



TMN-COT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 9:00 a.m. – 10:32 a.m.
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX

President Mickey Dufilho called the meeting to order, presented the agenda and asked for additions or corrections.

Attendance—

Elected Members of Board	Present	Appointed Members of Board/Committees	Present
Mickey Dufilho (President)	✓	Bill Ahlstrom (Immediate Past President)	✓
Kathy Pittman (Vice-President/Programs)	✓	John Boettiger (Membership Dir.)	
Lisa Myers (Secretary)	✓	Mary Schwartz (New Class Dir.)	
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)	✓	Larry Peterson (Communications Dir.)	
		Ruby Lewis (Outreach Dir.)	✓
Chapter Advisor(s)		Bob Whitmarsh (Advanced Training Dir.)	
John O'Connell (AgriLIFE Extension)	✓	Oron Atkins (Volunteer Service Dir.)	
Paul Cason (TPWD: Sea Center Texas)		Connie Stolte (State Rep.)	✓
Guests/Other		Rose Wagner (Chapter Host)	✓
Kristine Rivers (Speakers Bureau, non-board pos.)			
		Quorum	Yes

Approve Previous Board Minutes—The September Board and General Meeting minutes were sent to the Board for review, and the corrections suggested by Board Members were made. The minutes were approved.

Minutes Approval—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
Approve the September Board and General Meeting minutes	Rose Wagner	Don Sabathier	Minutes approved by unanimous voice vote of Board members present

Motions—

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded	Vote
None			

Action Register Review—Mickey Dufilho led the review. [see COT Board Action Register at end of minutes.]

Completed Action Items	Who	Comments
Coordinate logistics of changing meeting time of odd-numbered General Meeting months to 6:30 p.m. beginning with the November 2021 meeting (July 2021)	Rose Wagner, Kathy Pittman, Mickey Dufilho, Ruby Lewis, Bob Whitmarsh, Kristine Rivers	Oct: The November general meeting, initially to be held on Nov.8, was later changed to Wednesday, Nov.9, at AgriLIFE, with social time at 6:30p and a meeting start time of 7p
Need a volunteer to attend the virtual State Rep. meeting for Connie	Mickey Dufilho, Connie Stolte	Oct: Since the meeting is on Thursday, Connie can attend virtually



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BOARD REPORTS

President’s Report—Mickey Dufilho reported and/or led the discussion on the following:

- November General Meeting will be on Tuesday, the ninth; social time at 6:30 p.m.; meeting at 7:00 p.m. **Due to a conflict at AgriLIFE, the November General Meeting day was later changed to Wednesday, November 9; it will be a hybrid meeting; other evening meetings in 2022 will be January, March, May, and July
- TMN license plates can be ordered online
- The new TMN merchandise webpage is <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/> (merchandise tab)
- The TMN Annual Meeting Project Fair is on October 12 (virtual) and will include the FOBWR project submitted by COT
- The TMN *Tuesdays* topic is bats.

General Meeting Programs—Vice President Kathy Pittman provided the following status on upcoming, general-meeting speakers:

- **October**—Field Day at Cannan Bend Recreation Area
- **November**—Tony Reisinger of Red Tide Rangers, HAP Monitoring Program and/or Chris Simoniello, Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Observing Systems; Nature Note: Marty Cornell on SBNWR Bobcat Woods Trail
- **December**—COT 20th Anniversary Celebration (no intern presentations).

Past President—Bill Ahlstrom indicated that he had not yet formed the 2022 Officer Nominating Committee. Several names were suggested to Bill.

Treasurer’s Report—Don Sabathier presented the September 2021 financial information, below. Don noted that the D&O coverage, COT brochure-printing bills, and Annual Meeting scholarship reimbursements were paid in September. Revenue was primarily intern fees and the recurring, member contribution.

