



**TMN – COT BOARD MEETING Minutes**

**Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**9:00 – 10:30 Virtual**

**9:00 Call to Order – Kathy Pittman**

Elected Members of Board		Present	Appointed Members of Board/Committees		Present
Kathy Pittman, President		✓	Mickey Dulfilho (Immediate Past President)		
Kristine Rivers (Vice-President/Programs)		✓	John Boettiger (Membership Dir.)		✓
OPEN (Secretary)		✓	Mary Schwartz (New Class Dir.)		✓
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)		✓	Larry Peterson (Communications Dir.)		✓
			Ruby Lewis (Outreach Dir.)		
<b>Chapter Advisor(s)</b>			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.)		
<b>Guests/Other</b>			Rose Wagner (Chapter Host)		
			Roxanne Walkowiak (Class of 2021 Rep.)		✓
			<b>Quorum</b>		<b>Yes</b>

- **No new Agenda additions or corrections**
- **Discussion at beginning of call**

Orin – All DEEP events have been cancelled

John O – will not be available for General meeting next week. Larry may be able to help with computer if Crystal runs the meeting. At this point, Board decided to not hold hybrid meeting due to the nature of the AT presentation.

We need to get a notice on the meeting sent out to inform membership of change.

- **President's report led by Kathy Pittman**
  - Items shared from the State Presidents meeting



## CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER

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- Be the Change Virtual Workshop –( no one was able to attend from the chapter )
- April is Volunteer Recognition Month. We will try to have some sort of special dessert at next weeks meeting
  - 4/22 – Earth Day
  - 4/17-23 – National Volunteer Week
  - 4/29-5/2 – City Nature Challenge
- Virtual Volunteer Fair – May 4-5. Will be calling for project proposals shortly. Send to our partners who may be looking for help – Summer time frame, from home, etc.
- Annual meeting - Houston Omni.
  - Dates Oct 20-23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022
  - Planning –Kristine and Kathy attended theHouston site visit on March 21<sup>st</sup> with Mary Pearl and officers from Houston region chapters .
  - Our Chapter will team up with the Lower Trinity Basin Chapter to cover registration on Thursday and Friday, then cover Information Desk as needed rest of conference
- Harvest for the Hungry – no one was able to attend meeting on Wed April 6<sup>th</sup>. Oron said that they generally have tours on Wednesdays if anyone is interested.
- **Past President Mickey – no report**
- **VP/Programs – Kristine Rivers**
  - April – Mammal Detectives
  - May – Nash Prairie Field Trip –
  - June – Sue Heath will present on Oystercatchers

Kristine attended the Galveston Bay DEI series. They shared ideas to start engaging people that don't spent time outside. Suggestions to engage/team with existing organizations.

Future ideas – butterfly gardening - Chistine McKinny and Nancy Denmark – HMNS

Kathy to sent two names to Kristine from Keep Richwood Beautiful and Keep Angleton Beautiful

Will need to arrive early next week to arrange tables for AT presentation

- **Treasurer** **Don**



Treasurer Report

**March COT TREASURER REPORT**

DATE

1 Mar – 31 Mar 2022

<b><u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u></b>	\$12,118.32
Revenue Summary	284.88
Expense Summary	312.08
<b><u>ENDING BALANCE</u></b>	\$12,091.12

Revenues mainly dues, Expenses were AT day fees, website fees, \$100 donation to Camp Mohawk and Intern reimbursement for class cancellation. A few people that have not paid dues. Don will check with Dave Brandes to see if still active.

o Membership Director

John B

Initial Certifications	Recertifications	Milestones
None	Boettiger, John	Hollenshead, Melanie (1000)
	Cornell, Martin (Marty)	
	Griffin, Angela	
	Hollenshead, Melanie	
	Jackson-Ellis, Janet	
	Kirby, Larry	
	Kirby, Vicki	
	Myers, Lisa	
	Pittman, Kathy	



	Richardson, Kim	
	Schaffhausen, Richard	
	Schwartz, Mary	
	Tippett, Regina	
	Townsend, Janet	
	Yoder, Barbara	

