

**Minutes for STMN Board of Directors Meeting 12/7/21 – 7:00 PM
Conducted VIA ZOOM Platform & Hybrid**

Attendees: Bibi Dalrymple & Randy Bissell (in-person), Leslie Hoekstra, Michelle Alvarez, Cynthia Frank, Michele Connolly, Suanne Pyle, Mike Wenzel, Chad Huckabee, Art Siebert, Holly Grand

Call to order at 7:05 pm by Bibi Dalrymple

Prior minutes posted on website. www.txmn.org/st
There were no changes. Minutes accepted as read.

Officer and Director reports

Bibi Dalrymple – President

- Next Chapter Meeting will be January 18, speaker will be Rae Mooney from Port Aransas Nature Preserve.
- February meeting will be February 15, and the speaker will be Terry Palmer from the Harte Research Institute.

Next Presidents meeting is Monday, Dec 13, and Michele Connolly and Bibi will attend together via Zoom. Mary Pearl and Michelle also encourage chapter advisors to attend those meetings when possible.

The incoming President will present a slate of Director candidates to the newly elected Officers, Past President and Advisor(s) for confirmation by a majority vote of this Executive Committee prior to the end of the calendar year in which they are elected.

Coastal Bend Volunteer Connection (CBVC): Chuck Blend requested that the Board discuss the suggestion by Adriana Armendariz of the CC Natural Science and History Museum that our chapter create a profile on the CBVC website to raise awareness of our organization. Chad and Bibi had initially told Chuck that we didn't see it as a good fit for STMN, but I agreed to bring it up as a topic of discussion at the December board meeting. Other members also stated at the meeting that it wasn't a good fit for us.

Phillip Woods – New Class Director

Phil is hunting so he emailed his report: "I won't be able to attend the meeting as I am deer hunting."

I won't be presenting the 2022 training schedule. We have had some major differences of opinion about training venues at the last minute. The committee will be meeting next week to decide how to resolve this issue and will present our decision to the New President and New

Board in 2022. Michele C. said schedule doesn't need to be done now. Art said the committee should meet in person after the new year. Cindy said she would volunteer her house for the meeting.

We will finish 2021 training at ANWR on December 11th.

Most of our trainees have finished their IT hours and many are certified, and several have received recertification. We have had several of last year's training class received their certification. It has been a very successful training year.

We are finalizing the New Class Representative selection.

I would like to recognize the training team this year as they have really raised the bar with our training. Art Siebert, Randy and Dawn Bissell, Jon Brant, Michele Connolly, Cindy Frank, Thomas- Kieber Emmons. They have all given many hours of planning and execution to bring our training to a high level. Next year's team will have a high bar set for them.

Kimberly Ogden – Vice President not present

Cindy Frank – Volunteer Management

There are 17 of the 19 trainees that have finished IT. Most are certified and some have recertified. There are four from the class of 2020 that haven't certified yet. They are Jean Meadors, Rylee, Jen, and Lindsey Hottell. Cindy has sent reminder emails that they need to finish.

Motion to give Jean Meadors another year to finish due to extenuating circumstances. Randy made the motion, Michele C, seconded. After discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Other candidates will be reviewed independently.

Cindy said Phil is to be commended for his excellent work getting the trainees certified.

Leslie Hoekstra – Treasurer

The CD just renewed and there was a small amount of interest income. Michele C. suggested that Leslie add the expiration date to the financial report. There was a discussion about using Square. The consensus was that it was the best processor to use for credit cards. It is now live and can be used for paying memberships after Jan. 1.

Leslie's Financial Statement is appended to these minutes.

Randy Bissell – Secretary/Communications

Randy has been in charge of communications since March 2020. In that time the Facebook page has gone from 175 followers to 624 followers. The website is constantly undergoing upgrades

and is very informative and easy to use. New banners and stickers have been created and we have set up a pay site for payments.

Randy said thank you to everyone who has helped with these improvements. Due to health concerns Randy will be stepping down from the Secretary position and will be the Assistant Communication Director. Mike Wenzel will be appointed as new Communication Director. Suanne Pyle was elected as Secretary.

Michelle Alvarez – Membership

Michelle's Full Report is appended to these minutes.

Michele Connolly – New Class Representative

She is working on getting the new Class Representative for the next class. Michele C. is working with Bibi to transition into the Presidency. Randy mentioned as the new President Michele was a member of all the committees and could call committee meetings any time.

Chad Huckabee – AT Director

Chad stated that they have a lot of programs through the summer. They will include both an AT component and volunteer time. Information will be sent out one month in advance for people to register. There are now trained people besides Chad who can teach the classes.

New Business:

Kidfish at Lake CC SP: Art Siebert said he had been contacted by Josie Gunter at Lake Corpus Christi about participating in Kidfish on Jan. 29, 2022. They asked that we provide an activity table. Chad will be the liaison and will let us know the details when they are finalized.

Member VMS Status: Cindy said 46 members have recertified this year and 7 are very close. We have 89 total members.

South Texas TMN Storage Unit: Michele C. discussed getting a Climate Control Storage unit. We can get one in Flour Bluff that is 10 x 5. It cost \$75 a month or \$810 a year. There is a lot of TMN equipment at various people's homes and it would be good to get it inventoried and collected in one place. As this is a small space it will have to be very organized. Michele said it will have a combo lock, an inventory and a checkout system. The current President will oversee the storage unit.

