



**Texas Master Naturalist™- Cradle of Texas Chapter**  
**Minutes of the General Meeting**  
**Wednesday, December 13, 2023, 9:03 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. (HYBRID)**  
**Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX**

**9:03 a.m. Call to Order**

**Kathy Pittman**

- K. Pittman welcomed everyone in attendance or participating online, and introduced guests present, including our AT speaker, Jarrett (Woody) Woodrow, and his wife.
- Agenda additions or corrections - None presented.
- Approval of the General Meeting Minutes - Draft copies of the minutes of the November 8, 2023, General Meeting were sent via e-mail to the TMN-COT member distribution list for review prior to the meeting. K. Purvis reported changes were made per those submitted. M. Hollenshead and A. Griffin made motions for a vote and the minutes were approved as presented.

**Volunteer Hours, Certifications & Milestones**

**John Boettiger**

- **Recertifications:**

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Bill Adriance | Kyle Purvis   |
| Susan Conaty  | Brenda Stitt  |
| Mike Hampy    | Cindy Vincent |
- **Milestones:**

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| Kathy Purvis   | 500 Hours          |
| Angela Griffin | <b>1,000 Hours</b> |
| Lisa Martinez  | <b>1,000 Hours</b> |

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THEM ALL!!!**

**VMS Data**

**Kathy Pittman**

**VMS DATA - November 2023**

|              |        | <u>November</u> | <u>Year to Date</u> |
|--------------|--------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Hours*       | VT     | 575             | 13,334              |
|              | AT     | 45              | <u>1,943</u>        |
|              | Total  | 806             | 14,220              |
| Impact Data* | Adults | 61              | 4,966               |
|              | Youth  | <u>104</u>      | <u>17,489</u>       |
|              | Total  | 165             | 22,455              |

\* data not considered final until mid-January

**Outreach Opportunities**

**Ruby Lewis**

- BNWR Discovery Center Open House - Tuesday, December 26 thru Monday, January 1, 2024 - We need eight to ten (8-10) volunteers each day, so please sign up. Contact Ruby at [rubylewis77515@ymail.com](mailto:rubylewis77515@ymail.com).
- DEEP - January 16, 18 and 25, 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; contact Ed Barrios or Hannah Beckett.



**Featured Speaker** – J. Salinas introduced Woody Woodrow, noting he has worked on the Texas coast for over 40 years and has been engaged in habitat restoration projects since 1998. Mr. Woodrow spoke at length about various aspects of projects he has participated in, including wildlife habitat assessment, restoration and enhancement projects, primarily on the upper Texas coast.

**BREAK** - Thank you to all the members who brought refreshments!

**Announcements**

**Kathy Pittman**

• **2024 Proposed Officer Slate**

|                |               |
|----------------|---------------|
| President      | Kathy Pittman |
| Vice President | Jimmy Salinas |
| Secretary      | Kathy Purvis  |
| Treasurer      | Don Sabathier |

K. Pittman provided an opportunity for nominations from the floor, and none were made. M Dufilho made a motion for a vote on the proposed slate, which was seconded by H. Myers. K. Pittman called for a vote, and it was unanimous in favor of the 2024 Proposed Officer Slate.

**Treasurer**

**Don Sabathier**

November 2023\*

|                          |               |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| <b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b> | \$10,503.81   |
| Revenue Summary          | 48.91         |
| Expense Summary          | <u>501.40</u> |
| <b>ENDING BALANCE</b>    | \$10,051.32   |

\* Refer to **Attachment 1** for the full Income Statement.

D. Sabathier reported the expense summary included those from the State meeting. He reminded members to pay annual dues by March 31, 2024. Payment options are listed on the web page.

**TPWD Statewide Bat Survey**

**Mickey Dufilho**

M. Dufilho discussed a new volunteer opportunity, the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's Statewide Bat Survey. The goal is to update the known distributions of bat species within the State that pose the greatest conservation concern. There are 12 types of bat species, but not all are endangered. She will lead this Citizen Science Project for our chapter. Information is still preliminary at this point, but it may run as long as three (3) years, with sampling during late spring/summer to early fall. Participants will need to attend the TPWD webinar training scheduled for January 23, 2024, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. They also will need to participate in chapter level project organization meetings and training with M. Dufilho. Those who are interested or have questions should contact her.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

**Kathy Pittman**

- Exploration Green Workday – every Wed., 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.; contact Christie Taylor.
- Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project – self-directed.
- Beach Sweep – Monday, January 8, 2024, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., at the Quintana Jetties; contact Jimmy or Luanne Salinas. The group will enjoy brunch at "Sweet T's Diner" afterward.
- 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 Debbie Nance. Other trails may be developed.
- Christmas Bird Counts\* (CBC's) :
  - Bolivar Peninsula (TXBP) - 12/14
  - San Bernard NWR (TXSB) - 12/15
  - Brazos Bend (TXBZ) - 12/16
  - Freeport (TXFR) - 12/17 (10th in the USA)
  - Matagorda County (TXMM) - 12/18 (1st in the USA)
  - Galveston (TXGA) - 12/19
  - Attwater Prairie Chicken NWR (TXAP) - 12/20
  - Bolivar Peninsula (TXBP) - 12/14
  - Brazoria-Columbia Bottomlands (TXBR) - 12/30
  - Peach Creek

All VT and AT opportunities can be found on the website calendar.

