

T E X A S P E C A N B O A R D

Texas Pecan Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 22, 2019

TPB Members Present: Rodney Myers, Tami Sorrells, Mike Adams, Errol John Dietze, Larry Don Womack, Kyle Brookshier, David Leonard and Glen Honaker.

TPB Members Absent: Lance Lampman

Others Present: Bob Whitney – TPB Exec. Dir, Allison Beadle-Wild Hive, Megan Lacy-Wild Hive, Emma Garner-APC

President Larry Don Womack called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Roll call of members was conducted and then a recognition of guests. Everyone on the call is recorded.

Larry Don changed the agenda order and moved discussion and possible action on Wild Hive/TPB Promotion programs up because Allison Beadle with Wild Hive had to leave for another meeting at 11 am.

Allison along with Megan Lacy took board members through a presentation of program ideas for the 2020 marketing year. Here presentation was made available to board members. There was no action taken at this time since the budget was approved in July and submitted to TDA where it was approved.

David Leonard did ask about an effort to reach the buyers specifically versus just consumers. Allison and Megan both talked about that being this year's target audience in promotion items.

Next minutes of the Friday, September 27, 2019 meeting were discussed. Errol John Dietze moved to accept the minutes with one correction to add an "e" to the end of his name. Glen Honaker seconded and all approved with correction.

Financial reports were reviewed from board packets. There was no discussion. Glen Honaker moved to accept the financial reports and Kyle Brookshier seconded and all aye approving the reports.

Bob Whitney, Executive Director, then gave an Executive Director update on office management and activities. He reported on SUSTA cost share programs and the interest by Jeramie Grissom to go to Canada. The board may be asked to support that effort with help from Wild Hive. Next he discussed the upcoming Pecan Shows he is attending. Some discussion about newsletters and letters to buyers. He updated board members on the status of Land IQ and gave members a proposal to Land IQ that may be on future agendas. Bob talked about the issue of Mexico stopping the movement of pecan from the US into Mexico justifying that by claiming a pecan weevil issue. TPB is working with TDA and USDA Aphis to push back on

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this with the Mexican authorities and is continuing to try and stop this violation of trade. Bob will keep board members updated.

Bob Whitney then addressed the agenda topic concerning Pecan Weevil Quarantine, TDA Compliance Agreements. Over the course of the next week TDA will approve and have available Compliance Agreements that cover movement of inshell pecans and treatment of inshell pecans. Those agreements will allow producers in the quarantine area to move pecans either from a treatment facility to nonquarantine counties or to move untreated pecans from quarantine counties to a treatment facility in a nonquarantine area. Bob emphasized that the Texas Pecan Board is responsible for this issue to support TDA and growers to prevent weevil movement within or out of the state.

Next Bob Whitney addressed that agenda item concerning pecan assessments for 2018 crop moving into 2019 crop. Bob went over the list of growers that have paid and those requesting refunds. He also shared statistics from 21 years of TPB operation. They are as follows:

Texas Pecan Crop Statistics

Crop years: 1998 – 2018, 21 Total Pecan Crops

Total of all assessments: \$1,977,084.51

Total number of assessment payments: 4,935

Total number of growers who paid: 1,152

Average assessment payment: \$400.63. Range \$0.02 - \$22,825.69

Median assessment payment: \$57.50 (50% above or below this amount)

1999, a high of 382 growers paid an assessment for a total of \$171,086.00. The lowest number paid in 2017, 26 paid for a total of \$40,842.00. In 2016, 33 paid for a total of \$42,362.

Assessment average across all years is \$94,127.00 or 18,825,446 average lbs. of pecans per year.

Period	Average
2018-2014	\$82,923
2013-2009	\$72,896
2008-2004	\$88,143
2003-1998	\$125,554

189 individual growers paid over the last 5 years.

Looking at this table, 83 paid in 2018, 17 paid in 2017 that did not pay in 2018, 10 paid in 2016 but not 2017 or 2018, 30 paid in 2015 but not in 2016-18 and in 2014, 23 paid but did not pay in 2015-18.

2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
83	17	10	30	23

In 2018 crop year, 83 growers paid **\$103,268.45** in assessments. **\$44,526.41** has been refunded.

For 2019-20 crop year, 3 growers have paid, 2 who haven't paid in 5 years or more!

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Overall, Texas has probably produced on average 25,000,000 lbs. over the 21-year period even though our average is 19,000,000 lbs.

President Larry Don moved to discussion about the next meeting. There is some interest in attending a joint meeting with West Texas Pecan Growers Association, Texas Pecan Growers Association and Texas Pecan Board in El Paso. This would be held before the Western Pecan Growers meeting held in Las Cruces in March. No action was taken.

Board members then moved to a discussion about the pecan crop. Rodney Myers reported that there is some crop movement and that quality is selling. Larry Don discussed what he is seeing in Central Texas. The discussion was lively and interesting.

There being no further discussion Larry Don adjourned the meeting at 11:46 am.