

**Texas Master Naturalist - Hill Country Chapter**  
**Board Meeting**  
**November 10, 2010**

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

Also attending: Dan Behringer, Bob McKinley, Phyllis Muska

**Absent:** Koy Coffey

President John Huecksteadt called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. **Acceptance of Minutes for October Meeting:** The Board reviewed the October Minutes. Susan Longacre moved to approve the Minutes, and Jim Stanley seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** As Treasurer Cathy Downs had not received the Bank Statements, and could not prepare a formal budget report, she gave the Board an up-date on the budget and account balances.
3. **Photo documentation Project:** The Board discussed the possibility of a new project suggested by Ginny DeWolf. As Ginny was not interested in co-ordinating the project, and photography is included in numerous projects already established, the decision was made to not move forward on this unless or until a member steps up to establish the project and act as the project co-ordinator.
4. **Audit Procedure:** The Board had discussed the idea of changing the auditing date due to timelines and paperwork. This however, would be in conflict with the State Guidelines, so the audit date cannot be changed. However, the dates of the Chapter's audit year can and will be changed to November 1 to October 31 of the following year. As the Chapter is now a 501(c)(3), the IRS requires a report from January 1 to December 31 of the following year. For 2010, an audit will be conducted for January 1, 2010 to October 31, 2010. The language of the Chapter Operating Handbook will be changed to reflect the discrepancies and date changes in 2011.
5. **Amendments of Chapter Operating Handbook:** The Board has discussed several amendments to the handbook in previous meetings. Jim Stanley moved to agree with the wording changes to the handbook, and Steve Dodge seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
6. **P.A. System:** Susan Longacre is still working to find a system that will fit the Chapter's needs and budget, and will continue with her research.

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7. **Speaker's Bureau:** At present the Speaker's Bureau list contains 11 members and 28 topics. Susan is still looking for additional members with the desire and ability to be included on the list. All of the speakers presently listed have been seen and heard at presentations. The list will be used for organizations who request a guest speaker. Cathy Downs moved to accept all the speakers listed, Sandy Pena seconded the motion which carried unanimously.
8. **Friend of the Chapter:** The Board again discussed presenting a "Friend of the Chapter" at the Holiday Party. The Chapter will present a dragonfly pin and a \$50.00 gift certificate to this year's recipient.
9. **Gift for Fredericksburg Nature Center:** The Board discussed and agreed to purchase a doggie poop bag dispenser for the Fredericksburg Nature Center. The cost would be \$100.00, which would include 1,000 bags. The Nature Center would be responsible for future re-fill bags. Jim Stanley moved to purchase the dispenser, and Susan Longacre seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

#### **Officers and Directors Reports:**

**Vice-President:** Sandy Pena announced that the speaker for the November Chapter Meeting will be Rufus Stevens from Texas Parks and Wildlife. The topic will be changing properties from Ag Tax Valuations to Wildlife Tax Valuations.

**Volunteer Projects:** The Chapter will be adding new projects. The N.I.C.E. Program with the Native Plant Society will be added to the list. Rebecca Rogers will co-ordinate for Boerne, and Gwynn Jackson will work in Kerrville with local nurseries to carry and sell more native plants.

**New Classes:** The new class representative for 2011, elected by the current class is Vern Crawford. Cathy Downs will contact Vern to be sure that he understands and can carry out all the responsibilities of the position. The vote will be announced at the Class Commencement on November 17.

With all Chapter business discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, December 15, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. at Riverside Nature Center in the Nature Science Lab. All Hill Country Chapter members and advisors are always welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Gracie Waggener

Secretary

#### Election of Hill Country Chapter Board Members

The candidates for the Hill Country Chapter Board Members for 2011 were presented by President John Huecksteadt at the Chapter Meeting, November 15, 2010. The results of the election are;

The nomination for President is Phyllis Muska.

There were no nominations from the floor.

The motion to accept Phyllis was placed by Jim Gardner, and seconded by Sandy Pena, which carried unanimously.

The nomination for Vice-President is Bob McKinley.

There were no nominations from the floor.

The motion to accept Bob was placed by Steve Dodge, and seconded by Koy Coffey, which carried unanimously.

The nomination for Secretary is Anne Cassidy.

There were no nominations from the floor.

The motion to accept Anne was placed by Mary Frances Watson, and seconded by Guy Harrison, which carried unanimously.

The nomination for Treasurer is Cathy Downs.

There were no nominations from the floor.

The motion to accept Cathy was placed by Angelo Falzarano, and seconded by Steve Dodge, which carried unanimously.

The slate of Directors will be announced by Phyllis when she has them all confirmed.