1-30 September 2021, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 12,993.15
Revenue Summary	\$ 399.00
Expense Summary	\$ 1,332.92
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 12,059.23

Membership—On behalf of John Boettiger, Mickey Dufilho presented Data Manager Dave Brandes’ September impact and recertification data.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—September 30	3571	5460	9031

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—September 30	8516	1490

* September only: 775 VT and 84 AT Hours

2021 Recertifications			
Christina Hartman	Tom Morris	Herb Myers	Beverly Walton

State Representative—Connie Stolte is working with Mary Schwartz on wording of Appendix 2 of the Chapter Operating Handbook to align with new State guidelines.

Training Director—On behalf of Mary Schwartz, Kathy Pittman reported that the current, new-member training class is now down to 10 (from 16 initially). Mary believes that some interns do not grasp the commitment required to complete the course. John O’Connell suggested that we consider interviewing applicants prior to acceptance into the class.

Volunteer Service Director—On behalf of Oron Atkins, Lisa Myers reported on and/or updated the following opportunities:

- **Bobcat Woods Native Plant Garden**—October 20, 21, & 22, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.; contact Ethan Davis, ACE intern, DEthan636465@gmail.com
- **BCPD Trail Day at Hanson Park**—Every third Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **GCBO Nursery Garden Workday**—Every Thursday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Saturday; contact Chris Kneupper
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—self-directed
- **Beach Sweep Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project**—October 11, 8 a.m. at Quintana Fishing Pier via 8th Street; contact Jimmy and Luanne Salinas (bring trash grabbers, 5-gallon bucket, gloves, mosquito repellent, comfortable clothing/hat, closed-toe shoes, sunscreen, water/refreshments, sunglasses, face mask, Clean Swell app)
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol**—self-directed; contact Jace Turnell
- **Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey**—self-directed; contact Melanie Hollenshead
- **Adopt-a-Loop for TMN**—self-directed; contact Deb Nance
- **Apple Snail Removal at Hudson Woods**—Contact David Heinicke
- **Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2021**—(training/testing required); self-directed; <https://txmg.org/bluebonnet/pollinator-citizen-science-project-opens-again-march-22-2021/#:~:text=The%20purpose%20of%20the%20project,USA%2C%20namely%20Texas%20and%20Oklahoma>
- **Exploration Green Nursery, Volunteer Workdays**—September date TBD, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; see their website (must RSVP at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/exploration-green-phase-2-planting-event-tickets-156553115583>; screening form and face mask required); contact Christie Taylor.

October Fall Field Day—On behalf of the committee, Rose indicated that the following needed to be arranged:

- Someone to direct parking: Lisa said that there was no need as there is plentiful parking
- Air horn to indicate rotation in sessions and timekeeper (Mickey)
- Sign at the entrance
- Method to divide people evenly into groups (Mickey)

Outreach Director—Ruby Lewis reported the following events:

- **Brazoria County Bird Bash** (Northside Elementary School, Angleton)—October 9

- **Surfside Beach Nature Fest**—October 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis
- **Refuge Saturday and Grand Opening, Cannan Bend Recreation Area**—October 16, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; contact Phil Huxford
- **KBR Kids Day**—October 23, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis
- **Kids Fishing Event at Bass ProShop, Pearland**—October 23; contact Mike Mullenweg
- **Halloween Spooktacular at Sea Center Texas**—October 24, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; contact Ruby Lewis
- **Halloween Event, Angleton Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches**—October 30; Ruby to bring reptiles
- **Refuge Saturday at Bobcat Woods Trail**—November 13, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., contact Mickey Dufilho.

Ruby added that we will not be participating at the County Fair.

Chapter Host—Rose Wagner said that she has been working with Crystal Andablo on the invitation and registration information. The committee is meeting after this board meeting and will decide how to resolve t-shirt sales tax issues.

In addition, Rose is handling snacks and water for the Cannan Bend Field Day. She will have signup sheets to obtain snack volunteers for the November General Meeting and for 2022.

Chapter Advisor—John O’Connell said that he is attending the TMN Annual Meeting in person. John also said that he has been filming all training classes and field trips.