**VMS Reporting –**

	March	Year to Date
<b>Hours</b>	<b>VT – 751.45</b>	<b>2,641.80</b>
	<b>AT – 318.9</b>	<b>730.25</b>
<b>Impact data</b>	<b>Adults 537</b>	<b>896</b>
	<b>Youth 379</b>	<b>530</b>
	<b>Total 916</b>	<b>1,426</b>

John reported that we’ve had 21 people recertify YTD, with 6 milestones. Pins are difficult to get, and he may not be at next week’s meeting. He will continue to acknowledge awards and get the pins/certificates to members as he can.

- **State Representative Connie – no report (absent)**
- **Training Director - no report** **Mary**
- **Volunteer Service Dir.** **Oron**

Oron mentioned an Adopt a Beach opportunity in conjunction with the April 9<sup>th</sup> Surfside event. This will be at Stallman Park

**Upcoming VT Opportunities – April/May 2022**

- Exploration Green Work Day – every Wed/Thur, 8 AM to 11 AM – contact Christie Taylor
- GCBO Nursery Garden Work Day – every Thursday, 8 AM to 12 PM – contact Chris Kneupper

- Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project – self directed
  - Beach Sweep – 4/11 & 5/2, 8 AM Quintana Jetties– contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas
  - USF&W Refuge Trail Maintenance – Dow Woods – 4/11,2/14, 8AM to 12PM– contact Lisa Myers
  - USF&W Refuge Trail Maintenance – Cedar Lake Plantation – 5/9 8AM to 12PM– contact Lisa Myers
  - BCPD Trail Work Day Hanson Park – 4/21, 8 AM to 12 PM – contact Mike Mullenweg
  - **Pearland Parks & Recreation Natural Resources Workday –4/14 Delores Fenwick Nature Center 8 AM to 11 AM**
  - Nurdle Beach Patrol – Jace Turnell – self-directed
  - Brazoria County Comprehensive Spider Survey – Melanie Hollinshead - self directed
  - Adopt a Loop for TMN – contact Debbie Nance - self directed
  - Pollinator Citizen Science Project 2022 (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.>
- **Advanced Training Dir. No report ( absent)** **Bob**  
General discussion on AT day – it went well and was very well received by members. Some issues with connectivity but most were able to resolve
  - **Outreach Director ( absent, sent via email)** **Ruby**
    - **Library programs – see attachment B**
    - *Wings over Surfside? – April 9<sup>th</sup>*
    - *Nature Day Sea Center – April 16<sup>th</sup>*
    - **Refuge Saturday at Dow Woods Trail** – 4/23, 11 AM to 4 PM – contact Lisa Myers
    - **GCBO Spring Fling @ Quintana** – daily 4/9 thru 5/8, 9 AM to 4 PM – contact Celeste Silling
    - **DEEP sessions** – All have been cancelled
  - **Chapter Host (absent)** **Rose**  
*Anything special for Volunteer Month? Kathy will email Rose*



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- **Communications Director**

**Larry**

**Larry will create event for next week's meeting**

**WEBSITE**

The url is <https://txmn.org/tmncot>.

March activity: 472 sessions, 935 page views. Top pages: Homepage 439, Intern Training 78, Upcoming Events 71, Advanced Training 28, Presentations 17.

**NEWSLETTER**

Latest copy is posted on the website homepage and through the Archive menu.

**SOCIAL MEDIA**

**Facebook TMN-COT** page "liked" by 1132 people, visited 114 times in the last 28 days, 5 posts reaching 2,843, and 1 event reached 27 people.

**Twitter @tmncot** 83 followers (up 25) – Following 83.

- **Be The Change (see VP report)**

**Kristine**

- **Class 2021 Rep. (no report)**

**Roxanne - absent**

- **Chapter Advisors**

**John O and Paul**

Paul reported on flounder production, and will be attending a meeting in Louisiana next week on declining flounder populations. Sea trout spawning starting. Several outreach events coming up. April 16<sup>th</sup> Nature day and Public fishing day 1000 Rods to be given away. May 14<sup>th</sup> event at Brazos Bend State Park. Kristine asked about oyster issues on the Gulf Coast and Paul shared issues and current state meetings to determine pathforward to conserving oyster populations. State is trying to create oyster mariculture (farming) but few people showing interest.

