

Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter  
Board Meeting  
September 17, 2014

Present: Vern Crawford, Kathy Ward, Diane McMahon, Becky Etzler, Liz Ross, Bob Wiedenfeld, Rod Boertje, Stephen Bishop, Lisa Flanagan, and Priscilla Stanley

**Absent:** Michelle Haggerty, Sarah Hilburn, Donna Oliver-Leep

**Also present:** Jim Stanley

President Vern Crawford called the meeting to order at 1:40pm.

**Approval of August 20, 2014 Minutes:** Becky Etzler moved to approve the August 20, 2014 minutes. Lisa Flanagan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** There was no activity in the Texas Master Naturalist Holding Account and the balance as of 8/31/14 is \$17,669.07.

The 8/1/14 starting balance for the Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter Account was \$20,486.81. The primary activity in this account in August was the refund of tuition to applicants who were not accepted for New Class Training due to the need to have only 35 trainees for a more interactive classroom and field trip learning experience. The closing balance on 8/31/14 was \$19,050.08 in this account.

We will be paying a \$175 rental fee for having our New Class Reception at the Kerr Arts & Cultural Center on August 18.

In previous years, we have paid a \$175 room rental fee to the Texas Lions Camp early in the classes for the weekly use of their classroom from August 20 through November 5 at this below market cost rate.

We will be renewing our annual Chapter membership for \$150 at Riverside Nature Center.

**Vice President Kathy Ward** reported that our **Holiday Party will be on December 13 at 1:30 pm at the Lady Bird Johnson Pioneer Pavilion in the Lady Bird Johnson Park in Fredericksburg.** John Huecksteadt will lead a nature walk in the park before the party.

Kathy Ward also reported that the program for our **January 2015 chapter meeting has not been confirmed.**

**The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, October 22 at 1:30 pm at Riverside Nature Center.**

The November Board meeting will be on **Monday, November 10 at 1:30 pm** at Riverside Nature Center to avoid conflicting with the 2014 New Class Commencement.

The December Board meeting will be on **Monday, December 8 at 1:30 pm** at Riverside Nature Center.

**Volunteer Projects Outside our Chapter Service Area:** President Vern Crawford will contact Michelle Haggerty for guidance on whether our chapter members can volunteer on Alamo Chapter projects, which are outside our service area.

Several years ago, the Alamo Chapter invited our members to join them in sifting material recovered from Friesenhahn Cave in northern Bexar County. This cave was discovered in 1919, and first excavated in 1949 and 1951, in the 1970s and then in 1987. The results were reported in scientific journals. No other site except possibly the La Brea Tar Pits in California have provided a greater variety of Pleistocene fossils than Friesenhahn Cave. Our Board approved this volunteer project for our members. Our Volunteer Projects Director provided project number **KL-08-A** for the **Friesenhahn Cave** Volunteer Project. Several members volunteered there since it offered a unique opportunity to see and help recover Pleistocene bones and fossils. This project was run by Concordia University in Austin. This was a unique volunteer opportunity involving a significant natural science learning opportunity.

**Volunteer Projects Director Stephen Bishop reported that our members have reported 22,397 hours of Volunteer Service on the 70 currently-active, approved volunteer projects in our service area.**

**Class of 2013 Representative to the Board Lisa Flanagan** reported that we should have our Master Naturalist, Hill Country Chapter meetings in the Kerrville Daily Times free listings of meetings in this area open to the public. The KDT contact is Donna Gable Hatch.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Priscilla Stanley  
Taking Minutes at the request of our Secretary Sarah Hilburn