For the October General Meeting—

- Reminder about October 13 field day and directions
- Announce November General Meeting date and time
- Ruby to provide volunteer signup sheets for outreach
- Rose to provide volunteer signup sheets for November and 2022 meetings.

Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Open Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/Ongoing	Comments
Review and update partners webpage (Aug 2019) (see below also)	Oron Atkins, Larry Peterson	ASAP	Ongoing	Apr/May/June/Jul 2021: No update Aug: Oron will provide current info to Larry and he will update webpage (including State’s definition of “partner” Sep: Oron submitted page updates to Larry including deleting Phillips 66, the combined arts organizations at Center for the Arts, and will add Texas Watershed Oct: No update
Update VPAR agreements (Aug 2019)	Oron Aktins	ASAP	Ongoing	Apr/May/June/Jul/Aug 2021: No update Sep: Oron has created a revised Partnership Agreement template and is reviewing existing VPARs Oct: No update
Committee to draft wording for harassment	Kristine Rivers (chair), Mickey Dufilho, Bill		Ongoing	Jul: Kristine will recruit committee members; Mickey will help with recruitment Aug: Kristine has information provided by Connie and Paul



and disability accommodation policies (May 2020) and... Committee to form action plan on diversity/equality/inclusion per State (May 2021)	Ahlstrom, Lou Golish			Oct: No update
Hold a brief training session on entering VMS hours via Smart Phone (Mch 2020)	?	TBD	Tabled	To facilitate the capture of more volunteer hours Apr 2020: Not discussed May: No update Jun: Tabled pending in-person general meetings Aug: Bill says there are two sessions on this at State Meeting
COT 20 th Anniversary Celebration Committee (Jan 2021)	Rose Wagner, Mickey Dufilho, Lisa Myers, Connie Stolte, John Boettiger	TBD	On-going	Rose will also ask members of the host committee if they also wish to participate Feb: Committee met 2/1; suggested that the anniversary celebration and Hog Wild be combined on Dec.8, and Ed Barrios agreed to offer his house as the venue; however, no alcohol allowed if this is an official TMN event; caterer for appetizers TBD Mch/Apr/May/June: Ongoing; Rose will report at the June General Meeting Jul: Budget was raised from \$2k to \$2.5k to cover food costs (but not alcohol) Aug: Plans proceeding; venue is First Presbyterian Church, Angleton; caterers for lunch being examined (free for members, cost for guests); cake to celebrate milestones Sep: On the River selected as caterer; guidelines for table decorations have been sent to membership Oct: Rose working with Crystal on invite/registration; committee to decide on sales tax issue
Begin the process of changing Chapter Operating Handbook to reflect current State guidelines for intern training (Aug 2021)	Connie Stolte		ASAP	Connie will draft wording for Board approval, then announce to membership 30 days in advance of vote to approve Sep: Final wording to be announced at State Meeting; Connie will work with Mary to ensure wording in training documents; Connie will initiate COH revision adoption procedures Oct: Being worked on
Investigate less expensive option to orange, waterproof journals for interns (Sep 2021)	Mary Schwartz; Don Sabathier	Before spring class		Oct: No update
NEW Action Item(s) Added at October Meeting	Who?	Due date?	Comments	
None				

President: Mickey Dufilho adjourned the Board Meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary

cc: Board Members
Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu

T E X A S



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Attendance 2021	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Elected Board Members													
Mickey Dufilho	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Kathy Pittman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Myers, Lisa	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X			
Advisors													
O'Connell, John	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			
Cason, Paul		X		X			X		X				
Immediate Past President													
Bill Ahlstrom	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Appointed Board/Committee Members													
Atkins, Oron	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Boettiger, John	X	X	X					X	X				
Edwards, Daveyon	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewis, Ruby	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X			
Peterson, Larry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Schwartz, Mary	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X				
Stolte, Connie	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Wagner, Rose	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Whitmarsh, Bob			X	X		X	X						
Rivers, Kristine (<i>non-voting</i>)	X		X				X	X					
Guests													
Crystal Andalbo				X				X					
Neal McLain				X			X						