



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

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

**TMN-COT BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, June 01, 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:

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

Minutes Approval:

Meeting Minutes	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
May Board Meeting	Neal McLain	Ed Barrios	Minutes approved by voice vote.
May General Meeting	Neal McLain	Ed Barrios	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 led a short discussion on various possibilities to shorten the time of the General meetings and the noise level at the General meetings. The AT speaker will be moved forward to 10:15 AM. There will also be a 15 minute break to make the restroom access easier. If one is recruiting volunteers at a General meeting, please send a description of the activity with time and date to Dave. He will make one slide with all of the activity descriptions which will be projected until the meeting begins. Signup sheets will be on the signup table so members can sign up before the meeting if they wish. The signup sheets will be circulated after



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the recruitment description, collected, and then returned to the signup table. Neal McLain reports that if you send a “description of the activity with the time and date” to him, he will get it in the newsletter too. The newsletter is published on the Monday before the General meeting. Pete Romfh also informed us that copying the what, when, where to: calendar @tmn-cot.org will also get it added to the online calendar and will have the VMS codes/time attached to the event. In regards to Connie Stolte’s retirement, Dave Brandes will make an announcement at June’s General meeting. In addition, Dave announced that 15 minutes will be needed for the last intern project presentation during the June General meeting.

Past-President: Mike Mullins reported that he will bring samples of the proposed gift, a tumbler, for current members and for future presenters. The tumbler will celebrate the chapter’s 15 year anniversary this year in September.

Vice President: Although Jill Carroll was absent, she emailed the update on the confirmation of the following guest speakers:

- June 8 General Meeting: James Cathey discussing ‘Resources to Set a Stewardship Pathway for Wildlife Management’.
- July 13 General Meeting: Amanda Anderson, of GCBO, discussing her research on plovers and other beach- nesting birds.
- August 10 General Meeting: Ed Craven, President of Armand Bayou Nature Center, discussing his work with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology on the Ivory-billed woodpecker and other birds.

Treasurer’s Report: Don Sabathier showed the Board a summary spreadsheet he had prepared with monthly revenue and expenses for May 2016 and presented the May Treasurer’s report.

May COT Treasurer Report

Date: 1 May – 31 May 2016	
<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$10,092.32
Revenue Summary	\$ 50.00
Interest	\$ 2.12
Expense Summary	\$ 500.61
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 9,643.83

Secretary: Jean Britt thanked Peggy Romfh for taking the minutes from May’s General Meeting.

Membership Report: Jerry Eppner stated that the change in VMS, that eliminated the need to pick the type of hour, has improved accuracy. However, overall input hours have decreased.



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State Representative: Ed Barrios reported that the state representatives will brainstorm ideas for the next state meeting. Ed and Dave will check out AgriLife's current speaker system.

Volunteer Service Coordinator: Although Pete Romfh was absent, he emailed the information on how to update information on the volunteer calendar.

Advanced Training Coordinator: In Peggy Romfh's absence, there was no report.

Outreach Coordinator: Ruby Lewis informed us to check the calendar for volunteer updates.

Chapter Host: Pam West reported that she is working on the 15th year TMN celebration event.

Publications: Neal McLain reported:

Newsletter

The June issue of *Chapter News* will be published on Monday, June 6, 2016 via the Google group. This date is consistent with the revised publication schedule:

- Submission Deadline three days after board meeting
- Publication date is the Monday before the General meeting. Courtesy copies will be sent to Bryan and Vicky Adams (Turtle Patrol Coordinators) and Jim Glover (Nature Camp at Camp Mohawk County Park).

Website:

- Removed "ongoing activities" page because it was out-of-date and because most ongoing activities are now posted on the calendar (example: TCWP Stormwater Wetlands Work Day).
- Added a new VPAL page in place of the ongoing activities page. This list was part of the old "ongoing activities page; it now replaces it.
<http://tmn-cot.org/VPAL/index.html>
- Added photos from Class of 2016 graduation.
<http://cot-photos.blogspot.com/2016/05/16gr.html>
- Added link on Scrapbook to graduation photos.
- Removed RJN adspot from home page (application deadline has passed) and added a BCLS library program adspot in its place.
<http://tmn-cot.org/homepage.html>

Media Library: No change since last month.

Publicity Coordinator: Dick Schaffhausen reported that he will submit a TMN-COT photo of the 2016 graduating intern class to 'The Facts'.

Intern Report: Kristine Rivers and Larry Ruhr, our new intern representatives, stated that they will start to report back to the other 2016 interns any new information and volunteer opportunities.



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Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/ Pending	Comments
Reviewed at May meeting:				
501(c)(3) Filing	Ed Barrios, Peggy Romfh, Mike Mullins	TBD	Pending	Currently, we are not.
Split the Operating Handbook from the By-laws and add the term "one time event" to the Operating Handbook	Ed Barrios	TBD	Pending	By-laws are ready to take to the general membership for a vote.
Draft new partner agreement document to include language on what partner will provide.	Pete Romfh	June	Pending	
Check to see if BISD background checks need to be done.	Ed Barrios	June	Pending	
Research a gift such as a cup or tumbler for the 15 year celebration in September 2016.	Mike Mullins	TBD	Pending	On-going
Plan for a 15 year celebration in September 2016.	Board	TBD	Pending	September 14, 2016 has been selected as the date.
Determine possible thank you gifts for future presenters.	Jill Carroll	TBD	Pending	
Check to determine the cost and availability of TMN polo shirts.	Don Sabathier	June	Pending	Will contact Barbara Burkhardt
New Action Items Added at June meeting:				
Check on prices and availability of venues for the 15 year celebration in September 2016 .	Pam West	June	Pending	
Contact Michelle Haggerty to determine if she could speak at our 15 year	Ed Barrios	June	Pending	



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celebration in September 2016.				
Research wireless speakers for future functions and programs at AgriLife Building	Ed Barrios, Dave Brandes	TBD	Pending	
Begin implementation of pre-notice on Google e-mail list of volunteer activities	Ruby Lewis	TBD	Pending	
Check on how to get CBC (Background Check Cards) cards for members.	Dave Brandes	TBD	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
Elected Board Members													
Brandes, Dave	X	X	X		X	X							
Britt, Jean		X	X		X	X							
Carroll, Jill	X	X	X		X								
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X		X	X							
Advisors													
O'Connell, John	X												
Stolte, Connie	X		X			X							
Appointed Board Members													
Barrios, Ed	X	X	X		X	X							
Eppner, Jerry	X	X	X			X							
Lewis, Ruby		X			X	X							
May-Monie, Carolyn	X												
Owen, Laurel													
McLain, Neal	X	X	X		X	X							
Mullins, Mike		X	X		X	X							
Romfh, Peggy	X	X	X		X								
Romfh, Pete	X	X	X		X								
Schaffhausen, Dick		X				X							
West, Pam		X	X			X							
Training Class Representatives													
Kristine Rivers						X							
Larry Ruhr						X							