

**Texas Master Naturalist- Hill Country Chapter  
Board Minutes  
May 19, 2010**

**Present:** Laura Baker, Koy Coffey, Steve Dodge, Cathy Downs, John Huecksteadt, Susan Longacre, Sandy Pena, Jim Stanley, Priscilla Stanley, Gracie Waggener

With all Board Members present, President John Huecksteadt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. **Acceptance of April Minutes:** The Board reviewed the April Minutes. Cathy Downs moved to approve the minutes, and Koy Coffey seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Cathy Downs presented the Treasurer's Report for April. Jim Stanley moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, and Steve Dodge seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
3. **New Classes:** New Class Director Cathy Downs reported on the progress of the New Class Committee. The Committee has decided to have a presentation of Volunteer Projects on the first day of classes, with three projects from each county being presented to new students. Students will not be denied certification if they do not volunteer, but will be encouraged to do so. The Committee wants the students to be excited and motivated to volunteer and get involved. New students will have the option to choose from all of the active Chapter projects, not just those being presented.

The committee is also pursuing Mentors for the new students. A list of Mentors will be presented to the Board, who will make the final decision on the Mentors.

The Committee will be meeting to go through boxes of archived material to sort and cut down on unnecessary materials being stored from past classes.

**Officers and Directors Reports:**

**Vice President:** Sandy Pena reported that the speaker confirmed for the Chapter meeting in September will be Dr. Wendy Gordon with the Texas Parks and Wildlife. She will speak on Native Game and Rare Species.

**Communications:** Susan Longacre announced that news releases for the new classes will be in the area newspapers starting in May.

Due to cost cuts, Texas Parks and Wildlife will no longer be using Grovesite as the web server for the Chapter, and will be changing to Webpress. As Webpress is not user friendly, the Chapter will look into the cost of continuing using Grovesite as the Chapter web server.

**Volunteer Projects:** Priscilla Stanley reported that the Department of Agriculture is now requiring a permit for plant sales, and that no Chapter Members will be able to grow plants for sales without a Nurseryman's License. Priscilla will look into how the Chapter can get a license or permit.

**Advanced Training:** Steve Dodge reported that a group from Riverside Nature Center will be making a trip to the San Antonio Botanical Gardens, and Chapter members are invited to go on the trip.

Jim Stanley will be conducting a class on Woody PLants that will be advanced training for Chapter members.

**Membership:** Koy Coffey reported that she has received 6 applications, and has sent out additional applications to prospective students.

**Chapter Picnic:** As part of the picnic, the Board is setting up a birding, and plant ID walk at the Kerr Wildlife Management Area in the morning of the Chapter Picnic for any members who would like to participate. An email will be sent to Chapter Members to inform them of the opportunity.

**Tech Soup:** Tech Soup is a program that allows the Chapter to purchase computer software at a reduced price. At present, the only Chapter member with authority to purchase from the company is John Huecksteadt.

**New Class Representative:** Laura Baker reported that she has been contacted by Lori Pressler, who is a Science instructor at the Heritage School in Fredericksburg. The school is looking for presenters for the 2010/2011 school year, and would like Chapter Members to present to the students. This will be an agenda item for the June Board Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, June 23 , 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at Riverside Nature Center in the Nature Science Lab. All Hill Country Chapter Members are always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Gracie Waggener

Secretary