



**Texas Master Naturalist™- Cradle of Texas Chapter
Minutes of the General Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 9:00 am to 11:00 am (HYBRID)
at Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service, Angleton TX**

9:00 am Call to Order

Jimmy Salinas

Jimmy Salinas called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

Approval of the General Meeting Minutes

The draft copy of the minutes of the March 11, 2026, meeting was sent to the TMN-COT distribution list for review prior to the meeting. No changes were requested. Members approved the minutes as presented upon the motion of Mickey Dufilho, seconded by Herbert Taylor.

Welcome

J Salinas welcomed attendees and those online, as well as multiple guests. He also recognized those with April birthdays.

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month!

**Thank you
You make a difference.**

The Cradle of Texas Master Naturalists contributed more than 14,400 hours (valued at \$332,074) of service in 2025. We reached 19,455 youth and adults in 2025 and participated in 2,198 hours of advanced training.

Membership

John Boettiger

John gave the March reports as follows:

Initial Certifications

Larry Curtner

Recertifications:

Ed Barrios	Herbert Myers
James Calvert	Donna Rich
Marty Cornell	Kristine Rivers
Mickey Dufilho	Mary Schwartz
David Dungan	Betty Skweres
Annaliese Glover	David Skweres
Angela Griffin	Andy Smith
Paula Hanson	Betty Taylor
Melanie Hollenshead	Herbert Taylor
Phillip Huxford	Regina Tibbitt
Chris Kneupper	Crystal Tobola
Anna Loonam	Janet Townsend

Milestones:

None



Congratulations to all!

VMS Data for March 2026*

		March	Year to Date
Hours*	VS	1,568	3,528
	AT	<u>196</u>	<u>889</u>
	Total	1,764	4,417
Impact data*	Adults	971	1,178
	Youth	<u>7,281</u>	<u>7,283</u>
	Total	8,252	8,461

**Data not considered final until mid-May*

AT Presentation – Jace Tunnell, Harte Research Institute, presented “Beachcombing the Texas Coast”

BREAK – Thank you to the members who brought refreshments today!

Treasurer

Amanda Smith

Jimmy Salinas presented the summary report for March 2026 (refer to the Full Income Statement attached as Item 1).

March 2026

Beginning Balance	\$11,648.13
Revenue Summary	509.39
Expense Summary	1,021.50
Ending Balance	\$11,189.02
 Savings Balance	 \$6.39

Membership dues of \$25 dollars are now past due!

Upcoming VS Opportunities

Oron Atkins

- **Beach Sweep** – Monday, 04/06, 8:00 am to 10:00 am, Quintina Beach, 16th Street - contacts Jimmy/Luanne Salinas, jimmy.salinas217@gmail.com & mshuhu@gmail.com.
- **DFNC Educational Pond and Native Garden Habitat Workdays** – Saturday 04/11, and Thursday 04/16, 8:00 am - 11:00 pm – contact Kathy Pittman Pittmankw4@aol.com
- **Upcoming Construction Projects** (TBA) - contact Oron Atkins, oronatkins3@gmail.com
- **Yellow-legged Hornet Monitoring** - We need volunteers, please contact oronatkins3@gmail.com



- **Exploration Green Workday** – every Wed., 8:30 am to 11:30am – contact Christie Taylor, <https://www.explorationgreen.org/>
- **Trash Collection/Disposal Analysis Project** – self directed
- **Nurdle Beach Patrol** – Jace Turnell – self-directed, <https://www.nurdlepatrol.org/app/>
- **Adopt a Loop for TMN** – self-directed, contact Cris Tobola, utc_aal@yahoo.com
- **April 2026 Bioblitz and Mothing Event**- 04/01 through 04/30.- self-directed – contact Katie Boughal – Kboughal@pearlandtx.gov.
- **Mothing event** Friday 04/17 7:30 pm across from DFNC – contact Angela Griffin- ask4angela@gmail.com.

Outreach Opportunities

Ruby Lewis

- **DEEP Sessions @ BNWR** – 04/28, 05/5, 05/07 and 05/12 - contact Lee Gaston at lee_gaston@fws.gov.
- **Sea Center Texas Nature Day**, Saturday 04/18, 11am–3pm, contact Ruby Lewis, rublewis77515@gmail.com
- **Migration Celebration SBNWR** – 04/25 and 04/26, 11am - 4pm, and set up 04/24 from 8 am to 1 pm - contact Barbara Whaley babswhaley@gmail.com.
- **GCBO 2026 Spring Fling** – Quintina Neotropical Bird Sanctuary, 04/04 through 05/02, contact Celeste Silling, also can sign up on the online calendar.
- **BCPD Nature Camp** to be held 1st week in June

Final Items

- Cookie Bakers are needed for Migration Celebration on 04/25 and 04/26. Please bring your baked goods to the exhibit hall at the SBNWR before 11am. Contact Mickey Dufilho at dyfilhos@hotmail.com. The proceeds from the sales will enhance our Environmental Education programs at the refuges.

