THE SOUTHWESTERN ASSOCIATION OF NATURALISTS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND OFFICERS AT THE 65th ANNUAL MEETING,

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY AND ST. EDWARD’S UNIVERSITY

SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

THURSDAY, 12 APRIL 2018

Present: Loren Ammerman, Ángela Camargo-Sanabria, Brian Chapman, Raelynn Deaton Haynes, Mike Dixon, Robert Dowler, Mark Eberle, Anthony Echelle, Alice Echelle, Robert Edwards, Jesús Fernández, Stanley Fox, Dan Hough, Mike Husak, Mike Kennedy, Day Ligon, Karen McBee, David McNeely, Austin Osmanski, Susana Perea-Fox, Jacob Schaefer, Jason Strickland, Phil Sudman, Juliann Waits, Chris Taylor, Justin Agan, Marsha Williams, and Lance Williams

President Susana Perea-Fox called to order the 65th Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Association of Naturalists (SWAN) at 1312 h with a quorum of Officers and Governors present. President Perea-Fox began by announcing that Ray Willis, the SWAN Treasurer, was not able to attend due to medical reasons.

President Perea-Fox then asked the BOG to approve the minutes of the meeting of the BOG for the 64th Annual Meeting held at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma (published in *The Southwestern Naturalist* Volume 62(4), and available on the SWAN webpage at <https://saon.wildapricot.org/>). One discrepancy was brought to the attention of the BOG between what was reported between Lulú Romero Almaraz and Mike Dixon. The minutes stated “Lulú Romero Almaraz told the board that she sent $3000 to Mike from the meeting in Mexico, and Dixon explained that he transferred $20,000, netting about $17,000 from the meeting.” However, after the meeting, Romero Almaraz corrected the amount sent to Mike Dixon via Gary Snell to $4,020. Stanley Fox suggested an amendment and that the amount of $3,000 be adjusted to $4,020 as this was the amount of the check that Lulú sent to the Treasurer after the meeting. David McNeely suggested an amendment to correct Murray State University to Murray State College. The motion to approve the minutes was put forth by R. Edwards, seconded by J. Waits, and approved with the amendments put forth by Fox and McNeely.

President Perea-Fox then asked for committee reports.

Special Report – Phil Sudman and Perea-Fox presented on SWAN’s tax-exempt status, liability insurance, and the need to obtain a W9 tax form from any awardee that receives more than $600 from the Association. Perea-Fox thanked everyone that has helped with fixing these issues. Sudman said that many important issues have been uncovered in transitioning SWAN from a purely volunteer association to one with a Certified Association Executive (Christy Classi) paid for services to SWAN (particularly related to membership). SWAN is no longer tax exempt because the society missed filing their income taxes for three years in a row. This meant that a new bank account could not be opened. Because the previous checking account was still open, SWAN can use it for business until tax exempt status is restored. We also didn’t have a filing for SWAN as a non-profit organization in any state. Sudman looked into the states for getting articles of incorporation and Oklahoma is the best. It costs $25 to incorporate SWAN in Oklahoma but we are still not tax exempt. Perea-Fox and Sudman contacted a lawyer, Chuck Engle, to assist with getting tax exempt status back by filing our back taxes. We have made progress but we still need to file for previous years’ taxes and submit the IRS 990 form to regain our tax-exempt status. We will need to contract an accountant to go through past budgets in conjunction with the lawyer.

Additionally, during the normal process every three years to insure and bond SWAN in case something happens to our money, Sudman and Perea-Fox determined that SWAN has never had liability insurance. This would mean the president, officers, and BOG would be liable if anyone sued SWAN. Before we can get this insurance, and also before we can open a new checking account, we must have the tax-exempt status. Presently we continue to use our old checking account. To accomplish the tax-exempt status, the BOG will have to approve articles of incorporation and modify the Constitution and Bylaws to show that SWAN must be incorporated as a non-profit organization so that we can be legally recognized as such and have tax-exempt status. This is an old, unresolved issue that was never addressed adequately by SWAN’s founders in 1953 but the issue was just now discovered. We are presently incorporated in Oklahoma, but the lawyer is checking to see if the details of this incorporation are legally sufficient. An accountant is helping SWAN resolve this issue and may need to know the names of all the people that won awards in the past, the names of the BOG members every year, and information on all the money paid and received by SWAN during the past four years that SWAN has not filed tax forms. All this information is in the minutes, but needs to be retrieved and organized. Sudman and Perea-Fox are close to getting all the paperwork complete and will be working on this moving forward to ensure we will have tax-exempt status and liability insurance for the officers and BOG.