John O shared that there is an oyster demo farm in Palacios. Water Wednesdays will continue in April – topic will be Flooding. Agenda for future meetings will be Rain water, oysters, watersheds, and septic systems.

The Agrilife offices are full open, masks and sanitizer available to those who want them. John will be attending a Gulf of Mexico alliance meeting/conference in Baton Rouge from April 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>.



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Comments about a survey on DEI ( I wrote this down but don't remember what the discussion was )

- **General Meeting Agenda – items to include?** **Kathy**  
Discussion on items for General meeting Agenda for next week – we need to include a “Save the Date” slide for the annual meeting

**New Business:**

Mary brought up the training that our Chapter (Mary, Melanie Hollenshead and Kathy Pittman) provided to Coastal Prairie Chapter at BNWR in March. Several visitors to BNWR stopped by our station and we were able to share information on pond life. Discussion to form committee on “pop up outreach” where Chapter could have impromptu outreach at various locations with our partners. We would need to discuss with Ruby first. We would like this to be separate from activities in conjunction with FOBWR outreach events. Action Item – form committee – Mary S, Oron, Kristine.

Outreach event at Rustic Oak Elementary for April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Ruby has worked it out with Bryan Frazier to have County personnel cover this event.

**ATTACHMENT A – FINANCIALS**

**March COT TREASURER REPORT**

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1 January-31 January 2022

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**ENDING BALANCE**

\$12,091.12

**ATTACHMENT B – Library Program Calendar**





**Summer Reading Club 2022  
TMN-COT programs at BCLS**

**Camp Mohawk June 13-17**

Texas Reptiles  
Sea and Shore

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		June 1 Morning not available	2 WES 11am	3
6 not available all day	7 ANG 10, 12, 2, & 4	8 Morning not available	9 SWE 2	10 CLU 12 & 2
13 Morning not available	14 Morning not available	15 Morning not available	16 Morning not available	17 Morning not available
20 DAN 10:30	20 MAN 2 & 4	22 ALV 12 & 2	23 FRE 2	24 PEA 10, 12, 2 & 4
27	28 BRA 12 & 2	29 PWS 12 & 2	30 LAK 12, 2 & 4	July 1
4	5 ANG 2 pm	6 Morning not available	7 SWE 2	8 CLU 2
11	12	13 Morning not available	14 FRE 2	15
18	19 BRA 2	20 LAK 2	21 WES 2pm	22 PEA 2
25	26 MAN 2	27 ALV 2	28	29

