



**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Texas Aquatic Plant Management Society
January 3, 2024
10:00 am
Virtual Meeting**

Meeting called to order at 10:05

In attendance:

Anthony Walker
Haley Kokel
Kristina Tolman
Levi Sparks
Olivia Lopez
Kanyan Klein
Ryan O'Hanlon

1. Treasurer's Report- Levi Sparks

Haley's current executive on account, will get with Levi for him to be added

- a. Current financial status
 - i. 2023 Meeting Revenue
 - ii. Projected 2024 Costs
 1. New Braunfels Civic Center \$1,250.00
 - a. \$250.00 deposit to be paid
 - iii. Student Scholarship supposed to be \$1,500.00, check written for \$500.00
 - iv. Business credit card through Wells Fargo?

Agreed this is a good option, Wells Fargo is currently updating Small Business Credit Card Options
 - v. Get 501(c)3 replacement determination letter
 - vi. Apply for Texas exemption from state sales tax

2. Committee Nominations and Reports

Names of Members who are selected to help on the committee will be sent to committee chairs.

- a. **Auditing-** To audit the accounts of the Society annually and certify the audit results to the annual business meeting.
 - i. Committee Chair: Levi Sparks
 - ii. Chairpersons: Wayne Bryd
- b. **Membership and Publicity-** To promote the Society and to recruit new members. The President-Elect shall chair the committee.
 - i. Committee Chair: Oliva Ybarra Lopez
 - ii. Chairpersons: Haley Kokel



Look into new avenues for membership

- c. **Nominating-** To nominate qualified candidates for the officers of the Society in accordance with the provisions of Article VI, Sections 7, 8, and 9.
 - i. Committee Chair:
 - ii. Chairpersons: Olivia Ybarra Lopez
- d. **Program-** The annual meeting program will be developed and implemented.
 - i. Committee Chair: Olivia Ybarra Lopez
 - ii. Chairpersons: Haley Kokel
- e. **Governmental Affairs-** (a) Acquaint themselves with all pending legislation of administrative rules directly or materially affecting aquatic plant management and convey such information to the Editor for dissemination to the members. (b) Collaborated with other organizations to provide Legislators or Congressmen with information and assistance on matters directly or materially affecting aquatic plant management. (c) Perform special assignments as directed by the President or Board of Directors.
 - i. Committee Chair:
 - ii. Chairpersons: Kristina Tolman, Levi Sparks
- f. **Awards, Scholarship, and Scholastic Endowment-** Will handle matters relating to the selection and presentation of awards by the Society.
 - i. Committee Chair: Haley Kokel
 - ii. Chairpersons: Kristina Tolman, Levi Sparks

Create Scholastic Endowment- a better option for money in CD

Reach out to Carlton for approval that AERF will sponsor student presenters
- g. **Site and Local Arrangements-** To arrange for the site and associated physical requirements of the Society's annual meeting
 - i. Committee Chair: Kristina Tolman
 - ii. Chairpersons: Olivia Ybarra Lopez, Haley Kokel
- h. **Editorial-** To assist in the preparation of the Society's official publications. The Editor will chair this committee.
 - i. Committee Chair: Ryan O'Hanlon
 - ii. Chairpersons: Olivia Ybarra Lopez

Solicit information for the next newsletter
- i. **Website-** To assist in the preparation of the Society's official website.
 - i. Committee Chair: Haley Kokel
 - ii. Chairpersons: Kanyan Klein

Back up the website and update the WordPress Version ASAP

Save the Date and Sponsor List updated

Updates needed: Officers, Sponsor Banners
- j. **Sponsorship-** To promote the society through securing sponsor involvement and contributions.
 - i. Committee Chair: Wayne Byrd



- ii. Chairpersons: Anthony Walker
Check with sponsors to get media for website banners if applicable.
Update sponsorship chart on the Website

k. **Social Media**- To regularly update and monitor the TAPMS social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn)

- i. Committee Chair: Haley Kokel
- ii. Chairpersons: Kanyan Klein

3. 2024 Meeting

November 12-14, 2024

Contract with New Braunfels Civic Center signed

a. Program

- i. 5 CEU Credit Hours
- ii. Professional Development
- iii. Some topics that were brought up were laws and regulations, Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Lady Bird Project, the care of engineers, and mechanical harvest.
- iv. Beginning contacting speakers Brent Bellinger, Trent Lewis, Tiffany Lashment, Monica McGarrity, John Findiesin, Lynde Dodd/Nathan Harms

b. Registration

- i. Determine best option for registration, continue using eventbrite or other
- ii. Set registration price to cover meeting costs and any sponsorships are extra money, no longer use sponsorship money for meals, etc.
 - 1. This ensures the meeting is profitable, and we can put money aside for scholarships, etc.
 - 2. There is less pressure to make money from the raffle to cover scholarships
 - 3. Eliminates the cost of printing individual meal sponsorship signs

c. Raffle

- i. Rifle/Shotgun raffle (deck of cards)
 - 1. Reach out to a local gun store (Haley- College Station)
- ii. Big and small ticket items
- iii. Find out the ins and outs of Golf Tournament

d. Professional Development

- i. Possibly have a professional development/skills lab concurrent with tour
- ii. Have an option for a skills lab (GIS)
 - 1. Collector app
 - 2. Do not have to buy GIS to use it in the field
- iii. Plant ID

4. Other items

- a. TAPMS Annual Conference SOP Manual



- b. Bylaws- get the updated version online, find amendment for 3-year terms
 - i. Need to revoke to amend BOD position to 3 years is Casey does not find old minutes
 - ii. Amend membership to start at meeting rather than calendar year
 - c. AERF Scholarship Solicitation (see letter request)
Kristina moved to donate \$500.00 to AERF, Ryan seconded
Motion Passed Unanimously
 - d. Give access to the Shared TAPMS Google Drive Folder
- 5. 2025 Joint TAPMS and MidSouth Meeting**
- a. Haley, Oliva and other interested BOD Members coordinate with Brittany and MidSouth BOD for planning
 - b. Reach out to Brittany about what needs to be done for members to earn CEU credit at the 2025 meeting.
- 6. Next Board Meeting**
- a. What Month
 - i. Decided to go with every other month on Wednesdays, but can be at different times
 - b. How much notice do you prefer (plan now or one month in advance)
 - i. Everyone was in favor of planning now for future meetings