

TEXAS INVASIVE PLANT & PEST COUNCIL

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Board Meeting – Minutes

The University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute

750 Channel View Drive, Port Aransas TX 78373

February 25, 2014

Meeting called to order at 3:04 pm by Vice-President Jerry Cook.

1. Roll Call

Board members present were Damon Waitt (DW), Jerry Cook (JC), Justin Bush (JB), Paula Maywald (PM), John Karges (JK), Ron Billings (RB), Amy Graham (AG), Trey Wyatt (TW), Janus Waldron (JW), Ann Rogers (AG) and Earl Chilton (EC).

2. Secretary's Report

Newly appointed secretary JB had no report. The group discussed the previous meeting minutes.

DW moved to accept the minutes of the last meeting, TW seconded, all in favor.

3. Treasurer's Report

DW briefly reported on behalf of AM the accounting for the upcoming conference.

JC tabled the treasurer's report until TIPPC business meeting on February 26th.

4. Old Business

No old business.

5. Texas Invasive Plant and Pest Conference

a. Conference Changes

- i. JC announced that two talk would be switching times, he would announce formally to the group at the opening of the conference.
- ii. DW reported that the Mayor of Port Aransas had been called to Washington DC. David Parsons, the City Manager of Port Aransas will be welcoming the group to the City.
- iii. DW reported that the Director of the Marine Science Institute could no longer attend due to a medical emergency. The Assistant Director will now be presenting to the conference.

b. Registration Update

- i. DW reported 145 conference attendees had registered. AM will be staffing a registration booth at the conference for walk-in participants.
 - c. Conference Presentations
 - i. JC will be asking speakers to load their presentations onto MSI computers during a break in concurrent session prior to their scheduled time.
 - d. Poster/Award Update
 - i. JC announced that 7 posters had been received.
 - ii. Autumn Herron-Smith has a list of poster presenters and will cross reference with a list of student participants.
 - iii. DW shared judging sheets, which Autumn will be handing out to judges.
 - e. Workshop/Tour Update
 - i. JB shared a short overview of the scheduled workshops and tours, updating the directors on current registrant numbers.
 - ii. JB will email workshop and tour leaders a final headcount on Wednesday.
 - f. Banquet/Food Update
 - i. SW phoned into the meeting to update on the banquet and catering. All catering is scheduled, he and AM picked up alcohol for the banquet.
 - ii. SW reported that breaks will be separated due to room proximity, but lunch would be served in the Auditorium.
 - g. New Board Member Discussion
 - i. JC shared the names of those nominated to fill 2014 TIPPC Director positions. The nominees will be voted in during the TIPPC business meeting on February 26th.
 - ii. Outgoing board member, Paula Maywald reviewed her history as a founding director. She has been impressed with TIPPC's growth over the years.

6. New Business

- a. Listing of Additional Regulated Species
 - i. DW reviewed the last Texas Invasive Species Coordinating Committee meeting and failure to list cogongrass, bastard cabbage and golden bamboo.
 - ii. The directors discussed the process of adding species to the Texas Department of Agriculture noxious weed list and how TIPPC can better work with TDA and others to list invasive plants.
 - iii. JC suggested creating a prioritized list of species TIPPC should focus on, taking one species at a time.
 - iv. RB and TW discussed upcoming non-plant invasive species and the current status of emerald ash borer, and cactus moth.

- v. DW posed the question of what agency should be regulating “wildland” weeds. Which don’t fit into the category of agricultural concerns regulated by TDA or aquatic species regulated by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

TW suggested a strategic planning meeting after the conference, to define goals and objectives between now and the next conference. All directors agreed.

b. TIPPC Outreach and Participation

- i. PM suggested that TIPPC send a representative to Texas Nursery and Landscape Association meetings on years between conferences to provide outreach to participants.
- ii. DW applauded this idea and suggested that TIPPC could create an outreach booth with informational panels that could be used at events.
- iii. JW suggested hosting created materials on the TIPPC website, so partners could print off the materials for their own use.

The group discussed the creation of a booth, asking ?? to do research into potential costs for creating a booth.

- iv. JC shared the idea that TIPPC could fund a single student or multiple students to staff the TIPPC booth at outreach events and conferences in return for travel and conference costs to be paid by the council.

JC will set up a meeting or conference call to focus solely on this issue after the conference.

c. Education and Strategic Planning Workshop

DW moved to create an education and strategic planning workshop on issues and strategies for TIPPC to be held in the off year without a conference. TW seconded this motion, all directors in favor.

- i. Directors discussed location for the workshop, with the idea that it should be held at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin being supported by all.
- ii. The group discussed invitations, with JC suggesting a target number of 20 participants.

JC asked directors to make note of potential participants at the conference and to provide him a list of suitable candidates. TW suggested trying to target the next generation of invasive species managers.

d. New Invasive Species Partnerships

- i. DW and JB updated the group on the status of a new Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) started the prior day in Port Aransas.
- ii. The group discussed the value of these community partnerships against invasive species and how TIPPC can support their development.
- iii. RB suggested a Japanese climbing fern focused CWMA in East Texas.
- iv. JK informed the group that numerous Cooperative Hog Management Areas exist in Texas.
- v. DW suggested TIPPC call for groups to self-report so that TIPPC can track and support these partnerships.

DW and JB will call for groups to self-report in an upcoming iWire.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by JB.