attending the game, you need to talk to the hotel lady at this meeting here if you want to stay additional days, and arrange your own tickets. Folks need to know about it.

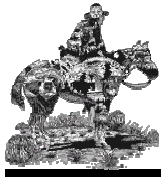
TSSRM selected Lubbock at the 2007 Annual Meeting host city on January 5th, 2005. The Board of Directors hereby authorizes the 2007 Annual Meeting Planning Committee to open a Checking Account at the local financial institution of their choice. *Healy prepared 3 sets of authorization paperwork – one for the AM Committee, one for the Treasurer, and one for the Secretary to maintain file copies.*

Motion by **Knight** to authorize bus reservations for the 2007 section annual meeting; open the checking account, **including seed money of \$2500**, etc. Second by **Payne**. **Motion carried unanimously.**

2008 TSSRM Annual Meeting - Nacogdoches (Payne): We need to work hard to get everyone to attend due to the location. The AM Committee needs help in coming up with a good meeting theme and folks to help host on the annual meeting crew, especially AM Chairs. **Pinchak** – I think it is really important we have a lot of input on how to make Nacogdoches attractive to our membership.

Awards (Caudle): The 2006 TSSRM Awards Committee submitted five nominations for SRM Honor Awards to the SRM Honor Awards Committee. We were very successful with our nominations. Four of the five nominees will be honored during the SRM Annual Meeting in Reno.

The SRM Honor Award recipients and their nominators have been notified by SRM. The nominators are developing ½ to ¾ page summaries about the recipients, which will be read



during the award presentations. The committee will develop news articles about all TSSRM members who will receive these SRM Honor Awards. The articles will be submitted to the recipients' hometown newspapers as well as other appropriate media outlets.

Our committee also solicited nominations for TSSRM awards. We submitted news items concerning award guidelines and nomination deadlines. The items were published in the May-June and July-August issues of *Grass Roots*. We extended the nomination deadline for TSSRM awards to August 15 in order to give members more time to submit nominations. Committee members reviewed all nominations. The following TSSRM members were selected to receive awards this year.

We had another nominee for the OYRP Award. Since we can only select one recipient per year for this award, his nomination will be forwarded to the 2007 committee for their consideration. We also had a nomination for the Special Recognition Award, but the TSSRM Board of Directors took no action, so we will also forward this nomination to the 2007 committee for their consideration.

I have ordered the award plaques for the awards that will be presented at the annual meeting in Del Rio. I decided to continue the business relationship that John Hunter had with Paddle Tramps Mfg. Co. in Lubbock since they have provided our plaques for many years. They were extremely helpful and appreciative of our continued business. Dr. Ron Sosebee will pick the plaques up on September 29 and bring them to Del Rio.

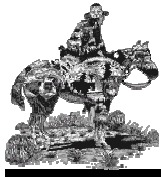
The committee will develop news articles about the award recipients. The articles will be submitted to the recipients' hometown newspapers as well as other appropriate media outlets.

Jeff White has been selected to serve as the Chairman of the TSSRM Awards Committee for 2007. Please encourage Jerry Payne to appoint a chair-elect for this committee early in the year so that he or she can work closely with Jeff throughout the SRM and TSSRM award nomination, review, and selection process.

Lyons – we need to encourage the committees, AM, etc. to advertise earlier to get nominations, etc. We need to target emails on single subjects in addition to the newsletter. **Pinchak** suggests that all this information be submitted through the Newsletter Editor for distribution – concurrence by **Wright**.

Knight, Goodwin & Healy requested to work with **Campbell** at see how to update the electronic distribution process through the SRM Office. Report by the Winter Board Meeting.

Knox – does SRM maintain a server? What space is there on it? Can it host Section websites? With the changing landscape for agencies, there may be a need to find an alternate host server. SRM does have a large web contract. We will investigate and report back for the annual meeting.



College Activities (Miller): Six outstanding university range students will be recognized. There will be a college Plant ID contest during the annual meeting. Lee Knox will bring plaques and certificates, and Cody Scott will present the awards. **Knigh** recommended that the AM Planning Committee include the College Activities Committee chair in help setting up the Young Professionals Program.

County Level Awards (Arnold): All 4 categories will be recognized this year.

Endowment & Scholarship Fund Investments Write-up (Moen): Presented information on Endowment and Scholarship Committee guideline updates, TSSRM Investment Criteria, and the Investment Policy. Update was completed at the request of Frost Bank. **Wright** – the investments policy was updated (our management fees are nominal) to remove Board action impacts and comply with Frost Bank requests for fund management. *Everyone needs to review this, and we need to tie this down by January board meeting.* **No action taken today.**

Bill Wyche Memorial Scholarship (Cox): Committee membership is tied to specific positions. There will be a change of the day-to-day activity from Don Cox to Cindy Wyche-Stroman. Everything else will remain the same.

