

January 10, 2024

## Meeting Minutes

9:00-Called to Order-Chairman Foster

Attendance Called

\*Texas Department of Agriculture-Carter Page-Primary\*

\*Texas Parks & Wildlife-Monica McGarrity\*

\*Texas Forestry Service-Demian Gomez-Alternate

\*AgriLife-Dr. Hale

\*Water Development Board- Mark Wentzel\*

\*Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board-John Foster-Chair

### ***\*Quorum Established***

1. December 5, 2023, Minutes, no comments presented, motion by Demian Gomez to approve, second by Monica McGarrity, Motion Approved.
2. Nominations for Vice Chair to replace Dr. Awinash were taken. Carter Page was nominated. A motion to accept and second was received. The motion carried.

### 5. Agency Reports:

*Texas Department of Agriculture:* The open positions and the plant quality program were discussed, and no new invasive species were reported. Additionally, the Feral Hog Control with Warfarin Report was discussed. Further updates will be forthcoming. Road Stations were discussed.

*Texas Parks & Wildlife:* There are no new invasive species to report, and no new detections of Zebra Muscles in lakes were made. New sources of funding for federal F&W, an established rapid response funding program for aquatics, and reimbursement qualifications were discussed, as well as a commercial grower of "dotted duckweed".

*Texas AgriLife Extension Service:* HB 1750 Generally Recognized Acceptable Agriculture Practice" manual discussed. Will address some forms of invasive species control and will be out in late January.

*Texas Forest Service:* Monitoring and Surveillance of invasive species monitoring for Spring of 2024 discussed.

*Water Development Board:* No Invasive Species Update, funding for research for water planning, no new job opportunities or federal rules.

*Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board:* Feral Hogs and Carrizo Cane are the primary focus. The statutory program for Cane Control Appropriations from 1.5M was doubled. LEO is the driving priority for the program. Thirty thousand acres of Cane controlled: Feral Hog issue, AVIS NRCS, and TRAP Loan program participation. Funds were used to purchase traps and provided to local SWCs to aid landowners in trapping. Program ended Sept. 30, 2023. 6,000 Hogs trapped. The program has been extended, and new funds are being offered.

ADMIN Update: Housekeeping updates

6. By-Laws: Admin to adjust the By-laws to reflect a minimum annual meeting that mirrors the statute.

7. Discussion about inviting TAHD, invitation to participate will be extended.

8. Open Discussion:

Discussion of quarterly meetings took place.

The next Meeting is proposed for May 14, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., motioned and seconded, passes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.