Association Executive C. Classi also discovered that officers and BOG members have not been filling out a conflict of interest form. We had the form but had not been filling it out. Perea-Fox passed out forms for everyone to sign.

No Treasurer’s report was given this year.

The Trustees report was given by Robert Dowler (Chair--Robert Dowler; Members--David Heins, and Chad Hargrave).Dowler explained that this committee manages the SWAN endowment. During 2017, with his election as President Elect, Jake Schaefer stepped down as Chair of the Board of Trustees. Robert Dowler took over as Chair during the year and Chad W. Hargrave was elected by the Board of Governors to fill the vacant position on the Trustees. Chad will finish the remaining time on Jake Schaefer’s term (2017 – 2020). The remaining Trustees thank Jake for his many years of service to the Southwestern Association of Naturalists as a member and Chair of the Board of Trustees.

For the first time, on 15 February 2017, prior to the change in the Trustees, $20,000 was transferred to the Treasurer for expenses anticipated in the transition to the new business management model that had been approved by the Board of Governors. Despite this transfer, the SWAN Assets saw considerable growth in 2017. On 31 December 2017 SWAN assets were valued at $1,252,631.10, a 2017 increase in value of $233,462.01, or 22.85%. For the same time period, the Dow Jones Industrial Average increased in value 25.02% and the S&P 500 increased 19.42%. Market conditions declined during the first quarter of 2018 and another transfer to the Treasurer for $40,000 was made to pay for continued updating of the SWAN website, membership list, and other affairs. This also covered the transition between websites; membership dues could not be collected by the old website, but can be collected by the new website. At the time of the BOG meeting, the fund was at just over $1,225,000.

The Conservation Committee (Chair--Juliann Waits; Members--Jennifer K. Frey, Jesús Fernández, M. Clay Green, Jason B. Jennings, Troy A. Ladine, Celia López-Gónzalez, Edith Marsh Matthews, Fausto Méndez de la Cruz, Lynda R. Miller, Kendra L. Phelps, and Denise Thompson) report was given by Juliann Waits. Many members were added in the past year, which allows the committee to fulfil its primary charge of awarding the Sutton Award. The committee reviewed the first three issues of the 2017 volume of the Southwestern Naturalist and made an award selection. Waits asked for a motion to approve the Sutton Award, D. McNeely motioned, S. Fox seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The award will be announced at the Banquet. The final issue of the 2017 Southwestern Naturalist along with the available 2018 issues will be considered for the 2018 Sutton Award. Finally, the committee would like to thank the members of SWAN and the BOG for supporting the Resolution for Continued Scientific International Cooperation and Collaboration among the United States, Mexico, and Central America.

The Student Awards Committee report was given by Raelynn Deaton Haynes (Chair--Raelynn Deaton Haynes; Members--Christopher Taylor, Michelle Haynie, Christopher L. Higgins, Jason Strickland, Juliann L. Waits, Lucas Hall, and Nicté Ordóñez-Garza).

 Haynes reported that the Student Awards Committee had 21 complete grant submissions for the McCarley 2018 competition, up substantially from last year, which had only 12. For comparison, there were 29 proposals submitted in 2015, and 18 submitted in 2016. The committee recruited more heavily this year for proposals by contacting chairs of departments and faculty colleagues with graduate students working in the SWAN geographical area. This seemed to help get the numbers back up to where they were two years ago. Of the 21 proposals submitted, 6 were PhD proposals, 10 were MS proposals, and 5 were undergraduate proposals. Proposals spanned two countries: 5 were from Mexican universities and 16 from US universities. Universities included Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hildago, Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, and Universidad de Guadalajara Centro. US universities included Oklahoma State University, Sul Ross State University, San Angelo State University (x2), University of Toledo (x2), Eastern New Mexico University, Texas A&M University, University of Michigan, Miami University, St. Edward’s University (x3) and the University of Oklahoma. Reviews are in and the committee is in the final stages of making decisions regarding which proposals it will fund. The committee proposes to the BOG to fund 8 awards at $1000 each comprised of PhD, MS and undergraduate proposals. These will be announced at the Banquet. Reviewers to date are as follows: Members of the Student Awards Committee (Christopher Taylor, Michelle Haynie, Jason Strickland, Juliann Waits, and Lucas Hall), Edie Marsh-Matthews, Matt Steffenson, William Quinn, Andrea Delgado, and Anica Debilica.