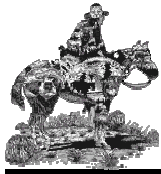
Endowment Fund (Walker): no report. Fundraising auction tonight.

Financial Audit (Bill Conner): no report.

Information & Education (Linex): no report.

Membership (Stellbauer): TSSRM Membership is at 463 as of the August 31, 2006. As a comparison, TSSRM had 509 members in January at the time of the winter Board meeting. Since January 2006, all expired members who had email addresses (about 90%) were sent a personal email as encouragement to renew their membership. Thirty-two did renew as of August 31. Eighty did not. No phone calls were made or letters sent to members with no email addresses. There were 15 new members for this time period and all were sent a personal email expressing appreciation for their membership.

TSSRM Membership Breakdown		
Type	Number	%
Regular	340	73%
Student	45	10%
Lifetime	46	10%
Apprentice	13	3%
Family	11	2%
Emeritus	5	1%
Institutional	1	.2%



Commercial	2	.2%
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Stellbauer: SRM Office has started a membership signup contest called the **First Annual Membership Roundup**. A section must increase membership by 5% (<25% student). TSSRM would need 23 total. Targeted at new or lapsed members. Cash incentives for 1st (\$1000) or 2nd place (\$500) winning sections (% increase). There are new application forms for the challenge. **Wright** - Person signing up the most new members will get a comp registration at the Lubbock meeting. **Pinchak** – we need to develop a TSSRM membership initiative (in concert with the national initiative) and they get a comp registration at Lubbock meeting – regardless of how the SRM membership campaign – whomever recruits the most members.

SRM dues are now eligible for federal payroll deduction.

Newsletter (Goodwin): Reminded everyone of the due dates for each issue for 2006 & 2007. Anything from the Annual Meeting due ASAP.

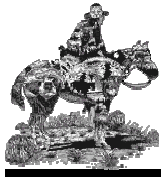
Nominations and Elections (Rector): Discussion Items for the Board: The Election period for 2006 was reduced from 60 days to 45 days. With a ballot voting closure on September 15th, a total of 232 actual ballots out of 463 mailed were received. This is a voting return rate of 50.01% or the highest we have had in the past 3 years. I also had three ballots returned by the US Postal Service as no forwarding address for three student members was known.

Summary of Work During Period: On October 2-3, 2006, a total of 463 ballots were mailed to TSSRM members accounted for on the July SRM list of members. For 2007 2nd Vice President candidates on the ballot included Melony Sikes (NRCS) and Matthew Wagner (TPWD). Candidates on the ballot for TSSRM Director included Lee Knox (NRCS), Billy Kniffen (Menard County Extension Agent), Don Cox (UT Land System) and Poncho Ortega (Assistant Professor at A&M-Kingsville).

Voting ended on September 17 when the last ballot postmarked with September 15th arrived. The election results and the audit of the election show that the following have been duly elected: Melony Sikes, Second Vice-President; Lee Knox, Director; and Don Cox, Director. All candidates were informed of the election results by September 26th. These election results were shared with President Charles Anderson on September 26th. The ballots were audited by the independent group of Mr. David Inbody and Mr. Chris Freed with the Center for Grazing and Ranch Management at Texas A&M University.

The 2006 Nominations and Elections Committee consists of Chair Barron Rector and Members Fred Bryant, Larry White, Former Chair Paula Maywald, Wayne Hamilton, Homer Sanchez, Jenny Pluhar (Chair-Elect), Bill Fox, Wayne Hanselka, Dan Caudle and Kim Stine.

A financial summary of costs of doing the election for 2006 was submitted to TSSRM Treasurer Robert Moen on September 21st. The actual dollar cost for the election process



totaled \$347.85. Assistance in the election process was provided by student workers Jonna Pander and Li Yuan Tung in the office of the Committee Chair.

How the election fared, including number of ballots received per day will be discussed with the Nominations and Elections Committee meeting at Del Rio on October 11th.

The committee will actively be seeking and working on a recommendation of candidates for 2nd Vice President and Director to submit to the SRM parent society committee by December of 2006 for consideration in 2007.

Discussion on future electronic voting with hard copy to those without email: see what is possible with the *Electronic Notification Task Force* in January. Will fewer people vote electronically than if we continue with a postcard? Shouldn't it be at the discretion of the committee chair? *SRM is also looking at an electronic email voting process (Campbell).* Their input will also be helpful.

ORM (Seipp): We had very few nominations for the ORS and ORM awards this year. I think that one of the reasons was the extremely dry year and some people could not get good photos to show the country in its best. Maybe another reason is we are not getting enough word out to members to solicit nominations. Stephen Zuberbueler will handle the ORM activities at Del Rio, as I will not be able to attend because of a family obligation.

