

Texas Pecan Board

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Texas Pecan Board (TPB) Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 23, 2023, 2:00 P.M. CST • Virtual

TPB Members Present: Troy Swift, Rodney Myers, Dennis Hardman, Joe Massey, Jennifer Ivey, Zachary Swick, Lalo Medina

Guests: Blair Krebs and Meghan Mabry (TPGA); Patrick Dudley and Miranda Robertazzi (TDA)

Texas Pecan Board President Troy Swift called the virtual meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. CST. He called the board roll call, establishing a quorum, and asked guests to introduce themselves.

The minutes from the November 7, 2022 virtual meeting were then presented. Joe Massey made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Dennis Hardman seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.

The discussion then moved to updates on Texas Pecan Board (TPB) activities and finances. TPB contractor administrators Blair Krebs and Meghan Mabry gave updates on the grant projects, financials, and board member elections. Some board members noted they never received their ballots after they were mailed, so Patrick Dudley from Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) was asked about other methods of getting ballots out.

The board then moved on to a discussion about the letter sent out by TDA to handlers, informing them on the rule that governs TPB and allows the organization to collect assessments. Patrick Dudley was asked about the list that was used for the mailing. He and Blair Krebs were asked to compare the list and work to see if there are any missing contacts. Board members also gave input on additions or edits to the letter.

President Troy Swift then moved the discussion to the next agenda item and compliance expectations for board members. Swift noted the board cannot expect the industry to participate if there is not 100 percent compliance from the board members. Board member Lalo Medina wanted to address the issue of past money being paid by the grower, but not being sent to TPB by the handler. He noted issues will arise with compliance if this problem continues, and wanted these issues to be reviewed. TDA representative Patrick Dudley asked members to send their receipts and notes to him on this problem. Troy Swift plans to circle back to this discussion at the next TPB meeting.

The next agenda item was reviewing the TPB mission statement. Troy Swift would like to see the statement simplified. There was also a discussion about grant opportunities available to TPB.

The next TPB meeting was set, which will be an in-person meeting, for March 23, 2023 in College Station, Texas. The meeting will be hosted consecutively with the Texas Pecan Growers Association board meeting and additional activities. In an effort to determine the direction of the organization, President Troy Swift tasked each board member to come to the meeting with the two most important things they think TPB can do or work on.

Patrick Dudley then gave a quick update about the compliance agreement and weevil work done with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. Blair Krebs asked for a one-page summary to get on to the TPB website to educate producers on the topic.

Dennis Hardman made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Lalo Medina seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 P.M. CST.

Submitted by Blair Krebs 1/30/2023.