

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

Texas Pecan Board Meeting Minutes

Sunday, July 14, 2019

Embassy Suites Hotel

7600 John Q Hammons Dr.

Frisco, TX 75034

TPB Members Present: Rodney Myers, Tami Sorrells, Mike Adams, David Leonard, Errol John Dietz, Larry Don Womack, Lance Lampman and Glen Honaker.

TPB Members Absent: Kyle Brookshier

Others Present: Patrick Dudley - TDA, Bob Whitney – TPB Exec. Dir, Keith Berdoll, Jim Luscombe, Mary Santos, Shannon Ivey, Kevin Ivey, Jennifer Ivey, James Livergood, Troy Swift, Will Cullers, Catherine Clark – Pecan South, Dr. Larry Stein, Blair Krebs - TPGA, Dennis Hardman, Joseph Massey, Mike Spradling – APC Board, Russell Beamsley - TCIP, Johnny Martin - TCIP, and Brian Murray - TDA.

President Larry Don Womack called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm and announced that we may have to move meeting rooms to an adjacent room with air conditioning.

Roll call of members was conducted and then a recognition of guests. Larry Don asked each guest to introduce themselves.

Minutes of the February 19 meeting held at the APC offices in Fort Worth were read. Rodney Myers moved to approve minutes and Lance Lampman seconded and all voted yes. Motion passed.

President Larry Don moved to agenda item XVI for those in attendance from the West Texas Pecan growers who wanted to address the issue of pecan weevil quarantine and non-quarantine areas, movement of pecans across areas and TDA responsibilities for protecting West Texas non-quarantine areas. Attending the meeting were representatives from TDA (Patrick Dudley) and representatives from the Texas Cooperative Inspection Program (Russell Beamsley and Johnny Martinez). These groups have responsibility for protecting pecans and pecan movement to prevent pest spread. Many growers in the audience expressed opinions and concerns. TDA will spearhead an effort with the Texas Pecan Board to meet with growers and buyers/shellers to work out compliance agreements and Rules that govern pecan movement. No action taken.

Bob Whitney, Exec. Dir. Reported on TPB specific activities and office activities since the last meeting. No action taken.

Bob Whitney reported on promotion activities being conducted by Wild Hive including the Lunch and Learn at the conference on Monday morning, the upcoming 100-year anniversary celebration at the State Capital and the Influencer Orchard tour to be held around Austin. Board members complimented the ongoing efforts. No action taken.

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Dr. Larry Stein, Associate Department Head for Horticulture at TAMU presented information about a position he is seeking to create in Extension Horticulture. He wants to take the monies from Dr. Leo Lombardini's position in horticulture and create a new position in Extension Horticulture for pecans. He has asked and gotten \$10,000 a year for four years from TPGA and is asking the Texas Pecan Board for \$10,000 a year for four years. These monies will provide travel, research and education for the pecan horticulturist hired. Glenn Honaker moved to pay \$10,000 per year for four years in support of this position. Errol John seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Bob Whitney next discussed the financial reports included in the board packets. The first report was of the checking account and included every transaction from July of 2018 till the present. The second report was of the expenses and income by category. The reports are included in packets. Errol John moved to accept the financial reports and Glenn seconded. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Bob Whitney next discussed a report on assessments and refunds. There was some discussion of the refunds including the large refund to Chase Farms. According to their representative they feel that there should only be one organization and that is APC. Other refunds were mainly small growers and some who were complaining about past inactivity by the Board.

Bob Whitney next discussed a proposed budget for approval. The budget estimates \$130,000 in revenue from 2019-20 assessments and other (grants or gifts). Expenses total \$144,000 include Exec Dir pay \$20,000, Travel \$3,000, Board Travel \$4,000, Office Expenses \$3,000, General Promotion \$4,000, Wild Hive Promotion \$100,000, Extension Horticulture support \$10,000. Glen Honaker moved to accept the proposed budget for September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020. David Leonard seconded and all voted yes. Motion passed.

Bob Whitney reported on the renewal of TPB insurance. The policy has and continues to be with ANCO insurance and costs \$1795 per year. It covers liability for members and staff. No action needed.

Dr. Luis Cisneros with TAMU next gave the board a final report of his specialty crop grant project focused on nutrition. The published report will be coming out and shows that a diet containing pecans, in particular pecan phenols will reduce obesity and type II diabetes. This was good news for TPB and growers.

Discussion about Bill Ree retiring from Extension Entomology. Board members discussed the outstanding job he has done and all the contributions he has made to the pecan industry. Blair stated what TPGA is doing to honor him at the conference. There was some discussion about what TAMU will do to replace Bill but no decisions have been made at this time.

There was some discussion about whether Mexican shellers could contribute to the Texas Pecan Board for promotional activities, could the board accept the contributions and would that present issues for Texas growers and Texas perceptions of pecan products. Larry Don

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stated that the board would pursue this when the offer was made and an amount was proposed.

Bob Whitney reported that Chad Selman President with the Oklahoma Pecan Growers Association had reached out to TPB about doing some promotion work together. Oklahoma growers are meeting at the conference to discuss what they might want to do. Bob reported that we may be discussing and voting on this in the future as plans are formulated.

Larry Don next went through several agenda items but there was no discussion or action taken.

TPGA has requested that TPB join with them to meet with TAMU AgriLife representatives sometime in September when it can be arranged. Several TPB members commented that they would try to make the meeting.

Larry Don reminded TPB members that the next meeting will be in November with the date to be determined soon.

With no other business, Tami Sorrells moved to adjourn and Rodney seconded. All aye and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Tami Sorrells and Bob Whitney