Alvin Library  
105 South Gordon  
Alvin, TX 77511  
(281) 388-4300

Clute Library  
215 North Shanks  
Clute, TX 77531  
(979) 265-4582

Lake Jackson Library  
250 Circle Way  
Lake Jackson, TX 77566  
(979) 415-2590

West Pearland  
11801 Shadow Creek PWY  
Pearland, TX 77584  
(713) 436-0995

Angleton Library  
401 E Cedar  
Angleton, TX 77515  
(979) 864-1519

Danbury Library  
1702 North Main  
Danbury, TX 77534  
(979) 922-1905

Manvel Library  
205148 Hwy 6  
Manvel, TX 77578  
(281) 489-7596

Sweeny Library  
205 W. Ashley Wilson  
Sweeny, TX 77480  
(979) 548-2567

Brazoria Library  
620 S. Brooks  
Brazoria, TX 77422  
(979) 798-2372

Freeport Library  
410 Brazosport Blvd.  
Freeport, TX 77541  
(979) 233-3622

Pearland Library  
3522 Liberty Drive  
Pearland, TX 77581  
(281) 652-1677

West Columbia Library  
518 E Brazos  
West Columbia, TX 77486  
(979) 345-3394

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	<b>Apr/May/June/July 2021:</b> No update <b>Aug:</b> Oron will provide current info to Larry and he will update webpage (including State's definition of "partner") <b>Sep:</b> Oron submitted page updates to Larry including deleting Phillips 66, the combined arts organizations at Center for the Arts, and will add Texas Watershed <b>Oct/Nov:</b> No update Jan. No update
Update VPAR agreements  (Aug 2019)	Oron Aktins	ASAP	Ongoing	<b>Apr/May/June/July/Aug 2021:</b> No update <b>Sep:</b> Oron has created a revised Partnership Agreement template and is reviewing existing VPARs <b>Oct/Nov:</b> No update Jan. No update
Committee to draft wording for harassment and disability accommodation policies  (May 2020) and...  Committee to form action plan on diversity/equality/inclusion per State  (May 2021)	Kristine Rivers (chair), Mickey Dufilho, Bill Ahlstrom, Lou Golish		Ongoing	<b>Jul:</b> Kristine will recruit committee members; Mickey will help with recruitment <b>Aug:</b> Kristine has information provided by Connie and Paul <b>Oct/Nov:</b> No update Jan. No Update
Hold a brief training session on entering VMS hours via Smart Phone  (Mch 2020)	?	TBD	<b>Tabled</b>	To facilitate the capture of more volunteer hours <b>Apr 2020:</b> Not discussed <b>May:</b> No update <b>Jun:</b> Tabled pending in-person general meetings <b>Aug:</b> Bill says there are two sessions on this at State Meeting Jan. no update
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 <b>Sep:</b> 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 <b>Oct/Nov:</b> Being worked on Jan. No update
2022 Bonus AT DAY  (Nov 2021)	Bob Whitmarsh, Kristine Rivers,		completed	Committee will need to be formed to hold the event in January or February <b>Dec:</b> To be held on January 22; focus is animal behavior



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	Mickey Dufilho, Rose Wagner			<b>Jan.</b> Voted to postpone AT until a later date due to Covid concerns
Determine how to have better visibility at AgriLIFE entrances for night meetings	John O'Connell	Before Jan. 12	completed	<b>Jan</b> – Oron will bring green light to put at entrance – we will have parking lot attendants in lot with vests and flashlights. Mickey has reflectors. Notify members to turn at green light. Review how this works at next board meeting
<b>NEW Action Item(s) Added at January Meeting</b>				
Communicate Green light at Entrance for night meeting	Mickey		1/10/22	
Need to fill vacant Secretary Position	Kathy		1/12/22	Kathy will announce at the January meeting and send out an email.
Investigate the use of SLACK for chapter	Kathy		TBD	Kathy will contact President of Coastal Prairie Chapter to see how they use SLACK
Review Retention Policy to verify our Chapter is in compliance	Larry		TBD	
Review data retention policies and act accordingly. Delete old financial docs, chapter lists, etc. Add this to action item list at another board meeting	Kathy		TBD	Review at another board meeting
Planning for Board Retreat	Kathy		completed	Kathy will get a planning team together to plan
Set up Google Group email for Executive Board only	Larry		TBD	

<b>NEW Action Item(s) Added at April Meeting</b>				
Develop Pop up outreach	Mary, Oron, Kristine			Need to assign due date and committee chair

**President:** Kathy Pittman adjourned the Board Meeting at approximately 11 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Pittman

cc: Board Members  
Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary [Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu)



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Attendance 2022	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Elected Board Members</b>													
Kathy Pittman	X	x											
Kristine Rivers	X	x											
Sabathier, Don	X	x											
<b>Advisors</b>													
O'Connell, John	X	x											
Cason, Paul	X	x											
<b>Immediate Past President</b>													
Mickey Dufilho	X	x											
<b>Appointed Board/Committee Members</b>													
Atkins, Oron	X	x											
Boettiger, John	X	x											
Lewis, Ruby		x											
Peterson, Larry	X	x											
Schwartz, Mary	X	x											
Stolte, Connie		x											
Wagner, Rose	X	x											
Whitmarsh, Bob	X	x											
Walkowiak, Rocky	X	x											
<b>Guests</b>													