

# TEXAS INVASIVE PLANT & PEST COUNCIL

FOUNDED 2007

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCILS

**Board Meeting - Minutes**  
**Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at UT-Austin**  
**4801 LaCrosse Ave, Austin TX 78739**  
**February 20, 2013**

President Scott Walker (SW) called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

**1. Roll Call**

Board members present were Damon Waitt (DW), Alexander Mathes (AM), Jim Reaves (JR), Trey Wyatt (TW), Paula Maywald (PM), Anne Rogers (AR), Jerry Cook (JC), Janice Waldron (JW), Ron Billings (RB) and Jessica Strickland (JS) as guest expert.

**2. Secretary's Report**

No secretary, SW call for nominations. Jim Reaves (JR) nominated Jessica Strickland (JS). Ron Billings (RB) seconded; motion unanimous.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

AM discussed accounting for the past and future conference. AM described recent debits for fees associated with the Weed Risk and Economic Assessments conducted for species proposals to TDA.

SW motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report; DW seconded; Motion unanimous.

**4. Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Conference**

**a. Conference Committees Roles and Responsibilities**

**i. Call for Conference Host**

DW described that previous TIPPC board meeting discussions have led to the understanding that conference locations should rotate throughout the state to allow for diversity in attendance/travel convenience. JC and Sam Houston State University (SHSU) have offered to host 2013 conference.

**ii. Recognition Awards**

It was discussed that recognition awards would be given during the 2013 conference in various categories. It was also discussed that there would be undergraduate and graduate presentation and poster awards with monetary prizes. The logistics of viewing presentations, judging and prize amounts is TBD.

**b. Planning (Volunteer required)**

**i. Announcement**

DW and JS agreed to publish information regarding the conference through the various media outlets managed by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at UT-Austin (e.g., Texasinvasives.org and the monthly e-newsletter, iWire).

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## **ii. Registration**

AM agreed to manage registration.

## **iii. Exhibitor**

JR agreed to manage exhibits.

## **iv. Posters**

RH agreed to manage poster sessions and submittal.

## **v. Sponsorship**

JR agreed to manage sponsorship.

## **vi. Planning –Field Trips**

JC and RH agreed to plan and manage field trips.

## **vii. Accommodations**

JC and SHSU agreed to manage accommodations.

## **c. Speakers (All)**

TBD.

## **d. Participation (Volunteer required)**

It was discussed that all TIPPC board members should participate in recruitment and outreach for the 2013 conference.

## **e. Venue**

### **i. Discuss food options**

JC and SHSU will manage food and refreshments. JC discussed that there may be an opportunity to waive fees for such items.

### **ii. View conference locations**

It was discussed that a site visit Board Meeting should occur during the summer 2013. Date and time TBD.

## **5. New Business**

### **a. Travel allowance for students**

It was discussed that 10 travel awards at \$300 per student (outside of SHSU) will be allocated from the TIPPC budget, totaling \$3,000. Exact number of awards dispersed and amounts to be finalized at the next TIPPC board meeting.

### **b. Species selection for TDA listing (Selection Committee)**

SW led discussion on the three recently proposed species additions submitted to the TDA Noxious Plants List, and the controversies regarding the proposals.

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TIPPC submitted the request for the species additions and it was discussed that, in the future, any proposed species submitted on TIPPC's behalf would be vetted by the board prior to submittal.

It was discussed that there should be a Species Selection Committee, and that any selected species will be presented to the TIPPC Board with a 2-week allocated review time. The specifics regarding final selection and proposal process are TBD.

**c. Bio-controls for invasive species**

JW discussed the prospect of releasing a bio-control insect, currently utilized in FL, on her property. She requested TIPPC's support in the project. It was discussed that, at this time, promoting the release of bio-control organisms on private property is not the mission nor within the boundaries of the organizational structure.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by Jessica Strickland, newly appointed Secretary.