Haynes also announced that there were 67 posters in total and 29 posters had entered the Hubbs competition. She then asked for volunteers from the BOG to help judge posters. Finally, Haynes announced that the committee will be implementing the new report requirements for grants this year. The recipients will get the check and the information for the report.

After the Student Awards report, Perea-Fox stated that we need to ensure that any time an award is given out for $600 or more, the recipient needs to complete a W9 form for the money because SWAN has to report the award to the IRS with each year’s tax filing. This also includes any payment, not just awards. A discussion ensued about the best way to pay students to avoid tax problems for award recipients. It was suggested that the check be made to the institution instead of the student. It was decided that the student would need to submit the W9 to SWAN before they can receive the check. In some cases, the student will need to decide if the check will go to an institution, advisor, or personal account.

The Public Relations Committee report was submitted by Chris Taylor (Chair--Chris Taylor; Members--Kathrin Dodds, Stan Gehrt, and Renn Tumlison). After the 2017 annual meeting, Stanley Fox, Susana Perea, and David McNeeley completed a final draft of SWAN’s Resolution against the U.S.-Mexico Border Wall. It was submitted electronically to the membership and approved by electronic vote on 13 July 2017. Along with SWAN’s statement on the Teaching of Evolution (approved at the 2017 Business Meeting), it was posted on the SWAN webpage and the statement and resolution were also published in The Southwestern Naturalist 62(3). In December 2017, the committee sent the Border Wall resolution to senators and governors from states along the U.S./Mexico border, Congressional Representatives of border districts, and Senate committees in Congress that have some sort of oversight of the border wall. One response from Congressman Vicente González from Chris Taylor’s district in Texas was received.

The Membership Committee report was submitted by Nicté Ordóñez-Garza (Chair--Nicté Ordóñez-Garza; Members--Joel Brant, Adam Ferguson, Michelle Haynie, Amanda Husak, Megan Corley-Keith, Chad King, Rex McAliley, Ray Willis, and Greg Wilson.). Perea-Fox announced that the committee did not meet the last year.

The Development Committee report was submitted by Jake Schaefer (Co-chairs--Jake Schaefer and David Heins; Members--Phil Sudman and Caryn Vaughn). Schaefer stressed the following announcements from the written report: 1) continue to advocate lifetime memberships; 2) continue to push for electronic-only journal; 3) work with PayPal to reduce costs; and 4) hold more auctions. Mandy Husak noted that there was a big auction at the 2017 meeting in Lawton, Oklahoma. Schaefer added that one goal is to make it easier for donations. This should be easier with the new website when it is fully functional. Perea-Fox announced that they are working with C. Classi to get the website finished so that long term goals can be addressed.

The Program Committee report was given by Stanley Fox (Chair--Stanley Fox; Members--Ricardo Ayala Barajas, Neil Ford, María de Lourdes Lozano-Vilano, William I. Lutterschmidt, William J. Matthews, Jesús Rodríguez-Romero, O. W. Van Auken). Fox announced that the 2019 meeting would be hosted by the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua in Chihuahua, México. The Chair of the Local Committee is Jesús A. Fernández. The 2020 meeting will be hosted by Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. The Chair of the Local Committee is Chad Hargrave. The committee is looking for a U.S. institution to host the 2021 meeting, but the 2022 meeting is tentatively scheduled for a university in Durango, Mexico. Phil Sudman said that he received an email from Texas Tech in Junction about hosting a meeting. The committee will look into this as a possible location for 2021. David McNeely asked if we could solicit other universities in regions we have not been to in a while such as Arizona. The committee will look into this and try to identify universities to host. Fox then discussed the resources available to host a meeting, including a manual and a running spreadsheet with the information for each meeting including number of attendees, picnic tickets, etc. The manual was translated into Spanish in 2017.

