



Regular summer meeting was called to order at 9:17 am. **Present were:** Paul Loeffler – President, Melony Sikes – 2nd Vice President, Donald Cox – Director, Lee Knox – Director, Cody Scott – Director, Robert Moen – Treasurer, Phillip Wright – Director, Charles Anderson – Past President, Jeff Goodwin – Newsletter Editor, and Bruce Healy – Secretary. **Absent were:** Jerry Payne – 1st Vice President, Robert Lyons – Director, and Tim Reinke – Director. [Quorum has been established.](#)

ANDERSON is cooking lunch.

MEETING MINUTES (Healy): Minutes of the regular spring meeting were distributed to the board via email in June. [Motion to approve the minutes as submitted by Wright, seconded by Knox. Motion carried unanimously.](#)

TREASURER’S REPORT (Moen): Fund balances:

General Operating Fund (as of 6/30)	\$ 27,505.27
TSSRM Endowment Fund (as of 5/31)	\$ 48,020.32
TSSRM Memorial Scholarship Fund (as of 5/31)	\$ 66,585.71
Bill Wyche Memorial Scholarship Fund (as of 5/31)	\$ 56,927.45
TSSRM Youth Endowment Fund (as of 5/31)	\$ 10,001.00
General Operating Fund CD's (as of 5/31)	\$ 20,000.00

- 2006 year is complete – however Financial Audit is yet to be completed. \$4000 Profit in 2006 (entire year). Detailed CY06 breakdown provided on each account.
- **Robert, thanks for all your effort!**

[Motion to approve the treasurer's report as submitted by Scott, seconded by Sikes. Motion carried unanimously.](#)

NEWSLETTER (Goodwin): Oral Report – Next newsletter on/about Aug 1st. Articles due the 15th of this month.

Discussed some changes on email distribution last night, which we will implement right away. Reviewed proposed articles for coming issue. Still working on “other recipients” list (electronic distribution). Jeff is very thankful for the recent donation to the newsletter. Jeff noted that he has received emails from Oregon and other states regarding the excellent newsletter.

- Loeffler indicated that the **Grass Roots** newsletter was cited for excellence several times at the recent SRM summer meeting – recommendations were that SRM follow suit. Loved the color and photos! KUDOS!!

WEBSITE (Goodwin): Oral Report - The website is now live! We still have a few items to post, but it is working.

Director's Password protected page presented for review. Certifications page to be added. List of all past award winners has been submitted. Also cleaning up all the links.

- Idea on Texas Rangelands information page.
- Need more pictures, etc. for the website.

OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Meeting Site Selection Process/Planning Committee (Anderson): Discussion on determination of a section “core area,” and meetings outside of the “core.” Hold 3 years in 4 within the core. **65% of the membership falls within the core if we adjust the core area map slightly (done).** Discretion of the planning committee of which CVBs to consider bids from. **Request of the planning committee to try and have consecutive meetings at least 100 miles apart.**

- Loeffler noted it was interesting that the same things we are dealing with on the section level are the same things happening at the parent society level.
- An eNews notice on 2010 AM bid process has been sent out to the membership.

[Move by Knox, second by Wright to approve this process for immediate use. Motion carried unanimously.](#)

Legacy of Rangeland Stewardship Video Marketing Plan (Sikes): Met with Monica – would like a news release put out again to promote the video. [Waiting to hear from the new STC \(D Gohmert\) on NRCS Ethics before proceeding with selection of a new person to work further on the marketing plan.](#)



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Activities (Payne): We are moving along with the workshops attending. Committee decision made not to attend VATA. Wildlife Expo is 1st weekend of October.

Annual Meeting:

2007 – Lubbock: Annual Meeting registration and tentative agenda emailed out July 5th. Don Cox provided update on exhibitors/sponsors. If you would, contact anyone you know personally as a follow-up to next week's mailing. Also plan to contact all SWCDs and the Farm Credit system, etc.

- Request to recognize Annual Meeting sponsors and exhibitors on the web page – Motion by Scott to allow exhibitors to provide their logo and web link to be posted on our web page until the next annual meeting; sponsors will be listed on the webpage. Second by Wright. Motion carried unanimously.

2008 – Nacogdoches (Payne): Dates are October 8,9,10. All AM committees appointed. Encourage everyone to attend. Everything proceeding on schedule.

2009 Beaumont (Sikes): (verbal report) Update on hotel contract and general meeting information. I am really excited about going to Beaumont. Plan to focus on (healthy) rangelands and their impacts on marsh and estuary systems.

Hotel to allow 4 students to stay in the room (must be in the contract). I plan to make a site visit in November. I have some speaker ideas and tour concepts. I hope to link up with the Coastal Conservation Association and/or other groups. We could consider a joint meeting.

Awards (White): Five nominations were submitted for SRM Honor Awards. The committee is in the process of writing up nominations for the awards to be presented in Lubbock. All award categories are being well represented; however, we do not have any nominations for the Outstanding Achievement Award. Please contact me if you know of anyone to be recognized. The deadline for the Outstanding Contribution to Rangeland Management, Outstanding Achievement, and the Outstanding Young Professional Awards is August 1. The deadline for the Fellow and Special Recognition Awards has passed. The Fellow Award is selected by the 5 immediate past presidents. The committee did receive a nomination for the Special Recognition Award. I would like to submit this Special Recognition Award to the BOD for their consideration.

Board went into closed session at 11:46 am to consider the nomination. Goodwin, Anderson, Moen and Healy were dismissed.

Board returned to open session at 11:52 am. Motion by Scott, second by Sikes to approve the award as submitted. Motion carried by majority vote (1 abstain).

