



**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 5, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.
AgriLife Extension Building
Angleton, 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)	X	Neal McLain (Publications)	X
Jean Britt (Secretary)	X	Pete Romfh (Volunteer Service)	X
Don Sabathier (Treasurer)	X	Peggy Romfh (Advanced Training)	X
		Carolyn May-Monie (Training)	X
		Laurel Owen (Training)	
		Pam West (Chapter Host)	X
		Ruby Lewis (Outreach)	X
Board Advisors		Richard Schaffhausen (Publicity)	X
John O'Connell (AgriLife Extension)	X	Kristine Rivers (Intern Representative)	X
		Larry Ruhr (Intern Representative)	X
		Mike Mullins (Past-President)	X
Guests		Ed Barrios (State Representative)	X
Jim Scott	X		
		Quorum	Yes

Minutes Approval:

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
September Board Meeting	Peggy Romfh	Pete Romfh	Minutes approved by voice vote.
September 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 stated that a nominations committee will be formed in regards to the executive board and coordinating members who will begin in 2017. Neal McLain and Carolyn May-Monie will work with Mike Mullins on the nominations committee. Dave also announced that he will help as well. At the General meeting in October, nominations will be taken from the floor also. Dave reported that the remaining tumblers from the 15th Anniversary Celebration will be passed out to the intended recipients at the next General meeting.

Past-President: Mike Mullins stated that he had nothing new to report.



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Vice President: Jill Carroll reported the update on Nature Notes presenters for the chapter meetings:

- October 12 General Meeting: Edward D. Craven will speak about the “Search for the Ivory Billed Woodpecker” at the meeting.
- October 12 General Meeting: Laurel Owen will give the ‘Nature Notes’ about the effects of flooding in Brazoria County.
- November 9 General Meeting: Deborah January- Beavers will speak about “The Ten Area Ecoregions and the Ecosystem Primer Program” at the meeting.
- November 9 General Meeting: Candace Novak will give the ‘Nature Notes’ about “Ticks”.
- January 11 General Meeting: Dr. Brooke Shipley will speak about the “TPWD’s Artificial Reef Program” at the meeting.
- February 8 General Meeting: Amanda Anderson will speak about “Winter Shorebirds”.

Secretary: Jean Britt had nothing new to report.

Treasurer’s Report: Don Sabathier presented the September Treasurer’s report.

September COT Treasurer Report

Date: 1 September – 31 September 2016

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 6,434.49
Revenue Summary	\$ 405.00
Interest	\$ 1.31
Expense Summary	\$ 607.50
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 6,233.30

Don also stated that he had ordered the field books for next year’s Intern class.

Membership Report: Jerry projected that 108 members will have submitted 15,000-16,000 hours by the end of 2016. Jerry announced that Kris Shipman, TPWD Volunteer Coordinator, will be coming to meet with the COT VMS Implementation Team to obtain our input about changes that would make the administration of VMS and reporting easier.

State Representative: Ed Barrios will send out a spread sheet requesting volunteers for the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge 50th anniversary to be held on November 12, 2016. Ed stated that the COT email distribution list has been problematic. Neal McLain and Pete Romfh have experienced this also. Various solutions have been tried.



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Training Coordinator: Carolyn May-Monie reported that the Training Team has had success. The 2017 Intern Training schedule is almost complete. Tyler Froberg will teach the Urban Ecology class. John O'Connell will teach the Aquatic Systems class.

Volunteer Service Coordinator: Pete Romfh reported that GCBO has received a grant to remove invasive species. In addition, GCBO has received a grant for the MOTUS network. Individuals with high levels of technical abilities and those who are energetic will both be needed volunteers. On Thursday October 13, 9am-12pm: the Texas Coastal Watershed Program will have a workday at the Pearland Nature Center (floating wetlands).

Advanced Training Coordinator: Peggy Romfh reported that Kendrick Gray is working on a project in the Pearland area and requested permission to use the COT Photo Gallery as a resource for the Pearland community. He would also like master naturalist volunteers to help create a nature resource guide for Pearland. After discussion, COT agreed to support Kendrick Gray's project.

Outreach Coordinator: Ruby Lewis announced the following events:

- KBR Kids' Day at Buffalo Bayou- October 15 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Ruby will have more detailed information at the October General meeting.
- Spooktacular at Sea Center Texas- October 30 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge 50th anniversary at the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge-November 12-TMN-COT booth - Ruby will need 4 volunteers. Please contact Ruby if interested.
- Festival of Lights at Lake Jackson- November 19, 10 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Boy Scout event-October 30 Ruby will need 2 volunteers. Please contact her if interested.
- November – Preschool program in Freeport. Please contact her if interested.

Please see the calendar for further details.

Ruby reported that the Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza on September 10 and 17, a Pearland event with Bryan Frazier, and a Boy Scout event on October 1 all went well.

