



**CRADLE OF TEXAS CHAPTER  
AGRI LIFE EXTENSION BLDG.**

21017 CR 171, Angleton, TX 77515-8903  
<http://tmn-cot.org>

**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, October 7, 2015 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**  
**Sea Center Texas**  
**Lake Jackson, Texas**

**President Dave Brandes** called the meeting to order and presented the agenda at 10:00 a.m.

**Attending Elected Members of the Board:** Dave Brandes (President), Leo Novak, (Vice President), Mike Mullins (Past President), Ed Barrios (State Representative), and Linda Sluis (Secretary).

**Absent Elected Members of the Board:** Don Sabathier (Treasurer)

**Attending Advisors and Appointed Members of the Board:** John O’Connell (Chapter Advisor, AgriLife Extension Agent), Connie Stolte (Chapter Advisor, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), Jerry Eppner (Membership Coordinator), Neal McLain (Publications Coordinator), Roy Morgan (Training Coordinator), Pam West (Chapter Host), Patty Brinkmeyer (2015 Intern Representative), and Jill Carroll (2015 Intern Representative).

**Absent Advisors and Appointed Members of the Board:** Dick Schaffausen (Publicity Coordinator), Ruby Lewis (Out-reach Coordinator), Peggy Romfh (Advanced Training Coordinator), and Pete Romfh (Volunteer Service Coordinator).

**Quorum:** Thirteen of the Elected and Committee Coordinator members were present; thus a quorum was reached.

Meeting Minutes	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
September Board	Jerry Eppner	Mike Mullins	Minutes approved by voice vote.
September General Meeting	Jerry Eppner	Mike Mullins	Minutes approved by voice vote.

**Table of Action Items is included at the end of the minutes.**

**Action Register: Dave Brandes**

**New VPALS: Dave Brandes for Pete Romfh**

The following items were discussed:

Volunteer Project and Activity Requests (VPARs)

Brazosport BASF Planetarium

Texas Estuarine Resource Network (T.E.R.N.)



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Volunteer Project and Activity Lists (VPALs)

Brazosport BASF Planetarium

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory (GCBO)

Partnership Agreement

The City of Pearland, Texas, Parks and Recreation.

After discussion, Mike Mullins seconded by Roy Morgan moved to approve the T.E.R.N. LPAR. The motion carried. It was determined that both the VPAL and the VPAR for the Brazosport BASF Planetarium were deemed unnecessary because the project was already covered by our overall VPAR/VPAL with the planetarium.

The Partnership Agreement with the City of Pearland was returned for additions to the agreement.

There were questions regarding use of the facilities at the GCBO, so no action was taken on that VPAL.

**Media Library Update:** Neal McLain reported that library cards have been prepared for the books to be checked out. Setting up the library was postponed until 9:00 a.m. before the November TMN-COT Board Meeting.

**VMS Update:** Jerry Eppner reported that all historical data is in. The biggest problem has been in the miscoding. Ed and Jerry will be out of town until the end of the month, so all questions will need to be directed to Dave, Connie, Pete, and Peggy.

**Reports:**

**Linda Sluis** gave the Treasurer's Report as received from Don Sabathier.

Date

September 1 – September 30, 2015

<b><u>Beginning Balance</u></b>	\$ 7,102.02
Revenue Summary	
Interest	1.38
Expense Summary	437.00
<b><u>Ending Balance</u></b>	\$ 6,666.40

**Programs:** Leo Novak reported that Mike Mullins will make a presentation at the October General Meeting entitled "Can We Make a Difference with Small Acreage Tracts?" Also, the AT program will be "Improving Southern Flounder Management



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Through Characterization of Habitat Effects on Juvenile Sex Ratios,” presented by Dr. Lindsay Glass Campbell.

**Jerry Eppner, Membership Coordinator,** reported that approximately 60 members have tried the VMS system with 85% – 90% good entries. We are currently at 12,390 VT and 13,074 AT hours.

**Ed Barrios, State Representative,** reported that Michelle Haggerty, State Coordinator for Texas Master Naturalists is planning a video phone conference to conduct the first quarterly state meeting with the chapter state representatives. It was pointed out that many chapters do not have a designated representative, and many designate their past president as the state representative. Michelle will instruct chapters on the process for changing chapter guidelines. Also, more pictures are needed for the state photo contest.

**Neal McLain, Publications Coordinator, announced** that the October issue of the newsletter went out on time.

**Connie Stolte, Chapter Advisor,** reported that in a phone conversation with Michelle Haggerty, she was told that all comments regarding the by-laws would be reviewed and forwarded to the state committee. The membership will vote on the changes in November.

The Board will hold the next quarterly meeting in January at the Sea Center Texas.

**Update of New Bylaws, Ed Barrios.** The maximum number of hours allowed for at home Citizen Science projects was discussed. Mike Mullins moved, seconded by Jerry Eppner to change the Operating Handbook to read two hours per week will be allowed for approved Citizen Science projects work at your home.

**Nominating Committee, Mike Mullins** announced that we are in need of nominees for the following elected Board positions: Vice President, Training Coordinator, and Secretary.



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<b>Cradle of Texas Board Action Register October, 2015</b>				
<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Who?</b>	<b>Due Date?</b>	<b>Complete/ Pending</b>	<b>Comments</b>
501(c)(3) Filing	Ed Barrios, Peggy Romfh, Mike Mullins	Mid-year	Pending	Ed will complete.
Pearland VPAL	Pete Romfh		Pending	VPAL sent back to Pearland
Split the Policies and Procedures from the By- laws	Ed Barrios	Mid-year	On-going	Changes to be presented at the next general meeting
Volunteers to conduct contests at the annual state meeting	Ed Barrios	Pending	October	Request volunteers at October general meeting
Replacement for Training Coordinator	Dave Brandes	December	Pending	Announce to general meeting
Add the term "one time event" to the Operating Handbook	Ed Barrios	November	Pending	

**President Dave Brandes** adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
 Linda Sluis, Secretary of TMN-COT



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Date	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Board Members</b>													
Barrios, Ed	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	-	1	1	1			
Brandes, Dave	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Forrest, Gerald	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	1						
Mullins, Mike	-	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Novak, Leo	-	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Sluis, Linda	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Don Sabathier									1	-			
<b>Advisors</b>													
O'Connell, John	1	1	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	1	1	1			
Stolte, Connie	1	-	n/a	n/a	1	1	-	1	1	1			
<b>Committee Coordinators</b>													
Eppner, Jerry	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1			
Lewis, Ruby	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	1	-	-	-				
McLain, Neal	1	1	n/a	n/a	-	-	1	1	1	1			
Morgan, Roy	-	-			-	-	1	1	1	1			
Romfh, Peggy	-	1	n/a	n/a	-	-	1	-	1				
Romfh, Pete	-	1	n/a	n/a	-	-	1	-	1				
Schaffhausen, Dick	-	1	n/a	n/a	-	-	-	-	-				
West, Pam					1	1	1	-	-	1			
<b>Quorum</b>	Y	Y	n/a	n/a	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
<b>Training Class Representatives</b>													
Grigson, Joycelynn	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Kitchen, Brianna	1	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a					
Sabathier, Don			n/a	n/a	1	1	1	1					
Brinkmeyer, Patty			n/a	n/a	-	-	-	1		1			
Carroll, Jill									1	1			