Bibi made a motion to rent the storage unit, on behalf of the chapter for \$810/year. Chad seconded. There was discussion about kinds of tubs and organization. Bibi called for a vote and the motion passed.

Leslie presented the 2022 budget. **2022 Budget is appended to these minutes.**

Michelle made a motion to accept the 2022 budget as presented, Cindy seconded. After discussion Bibi called for a vote. The motion passed.

Financial Records Report: Michelle C. reported on the Financial Records Audit. The committee for the Audit was Cindy, Leslie, Art, Michele and Randy. There were no discrepancies. The committee said Leslie should be commended for keeping good records.

The January meeting will be hybrid. Chad has secured the Flour Bluff Middle School Library for our meeting. It will be at 7 pm on January 18. Mike and Randy will set up the equipment.

There was a discussion about what should be discussed at BOD meetings vs. general meetings. Randy stated that most of the discussion and decisions should be at the BOD meetings.

Bibi adjourned the meeting at 8:35

Meeting adjourned by Bibi Dalrymple at 8.29 pm.

Administration/Board Meeting– 1.5 hour

TEXAS MASTER NATURALISTS
SOUTH TEXAS CHAPTER
FINANCIAL REPORT
December 7, 2021

AS OF 12/07/2021

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---|
| SAVINGS | \$ 1,820.43 | |
| CHECKING | \$ 7,118.19 | |
| Check 1025 | (570.00) | Name badges |
| Check 1024 | (21.00) | State Meeting Donation |
| Check 1022 | (500.00) | 2021 Annual Meeting Fees & Accommodations |
| Check 1023 | 49.56 | |
| Deposit | 23.97 | |
| TOTAL | \$ 6,001.60 | |
| 2 YEAR CD | \$ 4,409.31 | |
| Interest | 12.36 | |
| Interest | 5.20 | |
| Interest | 2.14 | |
| TOTAL | \$ 4,429.01 | |
| TOTAL | \$12,251.04 | |

Membership Committee Report December 7, 2021

2021 in Review

- Chapter Meeting Icebreakers
- Name that Baby Whooping Crane
- Discussion Questions
- Choosing regional representative species.
- Show & Tell
- Quarterly Socials
- Art Night (virtual)
- Book Exchange
- Kickoff Cookout
- B4 Event
- Mentoring Program
- Not much traction here, but got it started.
- South Texas NatureCorps
- Part archive, part member feature.
- 9 interviews (7 mini, 2 regular)
- State Annual Meeting presentation
- **Summary: Big wins in member engagement, more efforts needed in mentoring and member recruitment.**

2022: Looking Forward

- Chapter Meeting Icebreakers
- How this looks moving forward entirely depends on the meeting venue.
- Quarterly Socials
- Would love a spring event at Welder.
- Always open to suggestions.
- Need a committee member (or two) to assist with social logistics.
- Mentoring Program
- Need a committee member (or two) to hand this off to -- preferably someone also involved with the New Class Training Committee.
- Moving forward will create a program with a bit more structure.
- South Texas NatureCorps
- Goal: Monthly regular size interviews.
- Continue mini-interviews at events.
- Member Recruitment
- So far we have been very successful filling our training classes by word of mouth.
- Would love to have a "community outreach representative" to talk to different groups, broaden our exposure, and promote our good works and upcoming training classes.
- Member Directory
- In-progress. 36 responses. <https://forms.gle/76Bm6XghU4pN7TwM7>
- Membership Categories
- "Friend of the Chapter" exempt designation to retain connections. Does this require a vote?
- VMS Admins fall under Membership Committee; please let me know if you would like any assistance with tasks or support in your roles. Thanks!
- **Summary: Seeking at least 3 committee members to better fulfill role and force me to delegate.**

Texas Master Naturalists: South Texas Chapter
2022 Annual Budget

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 | | | |
| Finance Committee | | | |
| Chairman: Cindy Frank | | | |
| Member at Large: Art Siebert | | | |
| Treasurer: Leslie Hoekstra | | | |
| INCOME | | | |
| Membership Dues | 62 x \$25.00 | \$1,550 | |
| Intern Training | 25 X \$125.00 ¹ | \$3,125 | |
| Other: Grants, Donations, etc. | 0 | 0 | |
| TOTAL | | \$4,675 | |
| EXPENSES | | | |
| MISSION BASED | | | |
| Membership Education | | | \$2,000 |
| Earth Day/Bay Day | | | \$50 |
| SUPPORT | | | |
| State Conference President Attendance Support | | | \$500 |
| State Texas Master Naturalist Foundation | | | \$100 |
| State Meeting Auction | | | \$ 50 |
| OPERATIONAL EXPENSES | | | |
| Stamps, printing, paper, cards, receipt books, checks, bank fees, etc. | | | \$300 |
| Committee Expenses | | | \$375 |
| Name Badges | | | \$325 |
| Annual Zoom | | | \$150 |
| Annual Storage | | | \$825 |
| TOTAL | | \$4675.00 | \$4675.00 |
| Ordering Curriculum texts from TAMU Press for Interns as needed | 2021 Cost = \$38.64/book | | Cost to Interns \$40.00/book |
| One Time Expense for Zoom Hybrid Meeting Equipment | | | \$250 |

¹ Breakdown of Training fee = \$15 name tag, \$25 Next year's annual dues, \$85 training fee. Text through University Press is SERVICE – Chapter income \$1.36/book

