Texas Chapter AFS Business Meeting Minutes  
January 19, 2013  
Montgomery, Texas

Call to Order: by George Guillen at 12:04 pm.

Determination of a quorum: Yes

Approval of minutes:
- George asked for approval of last year’s annual meeting minutes (as e-mailed to membership via Listserv in the February newsletter and published on the TCAFS website). Deborah Wade made the motion to approve and it was seconded by Danny Lewis. Motion was approved.

President’s Report: (George Guillen)
- George reported Dave Buzan replaced Matt Chumchal as chair of the Awards committee this past year.
- George reported that publicity/exhibits co-chairs, Brad Littrell and Greg Conley are both stepping down with the positions to be filled later. One of the chairs will likely be filled by Jenny Oakley.
- George reported that Mandy Scott was stepping down as chair of student outreach and Michael Homer was named the new chair.
- George reported that Chris Moret had stepped down as co-chair of the Issues committee and that Mark Webb will replace him.
- George reported he was glad that the Texas A&M student sub-chapter has been interacting and attending ExCom meetings.
- George reported that having committee chairs attend ExCom meetings remotely has been going well.
- George reported this past year’s accomplishments have included approval of the chapter’s new by-laws.
- George closed with the unveiling of the new TCAFS logo selected by vote of the membership.

SDAFS Officer Update:
- Craig reminded the chapter membership that the SDAFS annual meeting will be Feb 7-10 in Nashville, TN.
- Craig reported that the SDAFS has a new logo and the website has undergone changes.
- Craig reported the Puerto Rico chapter will officially join the SDAFS at the Nashville meeting.
- Craig discussed that the SDAFS website has been enhanced. Gloria Schoenholtz with Virginia Tech redesigned the whole site in WordPress. Craig suggested TCAFS might want to consider a similar change.
- The SDAFS webmaster is being paid a retainer fee for services, including assistance to subunits for migrating their webpages over to the WordPress
platform. More information on this will be forthcoming after the 2013 SDAFS business meeting.

- Craig reported that the SDAFS Student Colloquium has an uncertain future. This is the first year that it is not being held due to declining participation and similar student opportunities provided by the Division annual meeting. A student luncheon will occur at the Nashville meeting to discuss the Colloquium's future.

- President Murphy appointed Craig and Michelle Klopfer of Virginia Tech to investigate web-conferencing options and to develop recommendations for ExCom consideration. A proposal has been written and will be available to subunits soon.

- Craig reported meeting podcasts currently facilitated by Greg Summers (OK), will will now be administered by Jessica Baumann (NC).

- Craig reported that Mark Thurman of TN will be resurrecting the Non-game Aquatics Technical Committee from years of relative inactivity at the Nashville meeting.

- After the 2013 Nashville meeting, future meetings look to be held in Charleston, SC in 2014; Savannah, GA in 2015; and Oklahoma in 2016 (host city TBD).

**Secretary/Treasurer’s Report:** (Robert Mauk)

- The Chapter’s cash account balance as of 1/1/2012 was $25,280.33. The Chapter’s income was $46,779.25 for the year and expenses were $25,742.10. A total of $15,140.69 was transferred into the TCAFS endowment fund. The 12/31/2012 ending balance was $31,176.79.

- There were a total of 189 registrations, including 18 guests, 113 professionals, and 58 students at the 2013 TCAFS annual meeting.

**Committee Reports**

**Awards** – (Dave Buzan)

- Dave thanked all members of his committee who helped choose award recipients and all who volunteered to judge presentations and posters.

- Dave reported that all award categories with the exception of Research received nominations this past year. Dave asks that members start thinking of nominating for next year.

**Continuing Ed** – (Dan Bennett; report given by Greg Southard)

- Dan wanted to thank everyone involved in continuing education and those who presented this year.

- Dan is thinking of surveying the membership to solicit ideas for next years’ continuing education classes.

**Editorial** – (Dan Daugherty and Tim Birdsong; report given by John Taylor)

- Dan thanked all the presenters and was very pleased with the high student participation in presentations and posters.

- Dan thanked Dakus Geeslin, Brad Littrell, and Matt VanLandeghem, this year’s moderators for their service.
- Dan reported this year we added 8 presentations since in the past we haven’t had enough time for all the presentation submissions.
- Tim Birdsong reported that all of the annual proceedings should soon be on-line.

**Endowments** – (Dave Terre)
- Dave reported that he continues to nurture relationships with our major contributors including The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation and the Sportsmen’s Club of Ft. Worth.
- This year Larry Courington and his brother Greg Courington, both board members of the The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation attended our meeting.
- Dave reported that in late 2012, the TCAFS ExCom made the decision to move the chapter’s endowments and checking accounts from Merrill Lynch to Edward Jones. This decision was made to improve our earnings and reduce our expenses. Ongoing communication between TCAFS and Merrill Lynch has also been an issue. This change over will occur in 2013.
- The committee formed a new relationship with the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) to provide an exclusive seasonal, summertime job opportunity for a BS level TCAFS member. A memorandum of understanding between SARA and TCAFS is currently being drafted to begin in 2013. This new program will be named after Mike Gonzalez, a former TCAFS member. Mike passed away this last year.
- Dave reported that the endowment fund starting balance for 2012 was $124,449 and the current balance was $156,084.
- Donations during the year included $17,500 from The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation, $3,000 from the Sportsmen’s Club of Ft. Worth, and $6,141 from proceeds of the 2012 TCAFS meeting and raffle.
- Six student scholarships totaling $8,000 were granted in 2012.
- TCAFS invested $20,140 into the endowment fund. TCAFS made $11,236 on our investments (a 8.27% increase). There was also another $259 in other credits from Merrill Lynch.
- Dave thanked all contributors to the student scholarship program.
- Dave thanked Kevin Mayes for helping on the committee this year and for leadership on the Clark Hubbs Research Grant award. Dave and Kevin will be working this year to find a private partner to help grow this award.
- Dave recognized two key individuals (Jimmie and Kirk Green) for their continued help with TCAFS Endowment Committee activities and for their communications with The Patsy B. Hollandsworth Family Foundation.
- Dave recognized Mike Morgan and the entire Student Scholarship Selection Committee, for all their outstanding work over the past year.
- This year (2013) we gave a record number of scholarships. Seven deserving students received awards totaling $9,500.

