

December 5, 2023

Meeting Minutes

9:05-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. Oct 17, 2023, Minutes, no comments presented, motion by Monica McGarrity to approve, second by Dr. Hale, Motion Approved

2. Meeting Minutes from the 2017 discussion-existing agenda will be placed in the meeting minutes, explaining the missing meeting minutes. The motion to resolve the missing minute issue by Monica McGarrity and Dr. Hale was seconded, and the motion was approved.

3. A motion to invite the Texas Animal Health Agency to participate in the TISCC-Dr. Hale Motioned, seconded by Monica McGarrity, a unanimous vote was impossible due to the Water Development Board's absence. Motion did not carry.

4. The previous motion was resubmitted once the Water Development Board member joined the meeting. Dr. Hale made the same motion to invite the Texas Animal Health Commission to participate in the TISCC, seconded by Monica McGarrity. There was no further discussion, and the vote was unanimously approved.

5. Committee Reports:

Texas Department of Agriculture: Discussed the Marbled Crayfish on the Invasive Species List. Additionally, the Feral Hog Control with Warfarin Report was discussed. Further updates will be forthcoming.

Texas Parks & Wildlife: The Exotic Species regulations were updated; some species were added to the prohibited list, and some of them were federally listed as injurious but not listed in Texas. Crested Floating Heart is in 3 water bodies, and yellow Floating Heart is in 2 water bodies; these are listed as prohibited species. The US F& W service has developed Rapid response grants.

Texas Agrilife Extension Service: Job Postings presented.

Texas Forest Service: Monitoring and Surveillance of invasive species, exotic wood bore beetle, a moratorium on specific invasives, ambrosia beetles, collaboration with ACE to release biocontrol for Brazilian pepper tree in south Texas.

Water Development Board: no new info to report

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.

6. By-Laws: The statute and by-laws differ depending on the committee meeting days. The discussion continued about face-to-face meetings, hybrid annual and quarterly meetings, and the ability to hold meetings virtually. John Foster will make suggestions to the By-Laws and send them to the committee for review at the next meeting.

7. Open Discussion:

The next Meeting proposed on January 10, 2024, @ 9:00 a.m., Monica McGarrity motioned, and Demian Gonzales seconded the motion. All approved, motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.