



TMN-COT GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 9:00 a.m. – 10:58 a.m.
via Texas AgriLIFE Extension Service’s Microsoft Teams Meeting license

Bill Ahlstrom, President, called the meeting to order.

Attendance—Approximately 58 members joined the virtual meeting and one guest speaker and one guest.

Format of the Meeting—**John O’Connell** reminded attendees:

- To turn off their microphones and video function
- How to ask a question using the Chat function
- That the chat room would be monitored and to hold questions until the end of each presentation

Speaker—**Susan Heath** spoke on “Eastern Willet Migration and Nesting Study.”

Nature Notes—**John Boettiger** spoke on “White-tailed Deer in Texas: Facts and Figures.”

John O’Connell—conducted a five-question, online “quiz” related to John Boettiger’s presentation and displayed the results.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President’s Update—**Bill Ahlstrom** presented a summary of the June 29 TMN Presidents Meeting, as follows:

- Recertification hours for 2020 are being reviewed considering COVID-19
- TXMN.org has the latest COVID-19 guidelines; John O’Connell said at the July COT board meeting that we must follow county/city guidelines
- Recertification limit of four AT hours via webinars has been lifted if webinars have Q and A
- Having a diversity and inclusion policy was emphasized
- Volunteering-at-a-distance ideas were emphasized
- COVID-19 revisions will not be in the CMOP but in a separate document
- Updates regarding the State Annual Meeting (see below).

Treasurer’s Report—Don Sabathier presented the June financial statement.

1 June – 30 June 2019, COT Treasurer Report

<u>Beginning Balance</u>	\$ 11,154.69
Revenue Summary	\$ 24.15
Expense Summary	(\$ (0.00))
<u>Ending Balance</u>	\$ 11,178.84



Volunteer Hours and Awards—John Boettiger, Membership Director, provided the following data through June 30.

Impact Data	# Adults	# Youth	Total
YTD Totals—June 30	158	101	259

Period	VT Hours	AT Hours
YTD Totals—June 30	6548 ¹	1081

Recertification 2020	500 Hours	1000 Hours
Melanie Hollenshead Dick Schaffhausen Andy Smith	Larry Peterson	Georgia Monnerat

¹ 61 volunteers reported in June

Ideas for Volunteer Service—Oron Atkins, Volunteer Service Director, presented a few opportunities. [See also <https://txmn.tamu.edu/news/>]

- **FOBWR Bobcat Woods Trail Project**—Ongoing; loop completed May 6; redecking platform this week; water access platforms and benches remain to be done
- **Trash Collection/Analysis Project**—(under Ocean Conservancy umbrella)—must collect data (for the OC TIDES database <https://www.coastalcleanupdata.org/>) via free mobile app from Apple Store / Google Play (Clear Swell) or paper form (contact Oron for link) to get VT hours
- **Nurdle Patrol**—still an active project (contact Oron for link).

Advanced Training—Bob Whitmarsh presented the following opportunity:

- **Controlled Burns on the Prairie** webinar—July 27 (see Calendar).

Fall New Intern Training Class—Mary Schwartz provided information on plans for the fall class:

- Class begins Wednesday, August 26
- Classroom sessions are currently planned as virtual due to COVID-19
- Field trips will still occur in the field
- On-line registration is available now.

TMN Annual Meeting—Bill Ahlstrom indicated that the entire state meeting will be virtual and provided the following information:

- Meeting dates are Wednesday, October 14, to Saturday, October 17
- \$40 to \$80 registration fee (to be determined).



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The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m. Time codes allocated for the presentations and general meeting were:

- Presentations Code: "AT: I Received Training," 1.5 hour
- Chapter Business Meetings Code: "CB: Chapter Meetings and Admin," 1 hour.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Ladd Myers, Secretary, TMN-COT

Cc: Board Members
Crystal Andablo, AgriLIFE Secretary, Crystal.Andablo@ag.tamu.edu