K. Pittman reported a novice for bird counts is usually paired up with an experienced person. She also mentioned her experience with bug sweeping at the Refuge. She had some interesting finds. Angela Griffin also noted the great backyard by the Audubon Society on February 16. Oron Atkins pointed out that Woody referenced another bird count and noted volunteers can register online.

### **Spring AT Day**

**Kathy Pittman**

K. Pittman reported for K. Rivers it was time to start planning our 2024 Spring AT Day. It will be held the last weekend of February, and more volunteers are needed to help plan this event. Contact Kristine to help with planning or, just say "Yes!" if you are asked to help.

Kathy also briefly discussed the ECO Fund application process. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2023. Thusfar, we have two (2), maybe three (3) project submissions.

### **Spring Intern Training**

**Melanie Hollenshead**

Intern training begins with orientation on Saturday, January 20, 2024. There are 15 individuals who have indicated they will register or participate, including four (4) interns who will continue their training. M. Hollenshead encouraged members to consider mentoring or helping with field trips. She will send an e-mail with information about the help needed.

### **Final Items**

**Kathy Pittman**

- General Meeting Agenda - The next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., with social time at 5:30 p.m.
- K. Pittman reminded members about the Hog Wild Party after the meeting.

### **Meeting AT and VT hours**

- AT - 1.0 hour
- VT - 1.25 hours



Attendance: In-person 42  
 Virtual 18  
 Total 60

**President:** K. Pittman closed with "Thanks for a great year!" The General Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Purvis, Secretary

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

**Attachment 1, Income Statement**

**COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2023**

|                                   | 2023         |                 |                 |               |               |                 |               |              |              |              |               | Totals       | Budget Delta |                         |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|                                   | Budget       | January         | February        | March         | April         | May             | June          | July         | August       | September    | October       |              |              | November:cm:            |
| Opening Balance                   |              | \$8,205.77      | \$ 9,766.12     | \$10,917.11   | \$11,837.74   | \$11,813.72     | \$12,979.06   | \$12,511.57  | \$12,594.54  | \$11,518.54  | \$11,500.93   | \$10,503.81  |              |                         |
| <b>INCOME ITEMS</b>               |              |                 |                 |               |               |                 |               |              |              |              |               |              |              |                         |
| Membership Dues                   | 2,650        | 820.19          | 981.80          | 699.30        |               | 75.00           | 49.90         | 48.97        |              |              | 24.95         | 24.95        |              | 2,725.06 -75.06         |
| Interest Income                   | 2.15         | 0.15            | 0.16            | 0.19          | 0.19          | 0.22            | 0.21          | 0.21         | 0.21         | 0.19         | 0.18          | 0.17         |              | 2.08 0.07               |
| Member Donations                  | 287.64       | 25.00           | 47.58           |               | 23.79         |                 | 23.79         | 23.79        | 23.79        | 23.79        | 523.79        | 23.79        |              | 739.11 -451.47          |
| Sponsor/Non-member Donations      | 1,000        |                 |                 |               |               |                 |               |              |              |              |               |              |              | 0.00 1,000.00           |
| Member Payments for New Shirts    |              |                 |                 | 75.00         |               | 273.45          |               |              |              |              |               |              |              | 348.45 -348.45          |
| Special AT event- Non&Member fees | 100          |                 |                 |               | 84.31         | 1,146.97        | 47.58         | 10.00        |              |              |               |              |              | 1,288.86 -1,188.86      |
| Sale of extra TMN Books/Food      |              |                 |                 |               |               |                 | 33.04         |              |              |              |               |              |              | 33.04 -33.04            |
| Sub Total                         | 4,040        | 845.34          | 1,029.54        | 774.49        | 108.29        | 1,495.64        | 154.52        | 82.97        | 24.00        | 23.98        | 548.92        | 48.91        |              | 5,136.60                |
| New Intern Class Receipts         | 2,250        | 751.00          | 150.20          | 150.20        | 0.00          | 525.00          |               |              |              |              |               |              |              | 1,576.40 673.60         |
| <b>INCOME TOTALS</b>              | <b>6,290</b> | <b>1,596.34</b> | <b>1,179.74</b> | <b>924.69</b> | <b>108.29</b> | <b>2,020.64</b> | <b>154.52</b> | <b>82.97</b> | <b>24.00</b> | <b>23.98</b> | <b>548.92</b> | <b>48.91</b> | <b>0.00</b>  | <b>6,713.00 -423.21</b> |

Attachment 1, Income Statement continued, next page



(Attachment 1, Income Statement continued from previous page)

**COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2023**

|  | 2023        |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               | Totals      | Budget Delta    |                 |          |
|--|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
|  | Budget      | January      | February    | March       | April         | May           | June          | July | August          | September    | October       | November:cent |             |                 |                 |          |
| <b>EXPENSE ITEMS</b>                                   |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 |                 |          |
| Approved Donations                                     | 500         |              |             |             |               | 150.00        |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 150.00          | 350.00   |
| Speakers Bureau  |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 0.00     |
| Speaker Travel Mileage/Motel/Tolls                     | 250         |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 250.00   |
| Membership Director Expenses                           | 50          |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 50.00    |
| Office Supplies, Postage Etc.                          | 30          |              |             |             |               |               | 10.71         |      |                 | 6.60         |               |               |             |                 | 17.31           | 12.69    |
| Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field Day                 | 2,000       |              |             |             |               | 557.20        |               |      |                 |              | 620.84        |               |             |                 | 1,178.04        | 821.96   |
| Fall Family Event                                      | 1,000       |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 1,000.00 |
| Member Shirt Purchases                                 | 40          |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 40.00    |
| Special Recognition                                    | 400         |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 400.00   |
| Travelers D&O Insurance Premium (Paid 3 years in 2022) |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 0.00     |
| Godaddy Website maintenance                            | 175.00      |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 175.00   |
| New Officer/Member Name Tags                           | 40          |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 40.00    |
| State Annual Conference                                |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      | 800.00          |              |               |               | 501.40      |                 |                 |          |
| Registration & Expenses                                | 1,600.00    |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 1,301.40        | 298.60   |
| State Meeting Sponsorship &                            |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 |                 |          |
| Scholarships   | 750.00      |              |             |             |               |               | 300.00        |      | 300.00          |              |               |               |             |                 | 600.00          | 150.00   |
| Materials  | 500         |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 500.00   |
| EcoFund Projects                                       |             |              |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 0.00            | 0.00     |
| Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplies                    | 500         |              |             | 4.06        | 132.31        | 33.95         | 64.41         |      |                 |              |               |               |             |                 | 234.73          | 265.27   |
| Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cakes                  | 200         | 35.99        |             |             |               |               |               |      |                 | 34.99        |               |               |             |                 | 70.98           | 129.02   |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                                       | <b>8035</b> | <b>35.99</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>4.06</b> | <b>132.31</b> | <b>741.15</b> | <b>375.12</b> |      | <b>1,100.00</b> | <b>41.59</b> | <b>620.84</b> | <b>501.40</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>3,552.46</b> | <b>4,482.54</b> |          |

**COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2023**

|   | 2023             |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               | Totals      | Budget Delta    |         |
|---|------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|
|   | Budget           | January      | February     | March       | April         | May           | June          | July        | August          | September    | October         | November:cent |             |                 |         |
| TMN Text Book Order   | 700              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              | 840.20          |               |             | 840.20          | -140.20 |
| Varner Hogg Fees  | 300              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 0.00            | 300.00  |
| Ann's Monogramming - Intern Polo's  | 260              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 0.00            | 260.00  |
| Zeiglers-Intern T-Shirts  | 200              |              |              |             |               | 114.15        | 114.15        |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 228.30          | -28.30  |
| Intern Name Tags  | 60               |              | 28.75        |             |               |               | 97.75         |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 126.50          | -66.50  |
| Intern Class Marketing  | 200              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 0.00            | 200.00  |
| Intern Class - Zoom Annual fees   | 160              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              | 85.00           |               |             | 85.00           | 75.00   |
| Intern Class Supplies   | 300              |              |              |             |               |               | 34.99         |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 34.99           | 265.01  |
| Intern Class Scholarships-2 Inte  | 300              |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 0.00            | 300.00  |
| Intern Registration Reimbursement   |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             | 0.00            | 0.00    |
| <b>Sub Total</b>  | <b>2480</b>      | <b>0</b>     | <b>28.75</b> | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>      | <b>114.15</b> | <b>246.89</b> | <b>0</b>    | <b>0.00</b>     | <b>0.00</b>  | <b>925.20</b>   | <b>0.00</b>   | <b>0</b>    | <b>1,314.99</b> |         |
| <b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>   | <b>10,515.00</b> | <b>35.99</b> | <b>28.75</b> | <b>4.06</b> | <b>132.31</b> | <b>855.30</b> | <b>622.01</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>1,100.00</b> | <b>41.59</b> | <b>1,546.04</b> | <b>501.40</b> | <b>0.00</b> | <b>4,867.45</b> |         |
|   |                  | (4,225)      |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |
| <b>Ending Balance</b>   |                  | \$ 9,766.12  | 10,917.11    | 11,837.74   | 11,813.72     | 12,979.06     | 12,511.57     | 12,594.54   | 11,518.54       | 11,500.93    | 10,503.81       | 10,051.32     | 0.00        | \$10,051.32     |         |
| COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00   |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |
| COT 2023 Annual Dues \$25.00  |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |
| 2023 Intern Class fee: \$150.00   |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |
| Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |
| Travel reimbursement: c65.5/mile  |                  |              |              |             |               |               |               |             |                 |              |                 |               |             |                 |         |