The Historian report was given by Karen McBee (Chair--Karen McBee). McBee announced that she is continuing to deposit material to archive at the University of Oklahoma, and referred the BOG to her written report. McBee then discussed the challenge of depositing digital material because the University of Oklahoma doesn’t currently have a means to archive digital documents, although it is working toward that end. In this pursuit, SWAN will need to determine what is available digitally and publicly vs what will just be archived. McBee is going to talk with committee chairs to get recommendations of what to do with accessibility of the archives. Currently, digital documents are on McBee’s server and hard drives. She said she will use her budget to pay a student to help sort things out and get it digitized so it eventually can be transferred to OU.

The International Relations Committee report was given by Stanley Fox (Co-chairs--María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz, Susana Perea-Fox; Members--Ricardo Ayala-Barajas, Robert J. Edwards, Stanley F. Fox, Sara B. González-Pérez, Michael L. Kennedy, Nicté Ordóñez-Garza, Felipe de Jesús Rodríguez-Romero, and Cornelio Sánchez-Hernández). Fox noted that the committee met on 15 April 2017 and discussed the possibility of having a symposium or an invited guest for the meeting in the future. Fox also described the recommendations for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award for the future, which include that the student receiving the award should be a first author on a poster or presentation, students should include proof of SWAN membership in their application, and students should register early via early registration. Additionally, the committee is working to redesign the online application form.

Stanley Fox also gave the report for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Award sub-committee (Chair--Stanley Fox; Members--Susana Perea-Fox María de Lourdes Romero-Almaraz, and Felipe de Jesús Rodríquez-Romero), announcing that there was a record 28 applications this year. Because of this, an additional $3000 was requested to help fund more students, which was approved. Twenty awards were offered but only 18 were given because two students were unable to attend due to not having their visa application approved. The final total for the awards was $11,911. Winners came from 13 professors and 9 universities. The committee will request a budget increase from $10,000 to $15,000. A discussion ensued about the difficulties for some students in getting visas. Fox stated that he has assisted these students with letters and other information. D. McNeely asked if we could still recognize the students that received the award but were not able to attend. Fox said he will email the students so they know they received the award and to add it to their CVs. Phil Sudman suggested limiting the travel award to $599.99 to avoid students having to complete the tax paperwork. Mike Kennedy clarified that the visa was the issue.

The Website Committee Report was given by Dan Hough (Chair--Dan Hough; Members--Stanley Fox, Jake Schaefer, Mark Eberle, and Jeff Kelly). Hough announced that all meeting information and registration was done through the new website. He also discussed that we need to update the listservs, particularly the student one because it is not used too much. The transfer of the website was done on 28 March 2018. Stanley Fox asked if the listservs will go with the website and to C. Classi or stay with the website committee. Hough responded that he was not sure. Classi will be keeping the membership list so it would be best to coordinate the listserv with her. J. Waits said that Classi needs to know who the life members and past presidents are so that is listed in the directory. Classi is working to consolidate members and get all members updated. The current list of members is at 1258, which means that each listing was a member at one time and not necessarily currently active. It was brought up that, due to the current format of recordkeeping, families often get two copies of journals. Phil Sudman said he was not sure who is in charge of working with Allen Press to distribute journals but would look into this to ensure they get sent out properly once all the membership information is updated. Hough asked that since the website has transitioned, he would like to be resign from the committee. Sudman then asked for a round of applause for Hough, who spent two years working on the website while he was retired from his university.

The Student Advisory Committee (SAC) report was given by Justin Agan in place of Enrique Santoyo-Brito (Co-chairs--Austin Osmanski and Enrique Santoyo-Brito; Members--Emma Roberts, Jared Wayne, Justin Agan, John Stuhler, and Laramie Lindsey). Agan announced that the membership had changed and he would become one of the Co-chairs for 2018-2019 and the committee would look for the second co-chair because Citlally Jiménez declined the position. The size of the committee had been up to 15, but is now smaller to ensure it is comprised of active members. Lunch with a Scientist was cancelled this year and will be tried again in the future. There were only four submissions for the student travel award due to challenges with registration and the new website. All four awards were given for a total of $700. Stanley Fox stated that he would like this number to be 20 in the future. Agan ended by thanking the local committee for all of their help.