**History** – (Michele Nations)
- Michelle reported that the TCAFS Facebook page is up and running.
- Michele wanted to thank those who sent their biographies in and discussed some problems when she initially requested them from the membership with e-mails being delivered to some members junk folders.
- Michele reported on working with the University of North Texas Portal to Texas History with getting TCAFS information uploaded to the site.

Internet – (John Taylor)
- The TCAFS website will undergo some changes as covered during the SDAFS Officer report. Migrating to a WordPress platform offers some advantages in ease of maintenance of the site and that we are exploring the potential to use some of the SDAFS webmaster’s time to also convert our site to WordPress. If we are unable to utilize the SDAFS webmaster, the ExCom may consider hiring a consultant to help with the migration.

Membership – (Debbie Wade)
- Debbie brought the recommendations of the Membership Ad Hoc Committee to the membership for discussion and a vote. The Ad Hoc Committee was formed in response to the chapter not having a good membership list because of the many ways to become a member including paying the Parent Society or paying the chapter. There is also confusion of those who attend the annual meeting thinking they are automatically members.
- Recommendations included a timetable of activities to remind members to pay membership dues that included:
  1. February/March- send e-mail reminders to members who did not attend annual meeting or not renewed through parent society.
  2. June- Remind lapsed members they will be dropped from membership roll if they do not renew by July 1.
  3. August- Purge lapsed members from listserv.
  4. Sept./Oct.- Send e-mail reminders to members prior to annual meeting to renew. Provide membership renewal as an attachment to use if they are not attending the TCAFS annual meeting. They will use the meeting registration form if they are attending the meeting.
- Additional recommendations included:
  1. Simplify registration at the annual meeting by including TCAFS membership in the registration fee.
  2. Opt out of having the Parent Society collect TCAFS dues when a member pays their Parent Society fees. It is frustrating and time consuming trying to get a list of TCAFS members who pay through the Parent Society.
  3. Change the on-line membership registration so that Sec/Treas. becomes aware that someone is interested immediately and can respond.
- After much discussion Gene Wilde made a motion that was seconded by Greg Conley to put recommendations to a vote. Measure passed by majority vote.

Nominating – (John Clayton; report given by Craig Bonds)
- President-elect nominations for 2013 were Bruce Hysmith and Mike Morgan. Secretary/Treasurer candidates were Tim Bister and Greg Southard. The nominating committee thanked the candidates for consenting to run.
- Seventy-one votes were received with 50 on-line votes.
- Bruce Hysmith was elected as the new TCAFS President-elect and Greg Southard is the new Secretary/Treasurer.

**Pond Management** – (John Tibbs)
- No report.

**Issues** – (Niki Ragan and Chris Moret)
- No report.

**Publicity/Exhibits** – (Greg Conley and Brad Littrell; report given by Greg Conley)
- Committee wanted to thank Zac Sihalla and HydroTech for donating the water quality instrument that was auctioned off on e-bay. The unit brought $3,500 to the endowment fund.
- The auction / raffle netted a profit of close to $5,000.00 not including the water quality instrument.
- The co-chairs are both stepping down and there is a need to find new co-chairs. Ideally a government employee and a private business employee might get the best results in terms of donations.

**Scholarships** – (Mike Morgan)
- Mike thanked his committee members for all of their help in evaluating the applicants for student scholarships.
- Mike reported that scholarship applications were received from 6 undergraduates, 11 Master’s students, and 3 PhD students for a total of 20 applications.

**Student Outreach** – (Mandy Scott; report given by Mike Homer)
- Mike reported that 26 students attended the student/mentor lunch.

**Student Subunit Chapter Reports** – (TAMU)
- No report submitted.

**Old Business:**
- No old business.

**Installation of New President:** Rick Ott was installed as the new president. Rick presented George with the Past President’s plaque. Rick presented Robert Mauk a plaque honoring his service a Sec/Treasurer to the TCAFS.
- Rick then thanked John Boreman, AFS President who attended the annual meeting.
- Rick thanked Danny Lewis for his service as audio/visual volunteer.
- Rick mentioned that ExCom had voted to reimburse the best student presentation winner up to $500 for costs to attend and present their research at the Little Rock, AR parent society meeting if they choose to do so.

New Business:
- Dave Buzan raised the idea of providing honorable mention awards, particularly in the student category. Discussion took place among business meeting participants and it was decided that the awards committee should prepare a discussion of the topic at the next ExCom meeting.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.