College Activities (D Kothmann): no report.

County Level Awards (Teplicek): Call for nominations in July 5th TS Member Bulletin (deadline of Sept. 4th), and notice has also been sent to all NRCS Offices. So far, 1 request for an application.

- Discussion held on the name of "County Level" Awards: Is this the correct name for the award? Give it some thought.

Endowment Fund (Hartmann): Hartmann is working on some things, but no specific fundraiser this year.

Financial Audit (Moen for Conner): final audit to be completed later this summer.

Information & Education (Pinchak): no report. Working on things like regional booths, nametags, etc.

Membership (Stellbauer & Dunson): REPORT PROVIDED. TS membership is at 470 as of the July 8, 2007 SRM membership report. Reviewed expired members list (Jan-Mar). SRM has 3521 members. (Holding its own, but poor retention.)



- SRM will rerun the Membership Challenge- Sept 1st to Dec 31st (>10% increase in section's membership). One can only count new members; reinstatements from 2006 and earlier (not 2007); and ≤25% students.

Nominations and Elections (Pluhar): Presently 2 candidates for 2nd VP and 9 candidates for Director.

ORM (Stan Reinke): The ORM Committee is functioning well and it looks as if everything is on schedule. The committee received 5 nominations for the ORM Award and two nominations for the ORS Award (w/ TSCRA). I have emailed all nominations to the committee for the selection process – to reply by August 1st. I will order the gate sign and prepare the presentation for the annual meeting.

- The 2006 ORM winner (Holt Ranch, Big Lake) will be hosting a tour (Sept 20th) - contact Stephen Zuberbueler.

Planning Committee (Anderson): see above information on the new annual meeting selection process.

Public Affairs (Moseley): No report.

Publication Awards (Fox): Nomination solicitation was in Mar-Apr *Grass Roots*.

Resolutions (Ueckert): no report.

Scholarship (Loeffler for Kneuper): Scholarship was awarded by State 4-H Foundation this year to Joshua Pearson – plans to attend TAMU-Kingsville. State 4-H Foundation would like us to work with them to develop a specific scholarship application and marketing plan. **Charging College Activities and Scholarship Committees to work with State 4-H Foundation on this.**

Recessed for lunch at 12:10 pm. Reconvened at 1:09 pm. *Special thank you to Past President Anderson for cooking lunch!*

Youth Professionals (Dunson): YPC will be in charge of the Young Professionals Program at the Annual Meeting. There will be a call for papers very soon.

Youth Activities (Knox): HANDOUT The YRW was held June 18-22nd – 34 completed the week. We have started on 08 agenda and notebook.

- **Committee is investigating new activities** – Range Quiz Bowl (Uvalde pilot location); K-12 curriculum from Montana State ("At Home on the Range") – may look at working closer with teachers – looks at a good one and suggest to use it and give out to teachers; etc. **Committee will also contact sponsors about recognition on the website (similar to annual meeting).**
- **LOEFFLER – Youth Range Endowment Solicitation Committee has been active.** We are close to a significant donation to the fund. Several other contacts have been made.

Texas Native Lands Alliance (Anderson): (moved down as he was doing dishes) Things going well. Steering Committee needs one more meeting before the major kickoff. Invitations have been sent to ~65 groups to be involved. We have a website (<http://www.texasnativelands.org/>). Kickoff meeting is October 4th at the Lady Bird Johnson Center – agenda still being finalized. TNLA plans to have an annual meeting with symposia.

- **TS NEEDS TO PROVIDE INPUT ON:** *What other groups should be invited? What topics/areas should we pointing to?* **Suggestions provided:** Unrealistic stocking rates on rangeland by tax assessors. How can we educate/provide CEU's for bankers, accountants, real estate agents, tax appraisers, etc.?

NEW BUSINESS:



Committee/Board Assignments: *contact, contact, contact.* Keep them up to date on what is going on.

Federal Agencies: There is a good deal of comment that the new employee hires have good computer skills, technical background, but don't have the "on-the-ground" experience. Can we be involved in helping them learn the "on-the-ground?" The problem is going to get worse as there is only one "range" program left in the US. It is a demographics issue, we have run the pool of agriculture background youth for new hires, we now have the new employees from a more urban background.

SRM Summer Meeting Comments: Our (TS) problems are not unique – the parent society is experiencing similar things.

- Certification (CPRM) – there is currently no incentive (salary wise) from a federal agency for the certification status.
- Maybe we need to do more leadership development.
- USDA Ethics limitations impacts on employee participation.

TS 07 AM: We have a very tight schedule for the Section business meeting, SRM will have Dennis Phillippi, Allen Rasmussen, Jason Campbell present. How do we fit them all in to speak? (5 minutes for all 3 at present.)

Future Liaisons: What would be the problem with having someone from our board be a liaison between our board and Sheep & Goat Raisers Assn, Texas Wildlife Society, TSCRA, etc.? Please think about this idea.

SRM top 5 priorities for AM meeting sites: More fluid selection concept. Where we are soliciting members, they are soliciting cities and taking them to Advisory Council for input. SRM now is working with a professional meeting planner (TX cities: Austin and Fort Worth). 2011 will somewhere in the state of California (not Hawaii) – San Diego, Sacramento, or Anaheim, probably San Diego. 42 potential cities that meet our parameters, pared down to 9 cities. Boise, Portland, Spokane, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Calgary, Milwaukee, Nashville, Anchorage.

Anderson: I commend y'all to going to four board meetings. I commend Loeffler for attending the SRM Summer Board Meeting.

Next Meeting: October 10, 10 am, Ranching Heritage Center, Lubbock. Lunch will be provided.

Being no further business, meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Secretary