The Wilks Committee report was given by Jake Schaefer (Chair--Jake Schaefer; Members--Chad Hargrave, Keith Gido, Chris Taylor, and Phil Sudman). Schaefer announced that there were twenty-five total applications received with twenty from the U.S. and five from Mexico. Member Keith Gido had to recuse himself because one of the applicants was his student. Four proposals were chosen for the final competition (Wilks and Student Field Naturalist Awards combined), and the winners will be announced at the annual banquet.

Robert Dowler gave the report for the ad hoc Committee on Disposition of Back Issues of *The Southwestern Naturalist* (Chair--Robert Dowler; Members--Celia López-González and Matthew Hamilton). R. Dowler announced that complete issues are available to student winners if they want them and that three orders had been filled in 2017. Celia transported issues to Mexico from Cameron University last year to give to the winners. Back issues are still available. A profit of $192 was made from people ordering back issues. Matt Hamilton assisted with completing orders and Angelo State University still maintains back issues.

The Budget Oversight Committee report was given by Phyllis Kennedy (Chair--Phyllis Kennedy; Members--William H. Baltosser, Brian R. Chapman, Robert J. Edwards, and Beth E. Leuck) and she announced that the Board of Trustees continues to do an outstanding job. No information was submitted by the Treasurer so it was not evaluated. B. Chapman and P. Kennedy are stepping down from the committee and Robert Edwards will take over as chair for 2018-2019.

The Managing Editor Report was given by Lance Williams (Co-editors--Lance Williams and Marsha Williams). Lance and Marsha Williams have fully taken over the editor duties from Loren Ammerman and Mandy Husak as of August 2017. L. Williams announced that the journal is in need of associate editors for birds, mammals, and plants. The 2017 minutes will be added to the last issue of Volume 62 (2017) of the journal and it will be sent out in the very near future. It was brought up that the committee information needs to be updated in the journal and that S. Perea-Fox will send updated information to the editors. L. Williams announced that the journal is currently three months behind due to a shortage of feature articles. He asked that the BOG encourage colleagues and students to submit articles. S. Fox asked if it would be appropriate to go from four issues to three to get all issues out each year. L. Williams stated that there are plenty of notes for four issues, just that feature articles are lacking. A discussion occurred about notes and feature articles. L. Ammerman asked if notes could be published online early so they are “published” and the authors do not have to wait. Ways in which to improve the ease of submission were discussed and L. Williams will look into making it easier to submit manuscripts. One suggestion was to submit a manuscript in a non-journal-specific format and then modify it afterwards if accepted. S. Perea-Fox then asked for a round of applause for L. Ammerman and M. Husak in getting the journal back to where it needed to be.

L. Williams then provided a summary of the number of manuscripts submitted, time of review, and time to publication. Additionally, he provided the budget summary for the journal.

The Honors Committee report was given by Phil Sudman (Chair--Phil Sudman; Members--Robert Dowler, Alice Echelle, Celia López-González, Gary Schnell, and Paula Williamson). Sudman stated seven nominations were submitted and that the awards would be announced at the banquet.

Mike Husak gave the report for the ad hoc Auction Committee (Chair--Mandy Husak; Members--Ann Maxwell, Jake Schaefer, Jared White, Dana Winters, and Heather Young). Husak announced there would not be an auction this year and that Mandy Husak would be stepping down as Chair. The next auction will be in 2020, which will give time to find a new chair, additional members, and gather items. In 2017, the auction raised $1,928, which was transferred to the Board of Trustees to invest.

President Perea-Fox moved to old business.

Robert Dowler has requested to step down as chair of the Long Range Planning Committee and nominations will occur during new business.

An update about the contract with Christy Classi was discussed and potentially making her an executive director. This was moved to new business.

The discussion from the beginning of the BOG meeting about updating the Articles of Incorporation in Oklahoma and/or Kansas continued.

President Perea-Fox then moved to new business.

Jesús A. Fernández presented to the BOG the overview of the program for the 2019 SWAN meeting to be held at the Universidad Autónoma de Chihuahua in Chihuahua, México, on the dates of 11-14 April 2019. Jesús announced that Ángela Camargo-Sanabria would like to join the Local Committee as Co-chair. Jesús and his team are excited about hosting the meeting and facilitating students from both the U.S. and Mexico interacting and meeting each other. The Chihuahua government, municipality, and university have all agreed to support the meeting. The logo is ready and the office of tourism is helping with venues, hotels, etc. to get special rates. K. McBee motioned to nominate Ángela as Co-chair and J. Waits seconded. Ángela was approved unanimously.

