



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

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

**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, March 2, 2016 10:00 a.m. – 11:40 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.

**Attendance:**

<b>Elected Members of Board</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Appointed Members of Board</b>	<b>Present</b>
Dave Brandes (President)	X	Jerry Eppner (Membership)	X
Jill Carroll (Vice-President)	X	Neal McLain (Publications)	X
Mike Mullins (Past-President)	X	Pete Romfh (Volunteer Service)	X
Ed Barrios (State Representative)	X	Peggy Romfh (Advanced Training)	X
Jean Britt (Secretary)	X	Carolyn May-Monie (Training)	
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)	X	Pam West (Chapter Host)	X
		Ruby Lewis (Outreach)	
<b>Board Advisors</b>		Dick Schaffhausen (Publicity)	
John O'Connell (AgriLife Extension)		Patty Brinkmeyer (Intern Rep.)	
Connie Stolte, TPWD	X		
<b>Guests</b>			
		<b>Quorum</b>	Yes

**Minutes Approval:**

Meeting Minutes	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
February Board	Peggy Romfh	Pete Romfh	Minutes approved by voice vote.
February General Meeting	Peggy Romfh	Pete Romfh	Minutes approved by voice vote.

**Action Register Review** was led by Dave Brandes [See Table of Action items at end of minutes.]

**President:** Dave Brandes requested that future Newsletter publication dates be after the Board Meetings and before the General Meeting. Neal will implement the new date with the April newsletter.

**Past-President:** Mike Mullins led a discussion about a possible gift to members to celebrate the chapter's 15 year anniversary this year. The Board also discussed when the anniversary celebration will be held. It was decided that we would celebrate in September, our actual anniversary month.

**Vice President:** Jill Carroll has confirmed the April presenters. Ben Pfeiffer will speak about "The Levi Jordan Plantation". The Nature Notes presenter, John Boettiger, will speak about "White Tailed Deer". Jill spoke of possible thank you gifts for future presenters.



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**Treasurer’s Report:** Don Sabathier showed the Board a summary spreadsheet he had prepared with monthly revenue and expenses for February 2016 and presented the February Treasurer’s report. For name clarification, Don reports that the Treasurer next year will need a copy of all intern class applications.

**February COT Treasurer Report**

**Date:** 1 February – 29 February 2016

<b><u>Beginning Balance</u></b>	\$ 9,375.36
Revenue Summary	\$ 1,100.00
Interest	\$ 1.98
Expense Summary	\$ 79.50
<b><u>Ending Balance</u></b>	\$10,397.84

**Membership Report:** Jerry Eppner states that Ruby Lewis is the first member to be re-certified. Pete Romfh, Peggy Romfh, Dave Brandes, and Jerry Eppner have reduced the current VMS codes to 6 basic codes and 3 specialty codes. Jerry will present the new VMS codes at the March General Meeting.

**Reduced number of VMS code approval:**

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
Use of reduced number of VMS codes	Mike Mullins	Pete Romfh	Approved by voice vote.

**State Representative:** Ed Barrios reported that Kelly Koch has stopped using our distribution for her DEEP recruiting efforts because a member complained. The board noted that partners have permission to use the TMN-COT Google distribution lists for volunteer recruiting activities. The board then passed a resolution to make this policy clear to everyone. Neal McLain abstained.

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
Partners that are recruiting volunteers may use the TMN-COT distribution list	Ed Barrios	Don Sabathier	Approved by voice vote. Neal McLain abstained.



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**Volunteer Service Coordinator:** Pete Romfh states that the calendar is being updated.

**Advanced Training Coordinator:** Peggy Romfh reported that the calendar has been updated with known AT events. Everything is being sent by email.

**Programs:** Ruby Lewis will present more information at the General Meeting in March in regards to Outreach Opportunities.

**Chapter Host:** Pam West suggests that we have a “crock pot cook-off” for May’s graduating class.

**Publications:** Neal McLain reported:

- **Newsletter:** The March issue of *Chapter News* was published on time and sent via the Google group to all current members and to all Class of 2016 interns with valid email addresses. Courtesy copies were sent to USFWS personnel Tom Schneider (outdoor recreation), Jennifer Sanchez (TMCNWR Team Leader), Curtis Jones (Manager, SBNWR), and Kelly Koch (DEEP/HWEEP coordinator).
- **Website:** A link has been added to Migration Celebration website.
- **Media Library:** No change since last month.

**Intern Report:** In Patty Brinkmeyer’s absence, there was no report.

Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/ Pending	Comments
<b>Reviewed at February meeting:</b>				
501(c)(3) Filing	Ed Barrios, Peggy Romfh, Mike Mullins	TBD	Pending	Low priority
Split the Operating Handbook from the By-laws and add the term “one time event” to the Operating Handbook	Ed Barrios	TBD	Pending	
Draft new partner agreement document to include language on what partner will provide.	Pete Romfh	April	Pending	
Review existing VMS codes and determine if number can be reduced.	Dave Brandes	March	Done	Jerry Eppner will present simplified VMS codes at the General meeting in March.



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Check to see if BISD background checks need to be done.	Ed Barrios	March	Pending	
<b>New Action Items Added at March meeting:</b>				
Research a gift such as a cup or tumbler for the 15 year celebration in September 2016.	Mike Mullins	TBD	Pending	Ed Barrios will provide Mike with the information about the USFWS tumbler gifts.
Plan for a 15 year celebration in September 2016.	Board	TBD	Pending	
Determine possible thank you gifts for future presenters.	Jill Carroll	TBD	Pending	
Make a sign-up sheet and arrange for judges for the crock pot cook-off.	Pam West	April	Pending	

**President Dave Brandes** adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jean Britt, Secretary



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Date 2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>Elected Board Members</b>													
Brandes, Dave	X	X	X										
Britt, Jean		X	X										
Carroll, Jill	X	X	X										
Mullins, Mike		X	X										
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X										
<b>Advisors</b>													
O'Connell, John	X												
Stolte, Connie	X		X										
<b>Appointed Board Members</b>													
Barrios, Ed	X	X	X										
Eppner, Jerry	X	X	X										
Lewis, Ruby		X											
May-Monie, Carolyn	X												
McLain, Neal	X	X	X										
Romfh, Peggy	X	X	X										
Romfh, Pete	X	X	X										
Schaffhausen, Dick		X											
West, Pam		X	X										
<b>Training Class Representatives</b>													
Brinkmeyer, Patty													