Planning Committee (Knight): Picked up 2 bids on the way here, 2 others to present onsite: Beaumont, Galveston, New Braunfels, and College Station. Victoria & Hunstville may also come. Long term, we may want to change the rotation order – instead of a clockwise pattern, go a star pattern to better disburse the meetings and not have two years in a row in the same general area. *Meeting today at 1:30 pm this afternoon – folks encouraged to attend.*

Public Affairs (Moseley):

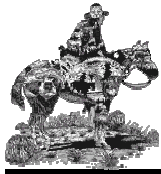
- Will Conrad and myself met with Dee Ann Cameron and the City of Austin PAS to outline a media campaign. Results were presented to the BOD at mid-summer meeting.
- Arranged for Governor to designate October as Range Management Month for Texas. Submitted one news article to president for state-wide distribution highlighting Range Management Month.
- No other requests for action from the BOD at this time.

Publication Awards (Briske): Awards will be presented in all 3 categories.

Resolutions (McGinty): No resolutions have been presented for review.

Scholarship (Hohlt): **no report.**

Youth Activities (Knox): YRW was once again a finalist for the TCEQ Environmental Excellence Award (top 5). Barron Rector was recognized for his 25 years with the YRW – shirts and print award. 3 youth are scheduled to attend the SRM HSYF in Reno. Hoyt is



now assistant YRW coordinator. YAE – working on structure of endowment committee, fundraising, etc. (To send 3 students to HSYF, it is \$2500-\$4500 annually.) **Knox:** YRW is a young man's game – we need to involve more new employees. **Anderson:** recommend that the YAC ask NRCS directly to involve more FO employees in the YRW – precedent has been set with the Brigades, so ask more NRCS folks. **Knox:** YRW is a great recruiting tool for future SRM membership.

NEW BUSINESS:

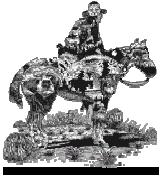
Rangeland Coalition Task Group (*Anderson & McGinty*): We have plans for an initial meeting on December 5-6 (location TBD). This meeting will be small and the purpose will be to develop a mission statement and guiding principles. *Groups invited to this meeting are Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raiser's Association, Nature Conservancy, Texas Grazinglands Conservation Initiative, and Texas Wildlife Association.* Following this meeting each group will take the mission statement back to their respective organizations and seek approval and acceptance. Once completed, then an open invitation to join will be extended to other organizations.

Rio Grande Joint Venture (*Anderson*): The names of Lynn Drawe and Albert Miller were forwarded to TPWD. Neither of the individuals will be able to attend the initial meeting (October 17-18, 2006).

Tenure of Committee Chairs: There is no consistency on what the committee chairs do, appointment process under the current method, so we need a new process. Thus, I propose that we develop a rotation of appointments for 2 years – set up one half to go off each year. We also need a discretionary way to get rid of nonfunctioning committee chairs. We could consider having a second chair elect, chair elect, and then chair process – just as we have 2nd VP, 1st VP, and Pres for officers. *Anderson, Loeffler, Payne, Scott and Sikes are appointed to an administrative task force to consider the future committee structure, and committee chairship process and timeline for implementation.*

Anderson: We are currently financially stable. Everything in the TSSRM is down to priority commitment, and time. We have an elaborate structure in TSSRM, but it's not working, so we need to fix it. **Knox:** If you want to involve them, be proactive and invite them. Also, ask them to serve on committees. We haven't done as good a job of goal setting as we need to. Some feel we are getting meetings too far from the center of Texas, and thus, it is difficult to attend.

SRM Headquarters Report (*Campbell*): My goal is to leverage the resources of the parent society to better serve the sections. SRM has been focused on structure and process for a long time. We haven't focused on the social side for services. I'm going to work hard to help all the sections as much as we can. It is diverse and some want us to be more politically active. The SRM Board is considering having ex-officio board positions for student and young professional members.



Pinchak: Is there any interest in have a state range club meeting as a part of this meeting (and other similar groups)? Ask the young professionals to help organize one day of the Nacogdoches meeting – what’s important to them to learn?

Next Meeting: Winter Board Meeting, (>16th January – Thurs/Fri)

Location	TBD (~Kerrville, Mason, Brownwood, Junction area)
Date	January 18-19, 2007
Time	Noon

Loeffler – if you make your hotel reservations for Lubbock here at Del Rio – one person will be selected for a comp registration.

Motion to Adjourn by **Name**. Second by **Name**. *MEETING ADJOURNED AT Time.*

Bruce S. Healy, Secretary