Questions?

Meeting AT and VS Hours (**Hours you may count or a portion thereof*)

VS - 1.0 hours plus travel time

Opportunity: CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin (Chapter Admin)

Project Category: Chapter Meeting

Service Description: April Chapter meeting

AT- 1.0 hours

Opportunity: AT: I Received Training (Advanced Training): TMN AT

Chapter Meeting

Service Description: Jace Tunnell “Beachcombing the Texas Coast”.

The next General meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, with social time at 5:30 pm. Bring a Friend!



Jimmy Salinas adjourned the meeting at 10:44 am

Attendance:	In-person	55
	Virtual	<u>11</u>
	Total	66

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donna Rich".

Donna Rich, Secretary

cc: Board Members
Piper Sparkman, AgriLIFE Secretary (piper.sparkman@ag.tamu.edu)
Larry Peterson (lfpete@swwell.net)



Item 1 – March 2026 Income Statement

COT MASTER NATURALIST INCOME STATEMENT for 2026

2026														Budget
Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Totals	Delta
Opening Balance	\$9,857.41	\$ 10,616.12	\$11,698.13											
INCOME ITEMS														
Membership Dues	3,250	897.67	1222.72	124.36									2,244.75	1,005.25
Interest Income	10.00	0.18	0.17	0.19									0.54	9.46
Member Donations	1,000			219.00									219.00	781.00
Sponsor/Non-member Donations				24.84									24.84	-24.84
Member Payments for New Shirts	40												0.00	40.00
Special AT-Remote/Non Member fee	100		170.40	15									185.40	-85.40
Amazon Debit Reimbursement													0.00	0.00
Sub Total	4,400	897.85	1,393.29	383.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,674.53	1,725.47
New Intern Class Receipts	4,200	-\$104.16		129.00									24.84	4,175.16
INCOME TOTALS	8,600	\$793.69	1,393.29	512.39	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,699.37	5,900.63
EXPENSE ITEMS														
Approved Donations	350			219.00									219.00	131.00
Speakers Bureau													0.00	0.00
Speaker Travel Mileage/Motel/Tolls	200												0.00	200.00
Membership Director Expenses	50												0.00	50.00
Office Supplies, Postage Etc.	30		75.74										75.74	-45.74
Special Annual AT Event/Fall Field D	1,750		190.55	525.14									715.69	1,034.31
Member Shirt Purchases (if any)	40												0.00	40.00
Special Recognition	200												0.00	200.00
Travelers D&O Ins. Premium (3 years)	0												0.00	0.00
Godaddy Website maintenance	200												0.00	200.00
New Officer/Member Name Tags	40												0.00	40.00
State Annual Conference														
Registration & Expenses	2,100												0.00	2,100.00
State Meeting Sponsorship & Scholarships	750												0.00	750.00
Materials	700												0.00	700.00
EcoFund Projects	1,000												0.00	1,000.00
Field Research Bat Project	1,550			220.00									220.00	1,330.00
Zoom Annual Fees	250												0	30.00
Chapter Host-Meeting/Party Supplie	400												0.00	400.00
Chapter Host- Recognition Party/Cak	175	34.98	44.99										79.97	95.03
25th Anniversary Recognition	2,000												0.00	2,000.00
Sub Total	11785	34.98	311.28	964.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,310.40	10,474.60
TMN Text Book Order	630												0.00	630.00
Zeiglers-Intern Shirts	600												0.00	600.00
Intern Name Tags	180												0.00	180.00
Intern Class Marketing	100												0.00	100.00
Intern Class Supplies	300			57.36									57.36	242.64
Intern Class Scholarships	0												0.00	0.00
Intern Registration Reimbursement													0.00	0.00
Sub Total	1810	0.00	0.00	57.36	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	57.36	1,752.64
EXPENSE TOTALS	13,595.00	34.98	361.28	1,021.50	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,417.76	12,177.24
	(4,995)													
Ending Balance		10,616.12	11,698.13	11,189.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	\$1,331.61	
Savings		6.39	6.39	6.39										

COT Chapter Lifetime membership Dues \$400.00
 COT 2026 Annual Dues \$25.00
 2026 Intern Class fee: \$150.00
 Members attaining 4,000, 5,000 or 10,000 VT hours are exempt from dues the next calendar year
 2026 Travel reimbursement: c67/mile