Also, under new business, President Perea-Fox announced that Chad Hargrave from Sam Houston State University has agreed to host the 2020 meeting. Brian Chapman motioned to approve Chad as Chair of the Local Committee, Mike Kennedy seconded, and it was approved by the BOG.

A formal budget was not presented for 2019. However, several items were brought up. Karen McBee asked for $250 to pay a student for helping her. Stanley Fox would like to increase the total maximum allocated for the Bruce Stewart Student Travel Awards from $10,000 to $15,000. Additionally, S. Fox suggested the number of travel awards for the Student Advisory Committee be increased from 10 to 20 at $175 dollars each. Jake Shaffer discussed needing to table these requests until we have a budget and Treasurer’s report.

Loren Ammerman said it has been hard to track page charges and membership. We need to wait for the dust to settle with our transition to the new executive management before we can estimate what income and expenses we will have. Phil Sudman stated that we always have a deficit but this is the first year we have actually transferred money from the SWAN assets to the Treasurer. The BOG agreed that the Board of Trustees use what is necessary from the assets to get SWAN through the next 18 months to ensure SWAN gets fully set up and good to go. There was a discussion about going only online for the journal and the associated cost/benefit. Robert Dowler brought up that membership is dropping due to all the transitions. We need to address that issue and C. Classi will send emails out much more frequently.

To make it easier, it was discussed including membership fees in registration because some universities will not allow reimbursement for membership fees. However, Phil Sudman said that would be bad idea to add membership into registration because it would be hard for the Local Committee to split out the membership.

To increase student membership, free registration forms will be put back on the website and then these need to be circulated much better among faculty because right now it is hard to get free student memberships. The BOG requested that a radio button be added to make it easier to nominate students for the free membership online and then K. McBee suggested this be moved to the executive director discussions.

The conclusion of the proposed budget discussion was a request by President Perea-Fox about potentially making Christy Classi the Executive Director for SWAN. She was contracted to manage page charges and manage membership but not everything else on the website. SWAN has been asking her to do more work than was in her contract. Perea-Fox would like Classi to be nominated so she can take care of more of the SWAN issues to ensure everything is in order moving forward. She has done this for other societies. She is currently paid $1075 a month to take care of SWAN. Perea-Fox would like to negotiate with Classi to determine what would be needed if she became Executive Director.

David McNeely wanted to know what she was initially asked to do. The answer was predominately membership and page charges. Jake Schaefer suggested we give her extra for a short time to “get all our mess cleaned up” and then we go back to the original contract. David McNeeley moved that Perea-Fox negotiate with Classi to “fix our mess” with a one-time contract and come back to the BOG with a line item of duties and responsibilities, including price. Mark Eberle wanted to give Perea-Fox more freedom to discuss other possibilities and duties that Classi could do. Jason Strickland amended the motion to give Perea-Fox more power to negotiate but later withdrew his amendment to divide the amendment into two motions. D. McNeeley’s motion was seconded by K. McBee and approved. Mark Eberle moved to renegotiate the old contract so as to add new things for long-term duties as Executive Director. K. McBee seconded and there were 18 votes in favor while in quorum so the motion passed.

Next President Perea-Fox said that nominations and reappointments were in order.

Jason Strickland was unanimously approved to become Secretary after K. McBee moved and S. Fox seconded.

Robert Edwards was unanimously approved to chair the Budget Oversight Committee.

Justin Agan was unanimously approved to become Chair of the Student Advisory Committee.

David Heins was unanimously approved to remain on the Board of Trustees through reappointment.

Robert Dowler asked that the editors determine the cost of releasing notes online early so that we can determine the feasibility of doing this.

Local Chairs Paula Williamson and Raelynn Deaton Haynes announced that there were 93 regular members, 23 regular non-members, 84 student members, and 74 student non-members in attendance. There are 120 oral papers and 67 posters. Abstract breakdown by taxon is 40 invertebrates, 40 reptiles, 34 mammals, 32 fishes, 14 plants, 14 amphibians, and 14 birds. There are three field trips that will take place.

President Perea-Fox moved to break for the business meeting, which was seconded by R. Edwards. The Board of Governors meeting was adjourned at 1712 h.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Strickland, Secretary