Chapter Host: Pam West was pleased with the 15th year Anniversary Celebration. She announced that things went very well. Pam also reports that the Brazoria County Public Library System is bringing snacks/a cake to next week's General meeting as a thank-you for the wonderful summer volunteer programs at the county libraries. She states that a cake will be at next week's General meeting in honor of Jim Calvert and Dave Brandes' volunteer milestones.

Publications Coordinator: Neal McLain reported:

NEWSLETTER

The October issue of *Chapter News* will be published on Monday, October 10, 2016 via the Google group. All submissions must be received by noon Saturday, October 8 (or earlier if possible).

WEBSITE



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- Removed Connie Stolte from Board of Directors pages
- Added adspots for new intern class and BNWR 50th Anniversary Celebration.

MEDIA LIBRARY

Neal requested assistance to maintain the library. There is no Agrilife office support. Books recently received from Patty Brinkmeyer and Carole Wenny have not yet been cataloged.

GOOGLE GROUP MAILING LIST

Neal continues to receive reports that some members do not receive Google Group emails. The problem seems to be limited to members with comcast.net email addresses. Pete Romfh notes that

Comcast seems to be picking up the [TMN-COT] header in group messages from tmn-cot@googlegroups.com and deciding they are Spam. It blocks delivery and dumps them into a Spam folder that the subscriber can access by logging onto their Comcast Account.

Neal has temporarily removed the [TMN-COT] header
 The header [TMN-board] has not been removed.

Discussion followed Neal's report.

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
To dissolve the TMN-COT library	Mike Mullins	Don Sabathier	Decision approved by vote from Board members present. Neal McLain abstained.

Motion	Motion to Approve	Motion Seconded by	Vote
To give away the library books to TMN members.	Don Sabathier	Jill Carroll	Decision approved by vote from Board members present. Neal McLain abstained.

Publicity Coordinator: Dick Schaffhausen has sent an article about the upcoming 2017 Intern class. Another article involving TMN-COT testimonials is to be published in November. The time for next General meeting has also been published by The Facts. Dick will continue to send articles to The Facts.



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Intern Report: Larry Ruhr reported positive responses about the new intern books by this year's interns.

Chapter Advisor: John O'Connell respectfully announced that the Texas AgriLife Office will not be at the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge.

Cradle of Texas Board Action Register				
Action Item	Who?	Due Date?	Complete/ Pending	Comments
Reviewed at September meeting:				
501(c)(3) Filing	Ed Barrios, Peggy Romfh, Mike Mullins	TBD	Pending	Still working on this
Split the Operating Handbook from the By-laws and add the term "one time event" to the Operating Handbook.	Ed Barrios	TBD	Pending	Working on the regrouping of the appendix and appendices
Research wireless speakers for future functions and programs at AgriLife Building.	Ed Barrios, Dave Brandes	TBD	Pending	Ed Barrios will call B & H to find out what can work with wireless speakers
Check cost for monogramming polo shirts and sweat shirts with TMN-COT logo.	Barbara Burkhardt	August	Pending	Not happy with brand selections, but pricing for monogramming is good. Will check re availability of Jerzees brand.
Check the cost and availability of polo shirts and sweat shirts from Ann's Custom Monogramming.	Carolyn May-Monie	August	Pending	Brand selections, variety and pricing are good.
Add an entry on website for new curriculum once we get information from Carolyn.	Neal McLain	August	Pending	Still pending
Add an entry on website for polo shirts once we get information.	Neal McLain	September	Pending	Still pending
Check cost of monogrammed polo shirts for interns with Ann's Custom Monogramming for	Carolyn May-Monie	September	Pending	



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comparison with EDP.				
Check with bank re chapter debit card (preferably) or credit card.	Don Sabathier	September	Done	
Check to see if the KBR Kids' Day at Buffalo Bayou will be held this year.	Ed Barrios	September	Done	
Order copy of new curriculum book for Media Library	Don Sabathier	October	Done	
New Action Items Added at Meeting	Who?	Due date?	Complete/ Pending	Comments
Call Comcast to find out why some members do not receive emails.	Ed Barrios	October	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	X	X	X	X			
Britt, Jean		X	X		X	X	X		X	X			
Carroll, Jill	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X			
Sabathier, Don	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Advisors													
O'Connell, John	X									X			
Stolte, Connie	X		X			X		Retired 8/31/16					
Appointed Board Members													
Barrios, Ed	X	X	X		X	X			X	X			
Eppner, Jerry	X	X	X			X		X	X	X			
Lewis, Ruby		X			X	X	X	X	X	X			
May-Monie, Carolyn	X						X	X	X	X			
Owen, Laurel								X	X				
McLain, Neal	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Mullins, Mike		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Romfh, Peggy	X	X	X		X		X		X	X			
Romfh, Pete	X	X	X		X		X		X	X			
Schaffhausen, Dick		X				X		X	X	X			
West, Pam		X	X			X	X	X	X	X			
Becky McClendon									X				
Training Class Representatives													
Kristine Rivers						X	X	X	X	X			
Larry Ruhr						X	X		X	X			