

Texas Master Naturalist – El Camino Real chapter

Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.

All Saints Episcopal Church

- I. Welcome
 - A. Potluck – Asian
- II. Speakers – Eric Neubauer with a Wolf spider update and Debra Sorenson with her Vulture program. We are her practice run for the annual meeting.
- III. President's report
 - A. There was a sign-in sheet for those going to the Annual Meeting who want to be in the group text for possible social events.
 - B. We have nominees for President and Vice President for the next two years. Information on their identities will be revealed later. If there are additional nominees or volunteers, please contact Debra Sorenson.
 - C. Catherine Johnson announced that our chapter's Milam Wildscape received a 2025 H-E-B Pollinators for Texas Award. She explained the process for applying and shared the guidelines we will need to follow for improving the Wildscape and monitoring specific pollinators there.
 - D. The clean-out of the Wildscape in Cameron will commence when Alan Rudd is able to do his poisoning of only unwanted plants. It is scheduled for September 27 at 9am with additional cleanout/weeding to follow Alan's part.
- IV. Officers and Directors
 - A. Liz Lewis, vice president – next month is a moth expert named Monica.
 - B. Debra Sorenson, treasurer - \$6455 in the bank
 - C. Sue Ann Kendall, secretary –
 - a. no minutes last month so nothing to approve.
 - b. We are falling down on blog entries, so please write up your interesting finds and Chapter activities.
 - D. Michelle Lopez, communications – there have been issues with licenses for the bat analysis software, but she will have information once that is sorted out. The good news is that each site registered bats.

- E. Patricia Coombs, membership/VMS/AT hours –
 - a. Yearly numbers report: 4732 hours up to today, 5900 all year. We have 47 active members and 44 people who have recorded volunteer hours.
 - b. Michelle Lopez received her 1000-hour pin.
- F. Alan Rudd, student trainer – nothing new this month
- G. Pamela Neeley, VMS/AT authorization – nothing new this month
- H. Linda Jo Conn, state liaison/iNaturalist specialist – there seem to be fewer garden spiders this year. They are impressive in that they can trap hummingbirds and frogs when the spiders are large enough.
- I. Linda Burgess, publicity/ free seed library coordinator –
 - a. She has put information on the H-E-B grant in local newspapers.
 - b. She got a card for Ann Collins for all of us to sign.
 - c. The next seed meeting will be Tuesday, September 16 from 1-3pm at the Cameron library.
 - d. There is a plan for a hands-on activity potting seeds at Steak Stein and Wine, along with the Master Gardeners.
- J. Ellen Luckey, hospitality – the next potluck theme is American food and casseroles.
- K. Janice Johnson, weekly notifications – please send in interesting items for the weekly notice email.
- V. Other business
 - A. Wizzie Brown's next presentation online will be about Kissing Bugs. They are running rampant.
 - B. Carolyn said thank you for her birthday card and cake.
- VI. Adjourn – Sue Ann Kendall moved to close and Alan Rudd seconded,
 - AT 1 hour
 - VT 1 hour
 - Hospitality 1 hour if you brought food